

CITY MANAGER'S WEEKLY REPORT

November 11, 2013

CITY MANAGER

Plastic Bag Ban FAQ and Link for Additional Information

Beginning November 1, plastic bags have been banned in the city of Huntington Beach. Below are a few of the Frequently Asked Questions regarding the ban.

Which stores must comply with the Reusable Bag Ordinance?

The following retail establishments located within the boundaries of the City of Huntington Beach that fall into any of the following categories:

Full-line, self-service retail: A store with gross annual sales of two million dollars (\$2,000,000), or more, that sells a line of dry grocery, canned goods, or nonfood items and some perishable items (i.e. Wal-Mart, Home Depot, Target);

Large Retail Store: A store of at least ten thousand (10,000) square feet of retail space that generates sales or use tax pursuant to the Reusable Bag Ordinance and has a licensed pharmacy; or

Drug stores, pharmacies, supermarkets, grocery stores, convenience food stores, food marts, or other entities engaged in the retail sale of a limited line of goods that includes milk, bread, soda and snack foods, including those stores with a Type 20 or 21 license issued by the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (i.e. CVS, Walgreens, Rite Aid, Albertsons, Ralphs, Vons, 7-11 and other convenience or liquor stores).

For more information go to:

<http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/announcements/announcement.cfm?id=579>

Public Workshop for the Proposed Huntington Beach Energy Project (12-AFC-02)

The Huntington Beach Energy Project (HBEP) is proposed to replace the existing Huntington Beach power plant, located on the Pacific Coast Highway, north of Huntington State Beach in the city of Huntington Beach. The proposed HBEP is a 939-megawatt (MW) natural gas-fired, combined-cycle, air-cooled, electrical generating facility.

The workshop will be held on:

Wednesday, November 20, 2013

Starting at 4:00 PM

The workshop will be held at:

Huntington Beach Central Library

7111 Talbert Avenue

Huntington Beach, CA 92648

(Wheelchair accessible, map attached)

To participate in the meeting by telephone:

WebEx call-in toll-free number: 1-866-469-3239

WebEx meeting number: 921 151 288

WebEx meeting password: hbep@400

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Huntington Beach Senior Services – Senior Services is Our Park

The Handy Crafters will offer a beautiful selection of their handmade sweaters, scarves, hats, and baby clothes for sale in the lobby of City Hall on Thursday, November 14 and December 12 from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. All the proceeds from the sale benefit the Huntington Beach Senior Services Holiday Meals program. Senior Services Holiday Meal program provides qualified Huntington Beach Senior Services clients a brief visit from a volunteer, a traditional turkey dinner prepared by Huntington Beach Hospital, and seasonal gifts. These older residents are no longer able to cook for themselves and appreciate the good cheer and Thanksgiving dinner. Your purchase of a blanket or scarf will bring warmth to a homebound senior's holiday.

The Handy Crafters meet at the Michael E. Rodgers Seniors Center, 1706 Orange Avenue, Friday mornings at 10:30 a.m. Their beautiful work is on display in the lobby at the senior center and is available for purchase weekdays at the front desk. A broader selection is available at their Friday meetings. The Handy Crafters also donate baby items to Western Medical Center, baby hats to CHOC, and blankets to the V.A. hospital and to the homeless. Beginners are welcome to join this great group. Materials and instruction are provided. For more information, call the Senior Center at 714-536-9387.

New – Winter Private Swim Lessons



For students and parents looking to continue to develop their swim skills during the winter holiday season, the City of Huntington Beach Aquatic Program will be offering two sessions of private swim lessons in December. Private swim lessons consist of five (5), fifteen (15) minute swim lessons and will be held the week of December 2 and December 9 at the City Gym and Pool, 1600 Palm Avenue. For more information, please visit www.HBsands.org or call 714-960-8884.

Celebrate Small Business Saturday - Shop In Huntington Beach on November 30

It's certainly not too early to start thinking about fulfilling the wishes of everyone on your holiday gift list – in fact, you may have even started shopping already. But what about your everyday needs? In celebration of the upcoming Small Business Saturday, plan and commit to finding and shopping businesses that provide services or carry items you purchase year-round. Visit them on November 30 in celebration of Small Business Saturday. If you're not sure who might have what you need, many businesses have listed themselves at www.shopsmall.com; other online consumer sites are very effective at helping locate businesses and sharing customer reviews, which small businesses rely upon and find very valuable (so if you have a great experience locally, be sure to share).

FIRE

Thanksgiving Safety

The kitchen is the heart of the home. Kids love to be involved in holiday preparations. Safety in the kitchen is important, especially on Thanksgiving Day when there is a lot of activity and people at home.

- Stay in the kitchen when you are cooking on the stovetop so you can keep an eye on the food.
- Stay in the home when cooking your turkey and check on it frequently.
- Keep children away from the stove. The stove will be hot and kids should stay three feet away.
- Make sure kids stay away from hot food and liquids. The steam or splash from vegetables, gravy or coffee could cause serious burns.
- Keep the floor clear so you don't trip over kids, toys, pocketbooks or bags.
- Keep knives out of the reach of children.
- Be sure electric cords from an electric knife, coffee maker, plate warmer or mixer are not dangling off the counter within easy reach of a child.
- Keep matches and utility lighters out of the reach of children – up high in a locked cabinet.
- Never leave children alone in room with a lit candle.
- Make sure your smoke alarms are working. Test them by pushing the test button.

Did you know?

- Thanksgiving is the leading day of the year for home fires involving cooking equipment.

Have activities that keep kids out of the kitchen during this busy time. Games, puzzles or books can keep them busy. Kids can get involved in Thanksgiving preparations with recipes that can be done outside the kitchen.

For more safety information, please visit www.nfpa.org

Structure Fire - Townsquare

On November 6th at 5:15 p.m., Huntington Beach Fire Department units were dispatched to a reported structure fire on Townsquare with an activated sprinkler system.

The first unit on scene reported that the occupants were evacuating and that smoke was seen from the parking lot. Resources were utilized to ensure that there was no fire extension into hidden spaces or adjacent units and crews worked to salvage belongings and to remove the standing water created by the sprinkler activation.

There were no injuries reported and the fire is under investigation.

The presence of a properly functioning automatic sprinkler system protected this structure and the occupants from the potential for greater damages or injuries. Let this be a reminder that storage should always be kept clear of sprinkler heads in order to allow for proper function of these systems and all required maintenance and testing should be adhered to by the property owner or manager.

INFORMATION SERVICES

Did you know that a City Parks Locator has been developed for the City website? Individual park web pages have also been produced for all 71 city parks. You can find park location maps, park hours, amenities, descriptions, fun facts, photo galleries and other park information. You can find the parks locator at:

http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/residents/parks_facilities/parks/

LIBRARY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

November Art Show

The Huntington Beach Art League's Annual Member Show runs through November 30 in the Windows Gallery of the Central Library. Artwork, submitted in several categories including oil/acrylics, watercolor, drawings/pastels, photography, and mixed media, are awarded prizes. Some of the pieces may be for sale. The gallery is free and open during regular Library hours. The Library is at 7111 Talbert Avenue. For more information, call Gallery Manager Cheryl Del Toro at 714-531-3663 or visit www.hbartleague.com.

Borrow a Google Chromebook from the Library

Thanks to a generous grant from the California State Library, the Library offers Google Chromebooks for seven-day check out. As a truly portable computer, Chromebooks bring the power of the Internet to those who may otherwise not have access.

Chromebooks are easy to use, regardless of technology experience. Because the device does not have a hard drive, users save documents and favorite apps to their Google account. The information can be retrieved later from another Chromebook the user checks out or from any other device they may have that runs Chrome, like an iPhone or Android tablet. All user data on the Chromebook is automatically deleted after individual use, protecting everyone's privacy.

Stop by the Circulation Desk of the Central Library and give one a try! All that is needed is a valid Huntington Beach Library card and photo ID. For more information, call 714-842-4481.

OFFICE OF BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Downtown Task Force

The next Downtown Task Force will take place at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 13 at the Main Street Branch Library, located at 525 Main Street. Topics on the agenda include further discussions on public safety and parking. For more information on the Downtown Task Force, including agendas and minutes, please visit:

http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/government/boards_commissions/downtown_task_force.cfm.

Save the Date for the Final Downtown Artwalk of 2013 - Vote for your Favorite Artist!

The Huntington Beach Downtown Business Improvement District will present the 2013 Artwalk Showcase Invitational on November 21 at the Shorebreak Hotel. The event is free to the public, from 7:00-10:00 p.m. featuring artists who have exhibited throughout the year. Attendees will have the opportunity to vote for their favorite artist and enjoy a variety of food,

music and entertainment in a lively atmosphere. Although this is the last event of 2013, artists and performers, as well as Artwalk hosts, may apply to participate in 2014 events, by visiting: <http://www.hbdowntown.com/ARTWALK.html>.

PLANNING & BUILDING DEPARTMENT

The public comment period for Draft Negative Declaration No. 13-001 begins on Thursday, November 14, 2013. The environmental document analyzes the potential environmental impacts associated with a City-initiated proposal to amend the Huntington Zoning and Subdivision Ordinance to establish a Senior Residential (-SR) Overlay zoning district for mobile home parks (Zoning Text Amendment No. 13-002). The purpose of the –SR Overlay district is to establish criteria that will protect those mobile home parks primarily occupied by seniors 55 years of age and older from conversion to family (non age-restricted) parks in an effort to preserve affordable housing for seniors. The proposed –SR Overlay may overlay any property that allows mobile home park uses. The project also consists of Zoning Map Amendments to apply the Senior Residential (-SR) Overlay designation to 10 existing (as of July 31, 2013) senior mobile home parks in the City. No construction is proposed because the Senior Overlay is limited to operational regulations. The eight remaining family parks in the City will not be affected by the proposed –SR Overlay district. The location of the 10 senior mobile home parks are as follows:

PARK NAME	ADDRESS/ZIP CODE
Rancho Del Rey Mobile home Park	16222 Monterey Lane, 92647
Skandia Mobile home Park	16444 Bolsa Chica Street, 92649
Huntington Harbor Mobile home Park	16400 Saybrook Lane 92649
Sea Breeze Mobile home Park	5200 Heil Avenue, 92649
Beachview Mobile home Park	17261 Gothard Street, 92647
Los Amigos Mobile home Park	18601 Newland Street, 92646
Brookfield Manor	9850 Garfield Avenue, 92646
Del Mar Mobile homes	19251 Brookhurst Street, 92646
Mariners Pointe	19350 Ward Street, 92646
Rancho Huntington Mobile home Park	19361 Brookhurst Street, 92646

The thirty-day comment period runs from Thursday, November 14, 2013, to Monday, December 16, 2013, at 5:00 p.m. A copy of the Draft Negative Declaration is on file with the Planning and Building Department third floor, City Hall. Copies are also available at the City Clerk's Office, Central Library and City website. Any person wishing to comment may submit written comments to Rosemary Medel, Associate Planner, no later than December 16, 2013.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Reducing Motorcycle Injuries and Fatalities Is Aim of HBPD

Careless motorists as well as riders get special scrutiny

This weekend the Huntington Beach Police Department Traffic Unit will be patrolling the city with a directed focus on motorcycle safety. The intent of the officers is to educate motorcycle riders and passengers on safety helmet laws and deter motorcyclists who ride recklessly and

commit moving violations. Officers will also be checking to ensure riders have the proper motorcycle endorsement on their driver's license.

According to the Motorcycle Industry Council, there is an estimated 10 million motorcycles owned and operated in the United States. Approximately 1,312,000 of those are located in California. With Huntington Beach being situated near the Pacific Ocean and within close proximity to many scenic mountain areas, many motorcycle riders will frequent or pass through our city.

Over the last year, the City of Huntington Beach has had 55 traffic collisions involving motorcycles. These collisions resulted in 49 injuries and three deaths to motorcycle riders and/or passengers. Nine out of the 55 collisions were alcohol related and resulted in two of the three deaths. We ask that motorcycle riders practice defensive driving and are responsible with their riding habits. In addition, motorists should be aware of motorcycle riders as they have a smaller signature, a more difficult time stopping, and can come into view quickly. Motorcyclists don't have the same protections that cars do.

Motorcycle riders and passengers should wear helmets and safety equipment which meet the standards of the Department of Transportation and comply with the California Vehicle Code. Motorcycle owners should be aware that making modifications to their exhaust systems and lighting equipment can cause distractions to residents and motorists and may be more likely to cause collisions than to prevent them. This enforcement operation is part of a \$270,264.00 grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS). It is a year-long program aimed at preventing deaths and injuries on our roadways through special enforcement and public awareness efforts. Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Report Drunk Drivers. Call 911!

PUBLIC WORKS

Edinger Avenue Bicycle Path Project

The Edinger Avenue Bicycle Path Project, CC-1447 was the third phase of a multi-year project that was spearheaded by the Sea Isle Garden Club to beautify the formerly unimproved public parkway located along the north side of Edinger Avenue, east of Countess Drive. In the previous two phases, the parkway was cleared of debris, graded, and landscaping and irrigation improvements were installed. The third phase of the project included the construction of an asphalt paved, Class I bicycle path that is located away from the vehicular roadway, providing a safer alternative for the bicyclists and pedestrians that traverse the area between Countess Drive and Santa Barbara Lane.

The \$322,000 project's scope of work generally included: clearing and grubbing, construction survey, earthwork, construction of a paved, off-road (Class I) bicycle path and gravel shoulder, concrete curb, landscape and irrigation improvements, signing and incidental work as required. All of the trees that required removal to make room for the new bicycle path have been replaced with new trees within the project area. The bicycle path is now open for public issue and was completed a full 3 weeks ahead of schedule.

Rain Barrel Program

On October 19, the Utilities / Water Conservation division of Public Works hosted its second annual "Rainwater Harvesting Workshop." This one-hour informational class was followed by the distribution of rain barrels for sale to attendees. This year we distributed 125 rain barrels. Last year we distributed 45 resulting in a total of 170 barrels for the two workshops. Residents have also purchased approximately 25 barrels throughout the year. Rain barrels are sold at a cost of \$85.00. Beginning October 1, Metropolitan Water District began a rebate program for rain barrels that allows a \$75.00 per purchased barrel rebate up to four barrels. This results in a final cost of \$10.00 to the customer. On February 8, 2014, we will be hosting another rainwater harvesting workshop at the Utilities yard in the training room. If you'd like more information on the rain barrels, please contact Bill Crisp at bcrisp@surfcity-hb.org.

Rainbow Offers Free Shredding on America Recycles Day, Friday Nov. 15

On Friday, November 15, Rainbow Environmental Services in partnership with OC Waste & Recycling is celebrating America Recycles Day with a FREE shredding event. This event will happen one day only - this Friday, November 15, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Huntington Beach residents can bring personal documents to Rainbow where they will be securely shredded and recycled at no charge. Rainbow Environmental Services is located at 17121 Nichols Lane in Huntington Beach. The shredding will take place at Gate 7. For more information contact Rainbow Environmental Services at 714-847-3581 or visit www.RainbowES.com.