

Huntington Beach • Fall 2014

CITY NEWS

City Of Huntington Beach General Plan Update

The General Plan is a framework for managing the city's physical, economic, and social resources. This document guides civic decisions regarding land use, community design, open space, housing, infrastructure and public services, environmental resources, fiscal resources, and hazards. The City of Huntington Beach is undertaking a multiyear process to update the General Plan. The process will document the big picture of what we want to achieve as a community and provide a blueprint for development and conservation for the decades ahead. The end result will be an updated set of maps, goals, policies, and action statements that will guide development in Huntington Beach. **This process requires the active participation of as many people as possible who live and work in the community so that the General Plan ensures future decisions are consistent with the community's vision.**

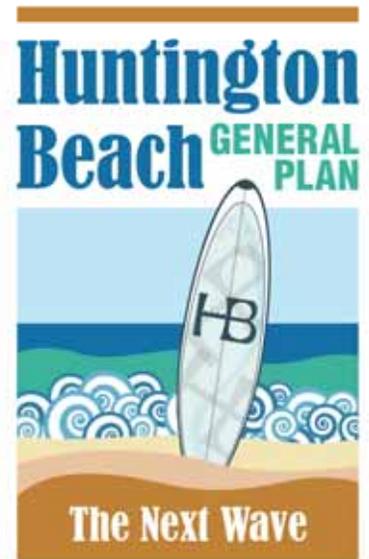
Several complementary outreach efforts are taking place during the General Plan update process, including web-based surveys, topic-based focus groups, and pop-up workshops throughout the city, to solicit feedback from Huntington Beach community members.

As the General Plan update process continues, the City welcomes input from residents and businesses and encourages everyone to participate in shaping the future of Huntington Beach. **The next phase of public outreach will identify issues, goals, and policies to be included in the General Plan and is scheduled to begin in August/September 2014.**

For project updates, outreach event information, and additional project details or to e mail comments, please visit the project website at www.hbthenextwave.org. Written comments may be mailed to:

Huntington Beach City Hall Planning
and Building Department
(Attn: General Plan Update)
2000 Main Street, 3rd Floor
Huntington Beach, CA 92648

(714) 536-5271 info@hbthenextwave.org



30th Annual Coastal Clean-Up Day



Join the City of Huntington Beach and take part in the 30th Anniversary of Coastal Cleanup Day on September 20! If you are a student needing volunteer service hours, Coastal Cleanup Day is a great way to get your hours and help the environment at the same time! The City will be hosting a clean-up site on the north side of the pier from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Bring your family and spend some time protecting our water ways. For more information and to find other clean-up sites please visit OCWatersheds.com.

Overwatering is Out!

It's time for Huntington Beach residents to take back their sidewalks! Broken, misdirected or "overenthusiastic" sprinklers often spray sidewalks or the street instead of lawns. This not only wastes water and carries pollution into our beaches, but it is an annoying inconvenience for moms pushing strollers, dads walking dogs, or kids going to school. Visit OverWateringsOut.org for simple tips on preventing outdoor water waste, see what your neighbors are doing to save water and get tips for a healthier garden.



Begin Your Adventure at HB City Hall's Passport Acceptance Facility



Get your travel on – and discover famous landmarks constructed over 5,000 years ago! Come to City Hall for relaxed and stress-free service. Use the City's facilities where normal process fees apply and are retained by the City, not the Federal Government, to fund services you enjoy in Huntington Beach.



Huntington Beach City Hall, 2000 Main Street

Monday-Friday 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. (except holidays) • 714-374-1600 • www.huntingtonbeachpassports.com



Huntington Beach Police Traffic Unit: *We Are Here For Your Safety*

by Sergeant David Dereszynski

S*safety First!* What does “Safety First” mean to you? For the sake of the pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists around you, we hope it is a top priority. There has been an average of 11 traffic collision related deaths per year in the City of Huntington Beach over the past five years. In that same time period, police have responded to an average of 2625 traffic collisions annually. Nearly 52% of the time people were injured in these collisions.

The ultimate goal of traffic law enforcement is to reduce traffic collisions. We use education and enforcement techniques which are based on accident data, enforcement activity records, traffic volume, and traffic conditions. Generally there are three main modes of transportation which we see regularly at many of these collisions. They include motor vehicles, bicyclists, and pedestrians. Here are some tips to help you drive more defensively and be safer while walking, running, or riding a bicycle.

Motorist Safety: While our roadways primarily serve to get motorists from one place to another, we need to be aware these roads are shared with others who ride bicycles, scooters, skateboards, or who walk and run to stay healthy. Drivers tend to take for granted that pedestrians and bicyclists don't have the same protections as someone in a car. When a vehicle collides with a bicyclist or pedestrian, there are usually many more injuries to the bicyclist or pedestrian than when two cars collide. Through several grant related activities, we have found that drivers are less patient and less considerate of bicyclists and pedestrians on the roadway. This is especially prevalent in and around schools when school is in session. No matter how busy we get with work, family, or other distractions, we need to slow down, process our environment, and be considerate of others. This will reduce the number of collisions occurring, in turn reducing injuries and preventing fatalities. Motorists can put down their phones, use better time management skills, and reduce speeds to do their part to be safer and drive more defensively.

Bicycle Safety: In 2013, the HBPD documented 138 collisions involving bicyclists. Of those collisions, the bicyclist was injured 95% of the time. Most of these collisions were caused due to the bicyclist riding on the wrong side of the road, against traffic. Other considerable causes included drivers and bicyclists who failed to yield to each other or someone failing to stop at a red light or stop sign. Bicyclists must remember they need to follow the same rules of the road as motorists. This means riding with the flow of traffic and following all signs and signals. Motorists should realize that bicyclists are harder to see and may move rather quickly into view. To help increase visibility, bicyclists should wear bright colored and reflective clothing, use proper lighting equipment during darkness, and place themselves in a position to be easily seen by motorists. While it is not required for adults, it is strongly suggested all bicyclists wear a helmet whenever riding.

Pedestrian Safety: A review of 2013 statistics showed 59 collisions involving pedestrians. An injury was reported to the pedestrian 99% of the time and resulted in five fatalities. Of all the people on our roadways, pedestrians and bicyclists stand the most to lose in a collision. Pedestrians should diligently look before entering a roadway, even if in a crosswalk, to make sure drivers see them. If you must cross the street, only do so at a legal crosswalk. At controlled intersections, be sure to press the pedestrian crossing button as a green light only applies to motorists. Pedestrians need to look for the green “Walking person” symbol or “WALK” before entering the roadway. Pedestrians facing a flashing or steady red upraised hand symbol or “DON'T WALK” should remain on the sidewalk until the next signal phase. Drivers must yield to pedestrians who are in the roadway and who are close enough to be an immediate hazard. Even if a pedestrian is in the right during a collision, the driver of the car is usually not injured or killed while most of the time the pedestrian is.



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Huntington Beach Police Traffic Unit...

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Alcohol Awareness: The HBPD takes a zero tolerance stance on DUI alcohol, drugs, and medications. We encourage the public to make mature and responsible decisions when consuming any amount of alcohol or medications. There are many resources available to help citizens get home safely after drinking. While we do not want an intoxicated person driving a car, we also do not want intoxicated citizens to walk or ride bicycles across or near our roadways. Alcohol and medications can impair a person's judgment and too often leads to an injury or fatality when the person is struck by a vehicle or falls down due to impairment. When drinking alcohol or taking medications, the safest thing to do is take public transportation, call a friend, or use the many private services available to citizens. Consider your friends and family when you drink or use medications. They would rather come pick you up than get a call from the police after a collision has occurred. Let's look out for each other and reduce collisions in Huntington Beach. Be Aware, Be Proactive, and Be Involved!

For questions, contact the HBPD Traffic Front Desk: Mon.-Thur. 8 a.m to 5 p.m. at 2000 Main St. or call (714) 536-5663

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Celebrate the 26th Annual Senior Saturday Community Festival!

On Saturday, September 6, 2014, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., the Huntington Beach Council on Aging will hold its annual Senior Saturday Community Festival at beautiful Pier Plaza in downtown Huntington Beach. The event will include a variety of valuable resources, entertainment, food, and family fun!

Approximately 75 sponsor booths will offer information, products and services geared toward Baby Boomers as well as the older adult population. This is an excellent opportunity for Boomers, seniors and their families to spend a Saturday by the Pier while gathering pertinent information amid a festive atmosphere.

In addition to the sponsor booths, there will be a \$2 breakfast, \$2 lunch, giveaways, health screenings, and free entertainment throughout the event.

Pier Plaza is located adjacent to the Huntington Beach Pier at the intersection of Main St. and Pacific Coast Highway. Free shuttle service to and from the event is provided from City Hall at 2000 Main and the Michael E. Rodgers Seniors Center, 1706 Orange Avenue.

The Huntington Beach Council on Aging is a non-profit organization that supports programs and services for Huntington Beach Seniors through the Michael E. Rodgers Seniors Center and the Seniors Outreach Center.

Bring your family and friends for a fun filled morning and afternoon. For more information, please call the Michael E. Rodgers Seniors Center at (714) 536-9387.



Beach Information

Scott Smith
Supervisor, Beach Operations

Dottie Hughes
Supervisor, Parking/Camping

City Beach: Encompassing 3.5 miles from Beach Boulevard to the west city limits, the city boasts one of the world’s finest beaches. The beachfront includes the municipal pier, food and rental concessions, restrooms, showers, volleyball nets, fire rings, and a 2,200 space beach parking lot plus additional parking on Pacific Coast Highway and adjacent streets. New buildings on the municipal pier, a new Visitors Kiosk at Pier Plaza, and new restrooms along Blufftop Park north of the Pier will enhance beach visits for both residents and visitors. Lifeguard service is provided during daylight hours 365 days a year. The number and location of lifeguards on duty varies depending on season, weather and surf conditions. Please note posted signage for information. Curfew is 10:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m. and is strictly enforced. Beach Headquarters: 103 Pacific Coast Highway. Office hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Phone: 714-536-5281 Emergencies: call 911.



For information on Municipal Beach Parking Pass, Main Promenade Parking Structure, Day Use Parking, Pier Plaza Parking, and Sunset Vista RV Park, please visit www.surfcity-hb.org/visitors/parking/ or call 714-536-5281.

Shibley Nature Center

Composting Seminar

Saturday, September 20th, at 9:30 am. Learn all about Composting and Vermicomposting (worm composting) and how to turn kitchen scraps and backyard cuttings into “black gold” for your garden. Registration is \$10 per attendee. HB residents get a \$50 voucher toward the purchase composting bin.

Native Plants for Sale

For all you water conscious residents, now is the time to put in water-saving Plants. Begin this Fall-Winter planting season with the **best ever selection of California Native Plants**.

Volunteer Opportunities

If you are interested in volunteer work, please consider Shibley Nature Center. We can always use a helping hand and have many opportunities available, from watering to trimming to giving tours, opportunities are endless.

Shibley Nature Center, located at 17851 Goldenwest St, inside Huntington Beach Central Park. 714-842-4772. Open Monday through Saturday from 9 am to 1 pm

Visit us at www.shibleynature.org for more information.

STUDENT OPPORTUNITY!

The Sister City Association of Huntington Beach is seeking high school students serve as Ambassadors of Goodwill to



Japan and Australia. In addition to the travel opportunity, the experience provides students with the understanding of foreign culture and a wonderful opportunity to broaden their horizons. Strong friendships have been formed between former ambassadors and their foreign counterparts; families of selected students benefit also, as family members are encouraged to participate in the activities.

To be eligible for the exchange with **JAPAN**, students must live in Huntington Beach or attend one of the Huntington Beach Union High School District schools. The program is a two-week reciprocal exchange; ambassadors host a student from Anjo, Japan the first two weeks in July and travel to Japan in early August, 2015. Applications are available at City Hall Community Services Department, Central Library and at the individual high schools through the Community Resource Coordinators. It is also available at huntington-beachca.gov/ under government, boards and commissions.

Application deadline: Friday, November 21, 2014.