JANUARY 21, 2022

# CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

HUNTINGTON BEACH, CALIFORNIA

## INSIDE THE REPORT


**2022 Miss Huntington Beach**

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**HBFD Rechargeable Battery Tips**

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**Bluff Top Park Improvement Update**

# CITY'S NAVIGATION CENTER SHARES SUCCESS STORY

We are pleased to share an amazing success stories that Mercy House Living Centers reported to us.

Sharon was homeless for three years before she found her way to the Huntington Beach Navigation Center. Over the following months, Sharon worked with her Housing Navigators to create financial stability and search for permanent housing. After just nine months of being at the City's Navigation Center, Sharon received permanent housing. She said she "feels extremely blessed and excited about her new home."

For more information on the City's Navigation Center visit here.

## NEW LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR RESIDENTS

Are you looking for opportunities to get involved in local government? The City of Huntington Beach released its 2022 Maddy Act List identifying current and scheduled vacancies coming up this year on the City's boards and commissions.

Members of the City's boards and commissions delve into various topics and serve as an additional conduit between residents and City Council. Some of those topics include the annual Fourth of July Parade, Youth Involvement, Public Works and Planning. In general, each volunteer commits to a four-year term (for up to two consecutive terms) and is appointed by a Huntington Beach City Council Member. To learn more about each of our boards and to apply, visit the City of Huntington Beach's website.

Several boards and commissions have one or more vacancies, with many more anticipated toward the end of this year. Check out our Maddy Act List to learn more.

## ART CENTER'S LARGEST ANNUAL EXHIBIT OPENS JAN. 29

Every January, the Huntington Beach Art Center welcomes the new year with its largest annual exhibition. A tradition dating back over 20 years, "Centered on the Center" features works by non-juried local, regional, and national artists. Artworks of every style and medium flow through the Art Center's 3,000 square foot galleries.

The Center invites our community of artists and guests to celebrate this wonderful exhibition again. Centered on the Center 2022 will run January 29 through March 5 at the Huntington Beach Art Center, located at 538 Main Street. For more information, visit www.huntingtonbeachartcenter.org

# CITY ADOPTS SHORT-TERM RENTAL RULES

The Huntington Beach City Council has adopted new rules regarding operating short-term rentals (STR). Sometimes called 'vacation rentals' advertised through online platforms like Airbnb, HomeAway and VRBO, these are residential homes rented for less than 30 days.

There are several important facets to these newly adopted rules:

- City permits are required to operate an STR in Huntington Beach.
- All permitted STRs must be “hosted,” meaning the property owner must remain on the property throughout the guests’ stay.
- One exception applies to STRs in Sunset Beach, which are not required to be hosted. However, Sunset Beach property owners must obtain a city permit by March 1, 2022 to operate an unhosted STR.
- After March 1, 2022, the City will ONLY issue permits for hosted STRs citywide.
- The permit application fee is $624 for the first two years and $324 annually thereafter.

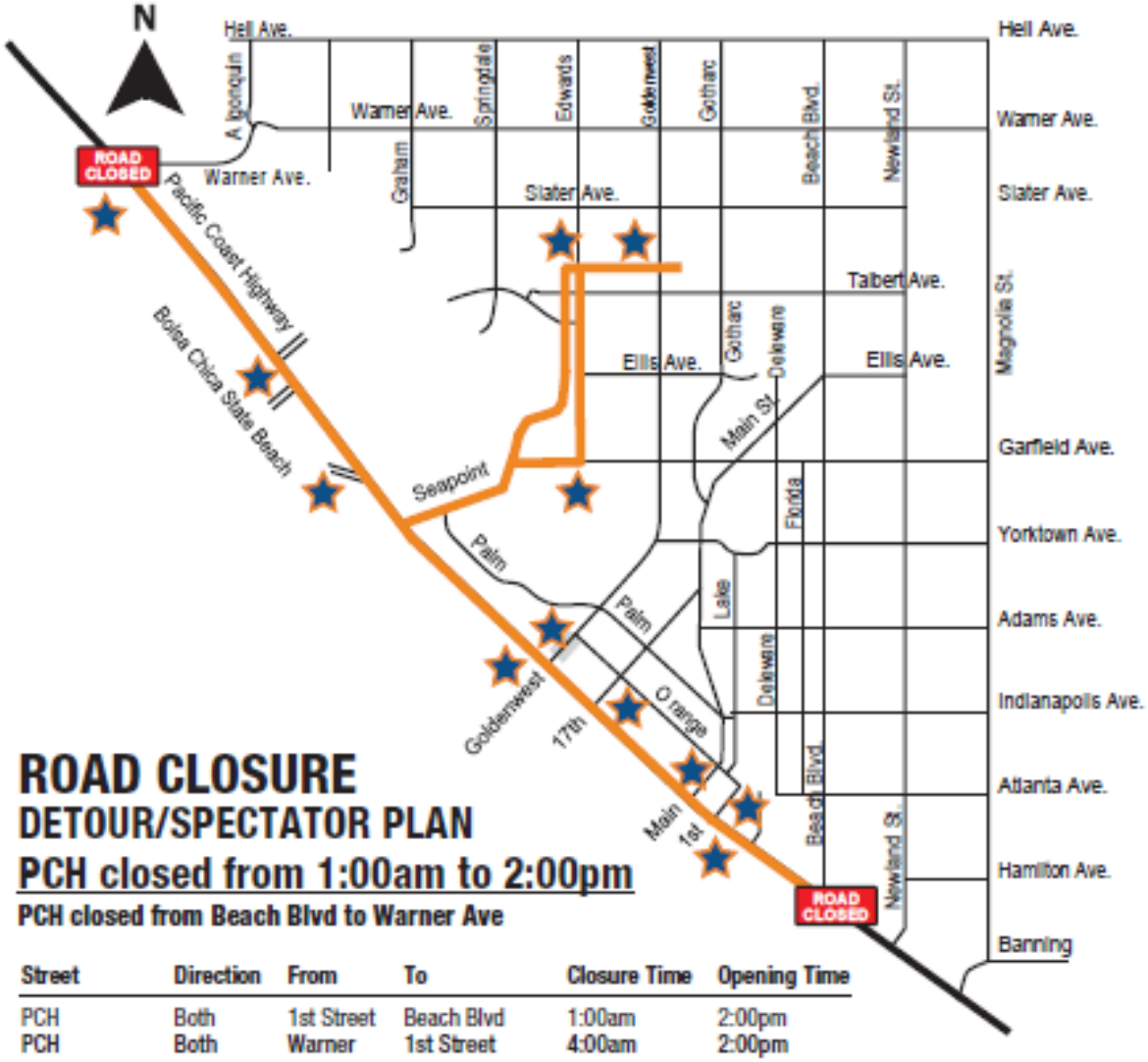
To learn more about these new STR rules in Huntington Beach, click this link.

To review the regulations related to hosted and non-hosted STRs, please click this link. Violations of the rules can result in fines. Issuance of multiple fines can result in a revocation of the STR permit.

If you have any questions or need assistance with the application process, please reach out to the City directly at permitcenter@surfcity-hb.org.

# ROAD CLOSURE

## SURF CITY MARATHON
## SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2022




## ROAD CLOSURE
### DETOUR/SPECTATOR PLAN
### PCH closed from 1:00am to 2:00pm
**PCH closed from Beach Blvd to Warner Ave**

| Street | Direction | From | To | Closure Time | Opening Time |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| PCH | Both | 1st Street | Beach Blvd | 1:00am | 2:00pm |
| PCH | Both | Warner | 1st Street | 4:00am | 2:00pm |
| Seapoint | Both | PCH | Garfield | 4:00am | 10:30am |
| Garfield | Both | Seapoint | Edwards | 4:00am | 10:30am |
| Edwards | Both | Garfield | Central Park Dr | 4:00am | 10:00am |
| Goldenwest | Both | Ellis | Slater | 4:00am | 10:00am |
| Central Park Dr | Both | Edwards | Central Park Dr | 4:00am | 10:00am |

★ Recommended Spectator locations
- Pedestrian Access from local neighborhoods

Race Course

For more information go to: **runsurfcity.com**

Road closures and timing subject to change.

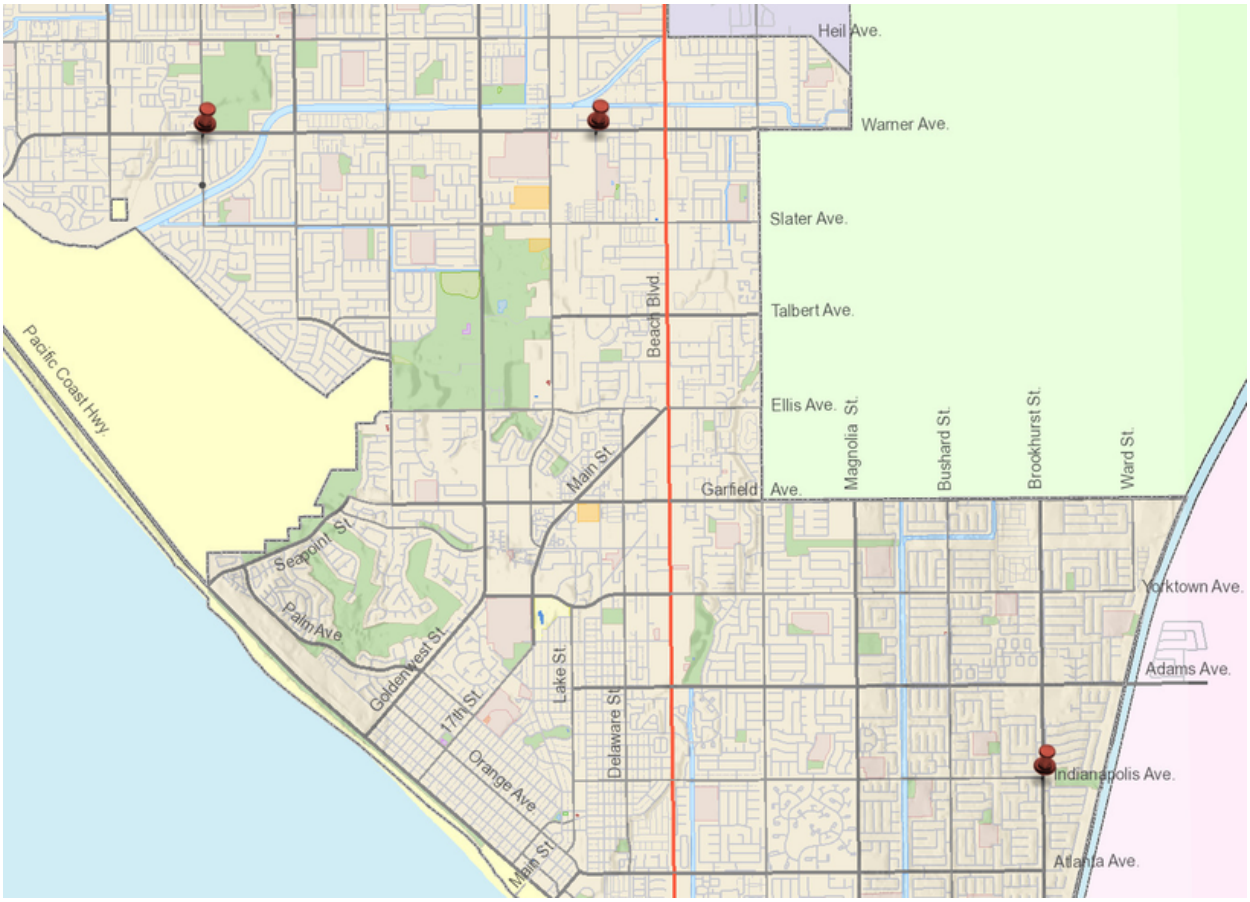
# BLUFF TOP PARK RAIL IMPROVEMENTS MAKING HEADWAY

Huntington Beach Public Works staff have been hard at work replacing the metal railing with wooden lodge poles along Bluff Top Park with wooden lodge poles. The project began in December and will be completed in February.

In addition to beautifying more than a mile of railing to frame the park's panoramic view of the Pacific Ocean, park improvements will include widening and resurfacing the asphalt path from 11th Street to Seapoint Street, which will enhance access and safety. Improvements along the trail will also include new signage and beautifying the landscape.

The $3.7 million park improvement project is expected to be completed by May – just in time for our summer visitors. Bluff Top Park is already one of the most popular, picturesque locations in Huntington Beach. These improvements will make walking or biking this trail even more enjoyable.

# CITY GREEN LIGHTS TRAFFIC SIGNAL MODIFICATIONS AT THREE INTERSECTIONS




In an effort to improve street safety, the City will be modifying existing traffic signals at three intersections:

- Warner Avenue and Graham Street
- Warner Avenue and Nichols Lane
- Brookhurst Street and Indianapolis Avenue

The improvements will include modifying fiber optics, installing new controllers, poles and signal heads. But the improvements don't stop at the signals themselves. The new signals will have illuminated street name signs, pedestrian and bicycle push buttons, new striping, signage and pedestrian ramps.

All three intersections currently have a yield signal that will be replaced with arrow signals to better protect traffic. Work at these intersections began on January 8 and will be completed sometime betwwn late March and early April pending rain or other unforeseen delays.

# INTRODUCING 2022 MISS HUNTINGTON BEACH AND HER COURT

Mayor Barbara Delgleize and the City Council warmly welcomed the newly crowned Miss Huntington Beach Gisell Gochman and her court of Princess Jenny Thach and Princess Huong Nguyen.

A native of Huntington Beach, Gisell attended Harbour View Elementary School, Circle View Elementary School, and is a Huntington Beach High School Summa Cum Laude graduate. Gisell's platform is to work with youth experiencing adversity and is currently studying psychobiology at UCLA in hopes of one day becoming a physician.

Princess Huong Nguyen is a freshman at USC and is passionate about education, specifically within the fields of information technology and the arts. Princess Jenny Thach attended Golden West College and attends Cal State Los Angeles with a goal to acquire her BA before launching a career as a guidance counselor.

Sponsored by the Sand Dollars of Huntington Beach, the Scholarship Competition has recognized Miss Huntington Beach and her Court for over 100 years, and Miss Huntington Beach and her Court represent the City in citywide special events, business promotions, and non-profit endeavors. We congratulate and recognize Miss Gisell Gochman as Miss Huntington Beach 2021-2022 and wish her the best of luck in her future endeavors.

# BEWELLOC MAKES POSITIVE IMPACT IN SURF CITY

Our BeWellOC team not only responds to mental health calls for service, but also performs proactive outreach throughout our community.

BeWellOC staff engages with our City's homeless population daily to offer services and resources. While our homeless community may not accept the help immediately, the BeWellOC professionals build trust and critical relationships that often lead to these folks asking for help. To learn more, visit here.

VISIT HUNTINGTON BEACH
SURF CITY USA®

# Partner Education Series

Visit Huntington Beach hosts **complimentary** training sessions for tourism-related businesses featuring marketing tools, tips, and strategies you can use to market your business. Check out our upcoming dates and topics below.

These sessions are perfect for retail stores, restaurants, hotels, attractions, and activities in Huntington Beach!

Register now to get the Zoom link and a post-event link to watch the recording:

**SurfCityUSA.com/Partner/Partner-Information-Meetings**

## FEBRUARY: HOW TO CREATE SHORT FORM VIDEOS

**Wednesday, February 23, 2022 | 11:00 am – 12:00 pm | Zoom**

Learn from VHB's social media experts how to capture and create short 15-30 second videos for TikTok and Instagram Reels. This training session is great for any business who is already active on social media and wants to take their engagement to the next level.

## MARCH: "SPRING FLING" NETWORKING EVENT

**Wednesday, March 23, 2022 | 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm | In-person**

SAVE THE DATE! Visit Huntington Beach and the Huntington Beach Chamber of Commerce will host a fun, in-person networking event at the Chamber's office.

## APRIL: INCREASE YOUR EXPOSURE ON SURFCITYUSA.COM

**Tuesday, April 19, 2022 | 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm | Zoom**

In this workshop, you'll learn how to update and maintain your business listing, add deals and events, and increase your chances of being seen on SurfCityUSA.com.

## MAY: SOCIAL MEDIA ENGAGEMENT TIPS

**Thursday, May 17, 2022 | 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm | Zoom**

Learn how to engage with your audience on Facebook and Instagram from VHB's social media experts. These actionable tips will have your followers growing in no time!

# HBFD: RECHARAGEABLE BATTERY TIPS

Happy New Year HB! We hope you had a great holiday season and received everything on your wish list. Did anyone in your home receive an e-bike, drone, or other fun toy that uses rechargeable batteries? Have you read the manufacturer's instructions on how to properly store or charge equipment?

The Huntington Beach Fire Department has noticed an increase of fires involving rechargeable batteries. Here are some important safety measures that need to be taken when you are charging or storing your rechargeable batteries.

**Don't overdo it.** One of the most important things you can do to extend battery life is to avoid overcharging. Disconnect chargers and devices after the battery reaches full charge. Overcharging batteries can rise quickly in the battery and lead to a fire.

**Be present**. Recharge your batteries while you are nearby. A battery fire could happen if a device with a defective battery is left unattended and it overheats. A working smoke detector and a fire extinguisher provide extra insurance if that happens.

**Stay away from flammables**. Be sure to place the device or battery charger on a non-flammable surface during charging. Do not charge devices on flammable material such as pillows, blankets, sheets, paper, clothing and fabric, such as curtains. It is also important to keep charging batteries away from high value items such as cars, tools or equipment.

**Look for a problem**. Before charging your batteries take a minute to inspect batteries for any signs of visible damage such as cracks, bulging or puffing out. If you notice puffing, smoking or fire while charging your battery, you should attempt, only if it is safe to unplug the charger from its power source.

***Continued on page 12***

## HBFD CONT'D - RECHARGEABLE BATTERIES FROM PAGE 11

**Pick the right method.** You should always charge rechargeable batteries in the device it is used in, the charger it came with, or a charger recommended by the manufacturer. Chargers are designed for specific battery types; mixing chargers and batteries could result in unexpected problems. Check the manufacturer's website for instructions if you plan to charge your device or batteries using a new method.

Electrical fires continues to be a primary cause of fire, but by creating good habits for charging and storing your batteries you can prevent a battery fire from starting.

# NEW PLAYGROUND OPENS AT HUNTINGTON CENTRAL PARK

After more than three years in the making, Huntington Beach opened its newest playground at Huntington Central Park on Thursday, January 13. The playground was welcomed with an official ribbon cutting with local elected and City officials, City staff, and park-goers.

Designed and constructed by Dave Bang & Associates, the playground focuses heavily on risk and reward based play – a key role in child development. The playground offers children the ability to develop critical thinking and decision-making skills, as well as the sense of accomplishment once they conquer certain parts of the playground, including the daunting DNA Tower.

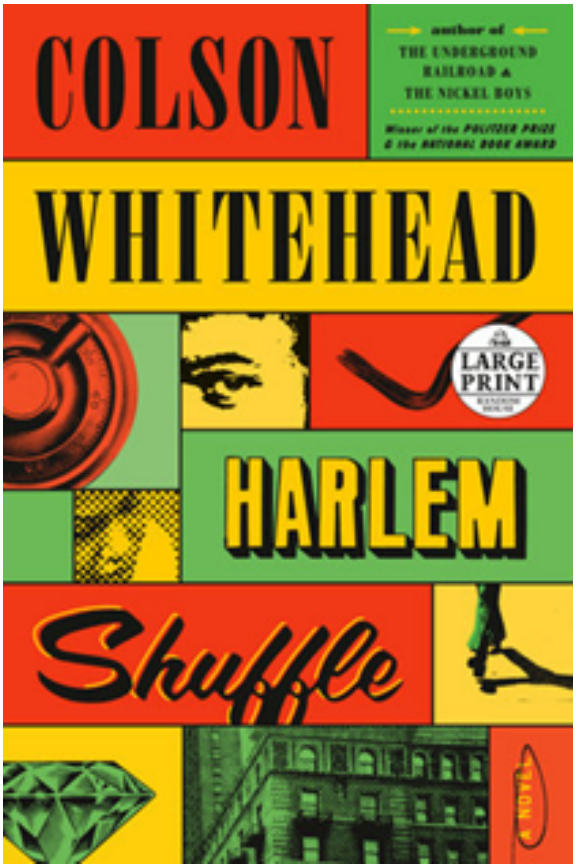
With spring on the horizon, this playground is a perfect way to get out and enjoy our local parks.

## CENTRAL LIBRARY NEWS

As the cases of COVID-19 continue to rise in Huntington Beach and Orange County, all library in-person programming, including storytimes, will remain “paused” until further notice. The Central Library and the four library branches will continue to maintain their current hours of operation. Library staff will provide the same high level of service both at the information desks, and by continuation of their virtual and online programs -- including the Adult Book Club, an All-Ages Winter Reading Challenge, (which has been extended until the end of February), and virtual storytimes for kids of all ages.

The Huntington Beach library staff appreciates all of the well-wishes and gratitude expressed by members of the public, and look forward to resuming regular in-person programming when the time is right.

## CENTRAL BOOK CLUB OFFERS EVENT




Adults aged 18 and up are invited to join the library-sponsored Central Book Club, coming up on Tuesday, February 1 at 7 p.m. This is a great opportunity to interact with other bibliophiles and share thoughtful discussions on this month's book selection, Colson Whitehead's Harlem Shuffle. Protagonist Ray Carney is a furniture salesman struggling to make ends meet. With the help of his misfit cousin Freddie, Carney deals in stolen jewelry on the side. When the unexpected happens, can he survive? This is an online event, and the event URL will be sent to the e-mail address provided during registration. To sign up, click here.

## CHILDREN'S NEWS - VIRTUAL TODDLER STORYTIME

Miss Kari's Virtual Toddler Storytime is tailored for children ages 18 months to three-years-old, but kids of all ages can have fun watching, reading, and singing along. A new storytime will be posted on the library's YouTube channel on Thursday, January 27 at 10 a.m., where fun-and-educational songs, rhymes, stories and more make learning a snap for the little ones!

These videos are available to watch anytime, from the comfort and safety of home, during the Winter Program Session. Click here for the Storytime YouTube.

## ALL-AGES WINTER READING CHALLENGE

The Huntington Beach Public Library's Winter Reading Challenge has been extended until the end of February.

This is a great opportunity to get some reading done during these colder days at the beach – now with incentives.

If adults read just three books before February 28, they will win a reusable Winter Reading book tote bag, a coupon for a free book from the Used Bookstore, and other fun goodies (while supplies last). The reading goal for children, tweens and teens is to read 600 minutes, which may be divided into 20 minute increments. Kids can pick up a fun reading log at any of the library locations. Once they color in all of the snowflakes by reading, they "win."

To join the fun and register, click here. Prizes must be redeemed in person at any HBPL branch. For more information, please call 714 375-5107.

## VIRTUAL STORY TIME

Children of all ages and their parents are invited to check out Miss Maribel's Virtual Family Storytime on the Library's YouTube channel. Two new storytimes will be posted on Monday, January 24 and 31, at 10 a.m., and will feature songs, rhymes, stories and more for the whole family – but kids ages 3-5 will find it especially amusing and educational. These new videos will be available to watch anytime, from the comfort and safety of home, during the Winter Program Session. Click here for the HBPL Storytime YouTube Channel.

# BRANCH LIBRARY NEWS

Due to the continued surge of COVID-19 cases, the previously announced branch library program, Library Travelogue, has been postponed until further notice. The branch libraries of the Huntington Beach Public Library system (Main Street, Banning, Helen Murphy and Oak View), will all remain open during their regular hours, but will wait until a safer time to have their “passport program” event.

Although the “flight” is right on schedule at the “airport,” the special itinerary at the destination (the library) has been delayed. Here’s a teaser of what’s to come – all four branches are planning fun “passive programs” for the community to participate in that will familiarize patrons new and old with the library’s many services. Prizes are on hand to reward those lucky library travelers who collect all six stamps on their travelogue. During this short waiting period, patrons are welcome to come into the branch libraries as often as they like to pick up books and movies, use the computers, or just relax – all while staying tuned for the return of the library travel tour.

In addition to the Literacy Department at the Central Library, there is another wonderful language arts program at the Oak View Library, created to meet the needs of the entire community. The Oak View Literacy Program is part of the Literacy Volunteers-HBPL, and provides educational services for the Oak View neighborhood. Services include tutoring for adult learners, computer assisted learning, citizenship classes, and a Reading Lab Program for first and second graders learning English at Oak View Elementary School. Adult learners in the program will learn to speak, understand, read and write English, as well as learn to read with their children at home. Click on Oak View Literacy Program, or contact Akemi Royer, Literacy Specialist, at 714-375-5104 for more information on the program.

SEAN JOYCE
INTERIM CITY MANAGER
WWW.HUNTINGTONBEACHCA.GOV

# CITY HALL DIRECTORY

General Info.....(714) 536-5511
City Attorney.....(714) 536-5555
City Clerk.....(714) 536-5227
Passports.....(714) 374-1600
City Council.....(714) 536-5553
City Manager.....(714) 536-5202
Community Services.....(714) 536-5486
Beach Operations.....(714) 536-5281
Business Development.....(714) 536-5582
Finance Department.....(714) 536-5630
Business Licenses.....(714) 536-5267
Fire Department.....(714) 536-5411
Human Resources.....(714) 536-5492
Information Services.....(714) 536-5515
Library Services.....(714) 842-4481
Community Development.....(714) 536-5271
Code Enforcement.....(714) 375-5155
Police Department.....(714) 960-8811
Public Works.....(714) 536-5431
Graffiti Removal.....(714) 960-8861