Orange County Transitions to Red Tier; Reopens More Businesses with Safety Modifications

On September 8, 2020, Orange County made enough progress against COVID-19 to transition from the purple “widespread” tier to the red “substantial” tier in the State’s Blueprint for a Safer Economy. The County has seen a steady decline of COVID-19 testing positivity rates and the daily average of new cases. As a result, more businesses such as hair salons, nail salons, tattoo and piercing parlors are now permitted to reopen indoors with safety modifications. Other businesses such as restaurants, gyms, places of worship, and movie theaters can reopen indoor at limited capacities and with safety modifications. To determine if your business can reopen now, visit covid19.ca.gov/safer-economy.

Even though the County’s COVID-19 measures are improving, we still need your help to maintain this trend through regular use of masks, social distancing, and handwashing. Worsening measures can bring us back to the purple tier, so don't let up. Continue to do your part to prevent the spread of the virus, so we can progress through the Blueprint for a Safer Economy and reopen - safely and efficiently.
The Community Services Department is working with local geotechnical firm, Geosyntec Consultants, to perform a limited subsurface investigation at Edison Community Park (Edison) on September 24, 25, and 28. This work will be performed in support of needed park improvements at Edison.

Edison was constructed over the Cannery Street Former Refuse Disposal Station, a.k.a Cannery Street Landfill (CSL). Based on available site-related documents, waste material placed at the site is non-hazardous waste that consisted of construction debris, stumps, logs, and large timber.

The objective of the subsurface investigation is to evaluate the lateral limit and depth of the existing landfill material along a selected portion of the eastern edge of the former CSL site. Results from this analysis will help determine the potential types and locations of new park amenities at Edison.

This, in combination with a public input process, will help us develop a revised master plan for the rehabilitation of Edison.

The proposed fieldwork will consist of excavation and drilling at several specific locations within Edison. Each location will be safely secured with fencing and a windscreen and will be immediately backfilled once the desired depth of excavation is reached. Additionally, Geosyntec will perform air monitoring, as well as dust mitigation measures to comply with current standards set in place by Southern California Air Quality Management District excavation permit requirements.

During this three-day geotechnical work, City of Huntington Beach representatives will work closely with Geosyntec and its subcontractors, to ensure highest efficiency and quality of work throughout this process. We look forward to working with the community to recreate Edison Park, combining new and improved existing amenities with innovative and adventurous components inclusive to all of our residents and visitors.

Community Services and Public Works Departments are also excited to begin Edison Community Center interior renovations later this calendar year! The project completion will be scheduled for early Spring 2021 and will feature an updated look, as well as improved accessibility and energy efficiency.

For more information on parks projects in HB, please visit huntingtonbeachca.gov/parkdevelopment.
To learn more about your current air quality, visit www.airnow.gov.
September 18, 2020

**Child Passenger Safety Week**

Child Passenger Safety Week is September 20 – 26, 2020. Understanding the type of seat that is appropriate for your children based on their age and size, is imperative for their safety. Approximately every 32 seconds, one child under the age of 13 in a passenger vehicle is involved in a vehicle crash. Often times, injuries including death can be prevented by using the proper car seat, booster, or seat belt (depending on the age and weight of the child).

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Association, the proper car seat reduces the risk of fatal injury by 71% for infants and 54% for toddlers. Choosing the right seat can help save your child’s life. To learn more about how to find the right car seat, visit the following website:

www.nhtsa.gov/campaign/right-seat

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**Car Seat Recommendations: Choosing the Right Seat**

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**Car crashes are a leading killer of children ages 1 to 13.**

In crashes from 2011-2015, 3,194 children (under 13 in cars, SUVs, vans, and pick-ups) were killed. An estimated 599,000 children were injured.

That’s more than the population of Albuquerque, NM.

In 2015, 662 children (under 13 in cars, SUVs, vans, and pick-ups) were killed in crashes.

On those killed, more than 1 in 3 were unrestrained.

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A rear-facing car seat is the best seat for your young child to use. It has a harness and in a crash, cradles and moves with your child to reduce the stress to the child’s fragile neck and spine cord.

Keep your child rear-facing as long as possible. It’s the best way to keep him or her safe. Your child should remain in a rear-facing car seat until he or she reaches the top height or weight limit allowed by your car seat’s manufacturer.

A forward-facing car seat has a harness and belt that limits your child’s forward movement during a crash.

Keep your child in a forward-facing car seat with a harness until he or she reaches the top height or weight limit allowed by your car seat’s manufacturer. Once your child outgrows the forward-facing car seat, your child is ready to travel in a forward-facing car seat with a harness in the back seat.

A booster seat positions the seat belt so that it fits properly over the stronger parts of your child’s body.

Keep your child in a booster seat until he or she is big enough to fit in a seat belt properly. For a seat belt to fit properly, the lap belt must lie snug across the upper thighs, not the stomach. The shoulder belt should lie snug across the shoulder and chest and not across the neck or face. Remember, your child should still ride in the back seat because it’s safer there.

A seat belt should lie snug across the upper thighs and be snug across the shoulder and chest to restrain the child safely in a crash. It should not rest on the stomach area or across the neck.

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Reduce the risk of death and injury by properly securing your child. To maximize safety, keep your child in the car seat for as long as possible.

**NHTSA.GOV/Therightseat**
9/11 Patriot Day Ceremony

Last Friday, Huntington Beach employees held a Patriot Day Ceremony to honor the thousands of people who lost their lives or were injured on September 11, 2001. The events of 9/11 continue to deeply affect our nation, and the City of Huntington Beach remains committed to remembering this tragic event. We encourage our community to do the same by never forgetting, honoring those who died, and remaining united as OneHB.

National Deaf Awareness Month

At the September 8 City Council meeting, Mayor Semeta presented a proclamation to Vincent Saporito, College View Elementary School’s teacher for deaf and hard of hearing children, to proclaim the month of September as Deaf Awareness Month in Huntington Beach. Mr. Saporito has demonstrated a commitment to providing children with early access to sign language and received a Teacher of the Year award from the Orange County Department of Education in 2018 for his incredible work.

Joining the presentation was Mr. Saporito’s former student, Monroe Sinclair, who had participated in College View’s American Sign Language program since she was three years old.

In addition to the proclamation, Mayor Semeta and Mayor Pro Tem Jill Hardy presented to Vincent and Monroe several American Girl dolls and books about Joss – the first deaf character in this very popular series. Joss is also described in the series as a surfer from Huntington Beach. The dolls and books were generously donated by Mattel.
Community Webinars on Huntington Beach’s Navigation Center for the Homeless

at 17631 Cameron Lane & 17642 Beach Boulevard

Learn directly from the City of Huntington Beach and its partners about our future Navigation Center by joining us for 3 webinars focused on different aspects of this project.

1) September 22 – Building and Funding the Navigation Center
2) October 1 – Operating the Navigation Center
3) October 8 - Public Safety in Your Neighborhood

All webinars will be held from 6:00-7:30 p.m. To attend, please follow these instructions at the start of each webinar:

Attend via Zoom by entering this link into your web browser: https://huntingtonbeach.zoom.us/j/95015969036

Attend Via Telephone: Dial (669) 900-6833. When prompted, input Meeting ID: 950 1596 9036

For more information, please visit HBHomelessSolutions.com.
September 18, 2020

Fire Department

September 6-12:
Build A Kit
Gather supplies that will last for several days after a disaster for everyone living in your home. Don’t forget to consider the unique needs each person or pet may have in case you have to evacuate quickly. Update your kits and supplies based on recommendations by the Centers for Disease Control.

September 1-5:
Make A Plan
Talk to your friends and family about how you will communicate before, during, and after a disaster. Make sure to update your plan based on the Centers for Disease Control recommendations due to the coronavirus.

September 13-19:
Prepare for Disasters
Limit the impacts that disasters have on you and your family. Know the risk of disasters in your area and check your insurance coverage. Learn how to make your home stronger in the face of storms and other common hazards and act fast if you receive a local warning or alert.

September 20-26:
Teach Youth About Preparedness
Talk to your kids about preparing for emergencies and what to do in case you are separated. Reassure them by providing information about how they can get involved.
This is the third week of **National Preparedness Month**. Throughout the week we are going to provide information on how you can prepare for disasters that we are at risk for in our area.

The number one disaster risk to Huntington Beach is an earthquake. While there are earthquake faults throughout the City, the most likely threat comes from a major earthquake along the San Andreas fault which will likely happen in our lifetime. Residents need to expect violent shaking for up to a minute, which may cause building damage, fires, widespread utility outages and economic impacts for a long period.

The most frightening thing about an earthquake is not knowing what to do. How do you turn this tendency to panic into life saving action? By planning and practicing what to do BEFORE an earthquake occurs, you and your family can learn to react correctly and automatically when the first jolt begins.

The first step is to acquaint all family members with the safe spots in each room of the home. Safe areas in each room such as under tables and desks. You should mitigate the dangers in your home by securing water heaters and appliances, plants, heavy picture frames, and latches on cabinet doors.

During an earthquake, the most important thing is to **STAY CALM and immediately Drop, Cover and Hold**. After the shaking subsides, check for injuries, apply first aid, do not move seriously injured persons unless in immediate danger. Check for gas and water leaks, broken electrical wiring or sewage lines. If there is damage, turn utilities off at the source. Finally, be prepared for aftershocks. Don’t panic, stay calm and lend a hand to others.

For more information, visit:

https://www.ready.gov/earthquakes
https://www.ready.gov/prepare
https://www.earthquakecountry.org
THE HUNTINGTON BEACH COUNCIL ON AGING PRESENTS:

Sociably Distant

DRIVE IN CONCERT

@ SENIOR CENTER IN CENTRAL PARK

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25TH

FEATURING
THE “MIKE FLEETWOOD BAND”

$25/Car

Purchase your ticket online @ hbsands.org
#411229-5A @ 3:00-4:30pm
#411229-5B @ 6:00-7:30pm

Includes refreshment pack with treats upon entry
For questions call (714)536-5600.

MemorialCare
Orange Coast Medical Center

HBCOA
Huntington Beach Council on Aging
Huntington Beach Fire and American Legion Recognitions

Fire Department

Firefighter of the Year
Captain Bill Cerri

The American Legion Huntington Beach Firefighter of the Year was given to Captain Bill Cerri on 9/11 for his outstanding commitment to public service and his efforts within our community. Bill was raised in Huntington Beach and has worked through the ranks including Ambulance Operator, Firefighter Paramedic, Engineer, and now as Captain. Bill has a contagious enthusiasm, personality, and love for the City of Huntington Beach. Bill truly embodies the OneHB model and believes that everything can be accomplished in our community by working together.

Marine Safety Officer of the Year
Sterling Foxcroft

The American Legion Marine Safety Officer of the Year was given to Sterling Foxcroft on 9/11 for his significant contributions during the COVID-19 pandemic. Sterling worked tirelessly to design thousands of graphics, infographics, social media graphics, flyers, and signage to inform and protect our community. Sterling’s artwork can be seen throughout the City, online, and has even been used by cities throughout Orange and Los Angeles County. Sterling is also an exceptional Marine Safety Officer and is certified in advanced swift water, rope rescue, boat operations, rescue diving, rescue watercraft, and helicopter rescue.
We want to thank the Brightwater Community for their overwhelming support during the Bolsa Chica Fire incident. After the fire, the community came together and raised money to provide a generous gift of $4,000 for the Huntington Beach Fire Department. The Fire Department then turned the gift over to the Huntington Beach Fire Outreach Foundation, which purchased a total of 40 particulate filtering flash hoods for Huntington Beach firefighters. These flash hoods will immediately improve the safety of our firefighters. These flash hoods - beyond protecting them against the heat - help to block carcinogenic particulates and protect firefighters while they work to protect our community.

We are extremely grateful to the Brightwater Community and the Huntington Beach Fire Outreach Foundation. The Foundation was founded in 2019 to further the mission of fire safety and emergency preparedness. You can learn more about the foundation on their website: www.hbfof.org
September 18, 2020

Online Homework Club

The Oak View Branch Library will begin offering online homework assistance for students in grades K through 12 starting on Monday, September 21. Students can get help with math, reading and any of their other school assignments on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays from 2-5 p.m., and Wednesdays from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. This year the Homework Club Program will be offered through Zoom online meetings. Participants will need to have access to a mobile device or an audio/video-compatible computer, as well as an internet connection. Registration is required. Parents will need to fill out a registration form and return it to the Oak View Branch by depositing it in the branch’s book drop. This procedure is needed in order to receive instructions on how to participate in the online tutoring. The program will be led by Oak View Homework Club coordinator Marina Iturbide, with the assistance of four UCI student tutors and various other local volunteers. For more information, please call the Oak View Branch at 714 375-5068.

The Huntington Beach Public Library has some great ways for teens to stay up to date and involved with all that is going on at the library. First off, teens can join the HBPL TeenSpace Discord -- an active and welcoming online community for locals who want to hang out, make new friends, and be more involved in the library. They can get the latest scoop on new books, join a virtual study hall, drop in for game day, check out karaoke night, or come chat about their favorite music, games, movies and more! Find out all about Discord, and how it works by clicking here. For those curious about Discord's safety measures for teens, please click here.

Next, all teens who love to read books and/or who need some volunteer hours are welcome to join the staff of the HB Teens Book Blog. As a book blogger, teens can submit reviews on the books they are already reading -- in addition to earning one hour of service credit for each review successfully submitted. To learn more about this opportunity, either check out the library blog’s FAQ page, or send an email to the library’s Teen Librarian Christany at Christany.edwards@surfcity-hb.org.

Finally, Teen Try It Activity Kits for teens ages 11 to 18 are back for the fall. These fun activity kits are designed to give teens a hands-on break from online-schooling by encouraging creativity, self-discovery, and stepping out of familiar comfort zones. They are the perfect way to keep boredom at bay, or even unwind at the end of a long week. From growing an herb garden, exploring holidays like Día de los Muertos or practicing mindful self-care, there’s plenty of exciting opportunities to explore something new. Click on the calendar of events page and register to pick up a kit at the Central Library. Limit one kit per teen; maximum four kits per family.
Need to get a higher paying job, but don’t have a high school diploma? Go back to school with the Career Online High School, and start an investment in yourself. The Career Online High School is an accredited program offered through the Huntington Beach Library that enables adults to earn their high school diplomas at home, for FREE, in a self-paced, supportive environment. Participants will gain useful career skills in areas of their interest while working on a diploma. COHS is entirely online, and offers supportive coaches along the way. Scholarships are available. Click here for more information today.

For those adults who have a couple of hours a week to volunteer, the HBPL Literacy Volunteers is recruiting for adult volunteer tutors to assist other adults increase their English literacy skills. Join the volunteer team to help an adult gain reading and writing skills so they can get a better job, help their children, read medical information, and so much more. All training will be conducted online via Zoom, and the tutoring will be done online as well. Even though tutors and adult learners won’t meet face-to-face, it is still possible to help someone reach their goals. Workshops for both Central & Oak View programs start soon. Begin the volunteer experience by completing the online Tutor Orientation tutorial found here.
Due to the popularity of curbside pickup at the Central Library, the Banning Branch Library will now offer curbside service. Holds can now be picked up at the Banning Branch location on Tuesdays from 2-6 p.m. and Thursdays and Saturdays from 9-1 p.m. Please note that the library building itself is still closed to the public.

Simply place items on hold at home either online or by calling a reference librarian at 714 842-4481, and press extension 4. Make sure to specify the pickup location as Banning. Once alerted by the library that the items are ready, call the Banning Branch library from their parking lot at 714 375-5005 and pick them up.

The Friends of the Huntington Beach Library presents “A Visit with Gregg Hurwitz” on Thursday, September 24 at 4 p.m. Join fellow thriller enthusiasts from the comfort of home via Zoom for a discussion of The Prodigal Son, his latest release from the popular Orphan X series. Mr. Hurwitz, creator of Evan Smoak, the notorious “nowhere man” will join us live to discuss the newest entry in his bestselling series, which is due to be released in January 2021. To register for this free event, go to www.fotlhb.com.
Virtual Coastal Clean-Up 2020

Every Saturday in September

We’re staying close to home these days. But we’re all connected to the ocean. This year every Saturday in September, grab your family to clean up your street, local parks, local shorelines, or anywhere else that makes your happy place.

Register:
Participate and win prizes!
Please register by going to the Eventbrite page http://ow.ly/yReW5oBnN9Y
Include Huntington Beach as your city

Make Your Cleanup Count:
Report your data through the CLEAN SWELL APP.
Download, sign-in, collect and record.

Wear gloves. Wear a mask. Practice social distance.
Must provide your own gloves and trash bags.

The coast starts at your front door!
City Hall Directory

Helpline (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

Oliver Chi
City Manager
www.huntingtonbeachca.gov

(Photo credit: @tohko_cali)