

# CITY MANAGER'S WEEKLY REPORT

**January 16, 2012**

## **COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

### **Huntington Beach Senior Services**

Driving Mr. & Mrs. Daisy – The award-winning Huntington Beach *Seniors-on-the-Go* transportation program needs volunteer drivers on Tuesdays. There are morning and afternoon shifts available. Transportation, the number one need for seniors across the nation, is a vital issue for older adults. Huntington Beach Senior Services' volunteers provide transportation each weekday from 8:30 A.M. – 4:30 P.M. to Huntington Beach residents 55+ for all their transportation needs within Huntington Beach. Rides to the Social Security office in Fountain Valley, Hoag Memorial Hospital Presbyterian, Fountain Valley Regional Hospital, and Orange Coast Memorial Medical Center are some of the destinations to which rides are provided. Take a "no-obligation ride-a-long" with an experienced volunteer to decide if this opportunity is for you. Volunteers are requested to provide a DMV H-6 form (driving record) fingerprinting, and background check. For more information, or to apply, contact Diane Swarts, Volunteer Coordinator, [dswarts@surfcity-hb.org](mailto:dswarts@surfcity-hb.org) 714-374-1544.

### **Marine Safety**

Marine Safety Officers and Ocean Lifeguards responded to 3,829 aquatic rescues in 2011, a 34% increase from the previous year. Other 2011 Marine Safety Statistics included: Preventative Actions – 117,095; Medical Aids – 1,349; Law Enforcement Contacts – 48,659; Lost & Found Persons – 315; Public Contacts – 519,862; Wildlife Calls – 95; Public Education Lectures/Students – 82/5,648; and Permitted Beach Events – 309.

### **Recreation Programs**

From Hollywood to Huntington Beach, Piloxing is a unique new class that combines Pilates and boxing into one fat torching, muscle sculpting workout that is fun, challenging, and guaranteed to whip you into shape. With the combination of power, speed, and agility of boxing and the sculpting and flexibility of Pilates, you will gain a sleek, lean, and powerful self-image. For more information, please see the Spring edition of the SANDS Community Service Guide or contact the City Gym and Pool at 714-960-8884.

### **Surf City USA® Marathon**

Race organizers today announced that the Surf City USA® Marathon and Half Marathon races are sold out for the seventh consecutive year. The largest combined oceanfront marathon and half marathon event in California, Surf City showcases 20,000 participants and 50,000 spectators from all 50 states, over 1,000 US cities, and 18 foreign countries on Super Bowl Sunday, February 5, 2012. A record 75,000 attendees are anticipated to attend the two-day Active Lifestyle Beach Expo. Through the Run for Mobility Program, the race's charitable partner, the Free Wheelchair Mission, has raised more than \$2.0 million over the past six years and distributed nearly 40,000 specially engineered wheelchairs to needy and developing nations. Other local organizations such as the Huntington Beach Junior Lifeguards, the Kiwanis Club, Mesa View Middle School, Edison High School Track Club, and others all benefit from race proceeds.

To accommodate the race course, Pacific Coast Highway will be temporarily closed from 2:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. In addition, portions of Seapoint Street, Garfield Avenue, Edwards Street, Inlet Drive, Varsity Drive, and Goldenwest Street will also be temporarily closed Sunday morning. For more information, visit [www.runsurfcity.com](http://www.runsurfcity.com).

### **Huntington Beach Art Center**

The annual community exhibition "Centered on the Center" opens with a reception for the artists on Friday January 20 from 6 P.M. – 9 P.M. Featuring 190 local and regional artists and 390 works of art, this dynamic exhibition reflects the talent of artists working in a variety of media. The public is invited to attend the celebration, which will be an exciting gathering of artists, friends, and family. The Art Center is located at 538 Main Street. Admission is free.

Please join us for an afternoon of music and art on January 22, 2012, as The Music Teachers Association presents a piano concert to support the Art Center's student performance program. Admission is \$25 per adult and \$20 for students and seniors. Doors open at 2 P.M. The concert begins at 3 P.M. In the galleries, guests can explore "Centered on the Center," the annual community exhibition. For tickets and information please call the Art Center at 714.374.1650.

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

### **Huntington Beach Update on Redevelopment Agency Activities**

On June 29, 2011, the State of California enacted Assembly Bills ABx1 26 and ABx1 27. ABx1 26 dissolved redevelopment agencies (RDA) in California and created Successor Agencies for the purpose of "winding-down" activities of the former RDA's. ABx1 27 allowed for the voluntary continued operation of existing RDA's via a voluntary payment to the State's "Alternative Voluntary Redevelopment Program," and making certain additional specified payments. On December 29, 2011, the California Supreme Court ruled ABx1 26 constitutional and ABx1 27 as unconstitutional, thereby, eliminating Redevelopment Agencies.

As required by AB x1 26, the City of Huntington Beach has begun the process of winding-down the affairs of the Huntington Beach Redevelopment Agency. As part of this process, at the January 9 City Council meeting, the City Council approved two resolutions designating the City as the Successor Agency to the Huntington Beach Redevelopment Agency and the Huntington Beach Housing Authority as the Successor Agency for housing-related items. Legislation is pending in the California Legislature in anticipation of the implementation of AB 1x26, but the City is moving forward with the various requirements of the new laws until such time as directed otherwise.

### **Celebration of Artists**

The Downtown Art Walk will host a Celebration of Artists on Wednesday, January 18 from 6:30 – 9:30 pm at the Shorebreak Hotel located on 5th St. and Pacific Coast Highway in Downtown Huntington Beach. The Hotel has donated their Epic Ballroom for the Party. Over 50 artists will present one piece of work as an example of their portfolios. The annual celebration will feature musical entertainment, a no-host bar, door prizes and

opportunity drawings for prizes donated by the artists and the downtown business community.

This event, Hosted by the HB Downtown B.I.D. and the Art Walk Committee, promises to offer guests and artists a joyful evening of art, music, and celebration. For more information, please visit: [www.hb-downtown.com](http://www.hb-downtown.com).

### **Section 8 Housing Assistance for Very Low-Income Individuals in Orange County**

The Orange County Housing Authority has announced that it will open its "Waiting List" from February 15 until February 29 to accept pre-applications for housing assistance in 2012. The Section 8 Waiting List is the only opportunity for very low-income families, seniors, disabled persons, and individuals to obtain a Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher. The last time the waiting list was opened was November 2005; therefore, this may be the only opportunity for Orange County residents to apply for many years to come. Interested persons are encouraged to log onto [www.ochousing.org](http://www.ochousing.org) or call OCHA's Waiting List Information Line at 714-480-2740 for updated information. Beginning February 15, 2012, through February 29, 2012, applications can be submitted online at [www.ochousing.org](http://www.ochousing.org), faxed to 714-667-6544, or mailed to: Orange County Housing Authority, P.O. Box 22005, Santa Ana, CA 92702.

## **FIRE**

### **Fire Escape Planning**

Plan ahead. If a fire breaks out in your home, you may have only a few minutes to get out safely once the smoke alarm sounds. Everyone needs to know what to do and where to go if there is a fire.

#### Safety Tips

- Draw a home escape plan and discuss it with everyone in your home.
- Practice the plan at night and during the day with everyone in your home at least twice a year.
- Know at least two ways out of every room, if possible. Make sure all doors and windows leading outside open easily.
- Have an outside meeting place (like a tree, light pole or mailbox) a safe distance from the home where everyone should meet.
- Practice using different ways out.
- Teach children how to escape on their own in case you can't help them.
- Close doors behind you as you leave.

#### If the alarm sounds

- If the smoke alarm sounds, GET OUT AND STAY OUT. Never go back inside for people or pets.
- If you have to escape through smoke, GET LOW AND GO under the smoke to your way out.
- Feel the knob and door before opening a door.
- Call 9-1-1 from outside your home.

For information, please visit [www.nfpa.org/education](http://www.nfpa.org/education).

## **INFORMATION SERVICES**

### **"Seniors on the Go"**

"Seniors on the Go" is a transportation service for Seniors that provides door-to-door service to medical appointments, shopping centers, Rodgers Seniors Center and any other reason within Huntington Beach. You can view a video about the service on the City website at:

<http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/Residents/videos/departments/seniors-on-the-go.cfm>

## **LIBRARY SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

### **A Greener Choice... Tax Forms Online!**

The increased use of e-filing has prompted the Huntington Beach Public Library to stop carrying paper tax forms in its libraries, beginning January 2012, to bring savings and environmental benefits. This will help the Library to focus limited staff and physical space on core library services. The Huntington Beach Public Library has public computers from which Federal and State forms and instructions can be downloaded. Publications are available online at <http://www.irs.gov> (Federal) and <http://www.ftb.ca.gov> (State). As in the past years, some Orange County locations will host free tax assistance through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program and the Tax Assistance for the Elderly (TCE). For information on tax resources available, visit the IRS tax assistance site:

[www.irs.gov/individuals/article/0,,id=107626,00.html](http://www.irs.gov/individuals/article/0,,id=107626,00.html)

### **Breast Cancer Angel's Benefit Event**

A private screening of the award winning film documentary "Hot Coffee" to benefit the Breast Cancer Angel's Pro Bono Legal Fund is showing on Monday, January 23 and Tuesday, January 24 at 7:00 pm (screening promptly at 7:30) in the Library Theater at the Huntington Beach Public Library.

"Hot Coffee - Is Justice Being Served?" - First time filmmaker and former public interest lawyer Susan Saladoff uses the infamous legal battle that began with a spilled cup of coffee to investigate what's behind America's zeal for tort reform. Tickets: \$10 tax-deductible donation. One-hundred percent of the ticket price will go toward helping women in treatment access the justice system. For more information call: 714-596-0137

## **PLANNING & BUILDING DEPARTMENT**

### **Skate Park Project Draft Environmental Impact Report**

On Friday, January 13, 2012 the 45-day review period commenced for the Skate Park Project Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR No. 10-009). The Draft EIR analyzes the potential environmental impacts associated with the development of a public skate park on a 2.718-acre site on Center Avenue, located approximately 500 ft. east of Gothard Street. The applicant, VF Outdoor Inc., proposes to lease the vacant property from the City to design, develop, maintain, and operate a public skate park. The proposed project includes a 14,000 sq. ft. skate plaza area, a 13,000 sq. ft. skate bowl area, a 3,500 sq. ft. skate shop/concession/restroom building, a 15,000 sq. ft. turf/walking area, a 480 sq. ft. restroom structure, and a 200 sq. ft. entrance kiosk. The main parking lot is accessed from Center Avenue and a secondary parking area, which is used only for special events, is accessed

from McFadden Avenue. The project includes up to 15 special event days throughout the year, expected to draw between 300 to 2,500 spectators with overflow parking located at the Huntington Beach Sports Complex. The project also includes a General Plan Amendment to the Housing Element and Zoning Text Amendment to the Beach and Edinger Corridors Specific Plan as the site is currently designated for housing and this designation would be removed.

A public comment meeting will be held during the review period to take comments related to the adequacy of the environmental issues analyzed within the Draft EIR. The comment meeting will be held on **Wednesday, February 8, 2012** beginning at 6:00 PM at the Talbert Room at the Central Library located at 7111 Talbert Avenue, Huntington Beach, CA 92648. Any person wishing to comment on the request may do so in writing within the 45-day comment period by providing written comments to Tess Nguyen, Associate Planner, City of Huntington Beach Planning and Building Department, 2000 Main Street, Huntington Beach, CA 92648. The 45-day comment period will end on Monday, February 27, 2012 at 5:00 PM.

The Draft EIR can be reviewed online at

<http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/Government/Departments/Planning/major/index.cfm>.

## **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

### **HBPD and US Immigration and Customs Enforcement**

In 2011, 6,298 people were arrested in Huntington Beach. Of those arrested, 5,425 were booked in the Huntington Beach Police Department city jail. The Huntington Beach Police Department, working with the US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), makes inquiries into the immigration status of individuals booked in the Huntington Beach Police Department Jail. In 2011, this resulted in 75 subjects having an ICE hold placed on them while in our custody. This is about 1.4% of all bookings in the city jail. The following is a summary of the ICE holds placed on individuals in 2011:

#### **Gender:**

69 - Male  
6 - Female

#### **Country of Origin:**

65 - Mexico  
2 - Peru  
1 - Germany  
1 - Brazil  
1 - Saudi Arabia  
1 - Columbia  
1 - Thailand  
1 - Philippines  
1 - Vietnam  
1 - Guatemala

#### **Original Arrest Offense:**

16 - Drug Offenses  
15 - Drunk Driving  
15 - Warrants

- 8 – Assaults
- 7 – Burglary
- 5 – Disorderly Conduct
- 3 – Stolen Property/Theft
- 2 – Unlicensed Driver
- 1 – Counterfeit Goods
- 1 – Probation Order Violation
- 1 – Attempted Murder
- 1 – Forged Documents

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

### **Sewer Relining Project Completed**

Work has been completed on the City's 2011 sewer lining project. The City awarded a contract to Sancon Engineering in June 2011, to line 2,545 lineal feet of deteriorated sewer main lines within the following street segments 1) Beach Boulevard from Edinger Avenue to Stark Avenue, 2) Clarkdale Drive from Edgewood Lane to the end of cul-de-sac, and 3) Cliff Drive from Brookhurst Street to Spindrift Lane at an approximate amount of \$80,000.

Sewer relining is an efficient, non-destructive way of rehabilitating sewers without the need for excavations. The process involves pulling a fiberglass embedded liner from manhole to manhole and curing the material by running hot water through it. The relined pipeline is restored to near-new condition. The newly lined pipe has fewer joints and a smoother interior surface allowing the effluent to flow easier. The life expectancy of the lined pipe rivals the original 50 years the existing pipe has lasted thus far.