Huntington Beach Scores AAA Credit Rating

Fitch Ratings has scored Huntington Beach’s overall underlying general obligation rating as AAA. Also, the City’s Senior Center Lease Revenue Bonds received an AA+ rating.

The Fitch report states that the City’s General Fund is well positioned to benefit from ongoing economic growth, while maintaining sufficient financial flexibility to cope with any emerging recessionary trends. The report also states that the City’s coastal location and focus on economic development should continue to bolster its diverse economy, strong tax base, and above-average socioeconomic profile.

“We are pleased to report the new rankings by Fitch,” says City Manager Fred Wilson. “It really underscores the City’s ongoing commitment toward long term financial sustainability and planning. This action signals Wall Street’s belief that we are doing all the right things and have created a solid path towards fiscal sustainability in Huntington Beach.”
The American Planning Association (APA) is kicking off National Community Planning Month, where activities are sponsored and held to raise the visibility of the important role of planners and planning in communities across the United States. This year, the City of Huntington Beach will be participating in this national event for the first time!

The City’s theme for the 2014 National Community Planning Month is "Great Places in Huntington Beach!" The theme will highlight our residents, business owners, and visitors’ favorite places in Huntington Beach, as well as showcase an opportunity to illustrate to each other what it means to be a part of the amazing Surf City community.

Between October 7 and October 27, the Planning and Building Department invites community members to submit photos and art representing their favorite “place” in Huntington Beach. Planning and Building staff will select the best representations to be displayed at City Hall in the Planning and Building Department and winners will be recognized at an upcoming City Council meeting.

To highlight the importance of planning in the community, Planning Division staff will be offering guided tours of City Hall focused on community members and residents seeking to understand how each of the development services departments can help them and give them a friendly face/contact at City Hall. Come meet the hard-working professional staff that make Huntington Beach the best place to live, work, and play.

**Tours will be offered October 27–30 at 8 a.m. and 4 p.m.**

For more information or to schedule a tour, visit [http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/announcements/announcement.cfm?id=740](http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/announcements/announcement.cfm?id=740)
Planning and Building

Planning Commission

On Tuesday, October 14, 2014, at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers the Planning Commission will review the following item:

1. ZONING TEXT AMENDMENT NO. 14-001/ LOCAL COASTAL PROGRAM AMENDMENT NO. 14-002 (DTSP – DISTRICT 1 ON-SITE ALCOHOL SALES): To amend the Downtown Specific Plan (DTSP) to limit the hours of alcohol sales to 10:00 PM Sunday through Thursday and 11:00 PM Friday and Saturday, with food service allowable until midnight, for new or expanded eating and drinking establishments in District 1 of the Downtown Specific Plan. Please contact Jennifer Villasenor, Acting Planning Manager, for more information.

A copy of the agenda is available on the City’s website http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/Government/Departments/Planning/PJB/pcl/PCAgendas.cfm). Please contact the Planning Division, at (714) 536-5271, with any questions.

Zoning Administrator

On Wednesday, October 15, 2014, at 1:30 p.m. in Room B-8 the Zoning Administrator will review the following item:

1. TENTATIVE PARCEL MAP NO. 14-025 (DINH SUBDIVISION): To permit the subdivision of an existing 7,645 square foot parcel into two lots for residential purposes at 629 Hartford Avenue, 92648 (north side of Hartford Ave. and east of Delaware St.). Please contact Joanna Cortez, Assistant Planner, for more information.

A copy of the agenda is available on the City’s website (http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/Government/Departments/Planning/PJB/zal/ZAAgendas.cfm).

Please contact the Planning Division, at (714) 536-5271, with any questions.
Get Ca$h For Your Lawn!

For every square foot of living grass that you replace with drought tolerant plants or artificial turf, the Metropolitan Water District will pay you $2! California is facing prolonged dry conditions. Outdoor water usage accounts for the highest percentage of regional water use. One of the most water-thirsty plants is turf grass. It takes 48 inches of water per square foot of turf to keep it healthy. This year, Huntington Beach received only 5 inches of rain, so the remainder must be maintained by irrigating with potable water. Replacing the turf with California Friendly, low-water use plants is a beautiful alternative now made more practical with the rebate of $2 per square foot of existing turf removed.

For more information, visit www.mwdoc.com/services/turf-removal.

Do you need some spectacular landscape ideas? View a variety of front yards, backyards, and patio designs with the Huntington Beach Water Wise Gardening, a software tool specifically designed for our residents, just go to www.surfcitygardening.com.

If you have any questions about other water efficient rebates or free classes available, please visit our website at www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/hbwater or call our Water Conservation Hotline at (714) 536-5922.
The Shipley Nature Center is offering Huntington Beach residents a spectacular opportunity to purchase one California Native plant and receive one plant free (a limit of 5 free plants). Staff will also be on hand to give helpful advice on planting with natives and to explain the many benefits of promoting a natural habitat. You can also visit the Living Soils Exhibit that helps visitors learn the importance of improving the clay soils with compost and living organisms that will keep your soil healthy. See the Rainwater Harvesting Stream that captures moisture from our local fog and rainwater during the season for a beautiful re-circulating stream. They will also have native wildflower seeds available for purchase. If you could use a California Native Garden book, Shipley will have books for sale. Come visit the Waterwise demonstration gardens!

Join the UCCE Master Gardener Presentations:
- 10 a.m. – Drought Tolerant Gardens by Jeremy Samson
- 1 p.m. – Gardening With California Natives by Randy Musser
Sign Up For a FREE California Friendly Gardening Class
Saturday, October 18 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon

The primary objective of the Watershed Basics Class is to help participants understand their connection with the urban watershed, demonstrate strategies for reducing potable water consumption and teach rainwater retention through the creation of beautiful, sustainable, habitat-enhancing landscapes.

Our Qualified Trainers provide an interactive and fact-filled overview of how to develop a successful California Friendly Garden using Watershed Wise techniques, and how to make any climate-appropriate plant, happy in your garden.

The six topics covered in the class include:

- Taking A Watershed Approach;
- Building A Healthy Soil Sponge;
- Evaluating and Designing Your Site;
- Selecting The Right Plant In The Right Place;
- Using Rainwater As A Resource;
- Managing Your Irrigation Properly.

Class presented by G3 Green Gardens Group
Hosted by the City of Huntington Beach
Register by calling (714) 536-5921

Light refreshments will be provided
Project Self Sufficiency 10k and 5k

Join over 5,000 runners, the Community Services Staff, Project Self Sufficiency staff and clients for an exhilarating 10K/10 Miler or 5K run/walk on Pacific Coast Highway on October 26. Head to the website and register for the race: www.surfcity10.com. You can join one of our teams: “Project Self Sufficiency Team” or the “Parks Make Life Better Team”.

“Make Your Miles Count” is a way for you to enjoy the run and support Project Self Sufficiency in its 30th year of serving Huntington Beach low income single parent families. After you register for the race, click on the Charity Tab and head to the PSS Fundraising site. Join the PSS/Parks Make Life Better team and Make Your Miles Count! If you want to be a couch potato and just donate to the cause you can head over to the fundraising site and make your donation: www.surfcity10.kintera.org

Project Self Sufficiency assists low income, single parent families in Huntington Beach achieve economic self sufficiency through education and personal development. Clients receive financial assistance and a host of other resources to assist them on their educational journey.
Young Volunteers Needed!

Huntington Beach Senior Services is in need of teen and young adult volunteers to participate in the tech teen’s program. Twice a month, on the second and fourth Wednesdays, from 4 to 5:30 p.m., the Rodgers Seniors’ center offers a technology workshop class for older adults. The class utilizes a one-to-one teaching approach where attendees may address specific questions and concerns directly with their assigned tutor. Typical devices brought in include cell phones, tablets, e-readers and laptops. This is a great opportunity to foster intergenerational relationships within the community as well as a chance for young adults to gain community service experience.

For more information or to sign up to volunteer please contact Teri Simonis, Volunteer Services Coordinator at (714) 374-1544 or tsimonis@surfcity-hb.org.

NOTE: November and December the class will only meet on the second Wednesday of the month due to the holidays. It will resume the regular schedule in January 2015.
National Bullying Prevention Month!

The month of October is National Bullying Prevention Month. In October 2012, the City Council adopted a “Proclamation Against Bullying” to recognize their ongoing commitment to address bullying in all of its forms and to encourage schools, students, parents, community organizations, and religious institutions to engage in a variety of awareness and prevention activities designed to make our community safer for all.

In celebration of National Bullying Prevention Month and to promote awareness of the need for bullying prevention, the City’s Human Relations Task Force partnered with a number of organizations and businesses within the community to create an anti-bullying banner which is hanging on Main Street near Lake Park.

The City’s Human Relations Task Force thanks its co-sponsors of Bully Awareness Resistance Education (BARE), Enlarge Media Group, HB Digital, and Omni Safe Insurance Services, all of whom made it possible to design and print the banner at no cost to the City.

National Breast Cancer Awareness Month!

October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month! National Breast Cancer Awareness Month is a chance to raise awareness about the importance of early detection of breast cancer, and the Beach Operations division of Community Services is spreading the word. The new pay station at the Surfer Lot happens to be pink, and is certainly making a statement! There are many ways to become involved in breast cancer awareness.

A big thank you goes out to the creative minds in Beach Operations for doing their part!
Bank Robbery

Saturday morning at about 9:25 a.m., a male suspect entered the US Bank at 9042 Garfield Avenue and approached the teller window. He passed a note demanding cash indicating he had a firearm, yet no firearm was seen. The suspect received an undisclosed amount of cash and fled the bank westbound toward Garfield Avenue. The suspect is described as a male, Caucasian, 25-30 years old, approximately 6-feet-tall with a thin build and short dark hair.

Anyone who may have information regarding this incident is asked to call the Huntington Beach Police Tip Line at (714) 375-5066. Anyone wishing to remain anonymous may call Orange County Crime Stoppers at 1-855-TIP-OCCS (855-847-6627).

You may also utilize the Submit a Crime Tip button on our Facebook home page.

Scams targeting Senior Citizens

Yesterday at the Michael E. Rogers Senior Center, HBPD detectives provided a free and informative presentation about scams targeting our seniors. Some of the topics that were discussed are: email scams, advanced fee schemes, mystery shopper, and grandchild scams.
WORLD FAMOUS MAGICIAN TO APPEAR AT THE CHILDREN’S LIBRARY!!

In keeping with their annual Halloween tradition, the Friends of the Children’s Library will once again welcome award-winning magician “Johnny Ace Palmer” to the Library Theater on Tuesday, October 28.

Johnny’s act includes magic silk scarves, multiplying sponge balls, coin tricks, and card sleight of hand – not to mention his most memorable “cups and balls” routine, which he finishes by revealing live baby chicks under the lifted cups.

Show times are 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. Patrons are advised to purchase their tickets in advance, which are available for $4 each at the Central Library Children’s Desk. Children can wear their Halloween costumes to the show, and they are encouraged to participate in a costume parade following each performance.

For more information, visit: www.johnnyacepalmer.com.

CHILDREN ARE INVITED TO ENTER A WRITING CONTEST AT THE LIBRARY!

In their continuing efforts to promote literacy and a love of books in children, the Friends of the Children’s Library sponsors a writing and illustrating contest for children. This year, the theme is “Spin us a Story.” Contestants can select from three types of story prompts to choose from: funny, scary or adventurous. Children in grades pre-K to 8 can pick the one that most appeals to them and either draw a picture relating to the topic or “spin a story” – their choice! Winners of the contest in each category will receive a Barnes and Noble gift certificate — presented with fanfare at the Author’s Festival reception to be held in January.

The required entry forms and complete rules can be found on the Huntington Beach Public Library website at: http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/files/users/library/fotclwriterscontest2015.pdf or you can pick up the flyer at the children’s desk in the Central Library.

Don’t delay, the deadline for submission is December 20 at 4 p.m. at the children’s desk.
Superhero’s on 5th Street

Ever wonder what your favorite superhero is doing when they’re not fighting off the bad guys? There’s only one way to find out. Visit The Strand Tuesdays during the entire month of October to enjoy a visit from a team of caped crusaders. Superheroes will arrive between 5 and 7 p.m. on 5th Street during Surf City Nights to greet the crowd.

Come down for lots of fun and have your photo taken with your favorite superhero!

For more information, visit www.surfcitynights.com.
Bulls on the Beach!

Come down Saturday, October 18 to check out the top 15 bull riders in the world at the Professional Bull Riders Monster Energy Bulls on the Beach debut in Surf City. “Bulls on the Beach” is an exclusive made-for TV PBR bull riding event.

This one-day event will feature the top Professional Bull Riders including reigning PBR world champion J.B. Mauney and two-time PBR world champion Bull Bushwacker. This event will finalize the world standing and set the stage for competition to win the title of World Champion, receiving the coveted Gold Buckle and $1 million.

The Monster Energy Bulls on the Beach, which will air on the CBS Network October 19, takes place one week before the PBR Built Ford Tough World Finals in Las Vegas Oct. 22-26.

Come and enjoy the festivities and live music! Larkin Poe Band will be playing from noon to 1 p.m. at the venue. Make sure to stick around after the bull riding for Austin Law Band starting at 4 p.m.

The event is open to the public but seating is limited. For more information, visit [http://www.pbr.com](http://www.pbr.com).
City of Huntington Beach Web Surfing Tips

Backflow prevention devices eliminate contaminated water from flowing into the Huntington Beach water system. You can now check the compliance status of your Backflow device 24 hours day online at:


Fire Department

Open House Success

On Saturday, October 11, more than 850 guests attended the Fire Department Open House to celebrate Fire Prevention Week at Gothard Fire Station. Visitors got a chance to:

- View and learn about the various types of fire apparatus on display
- Learn about the Marine Safety operations and various equipment, plus there were photo opportunities on the Personal Water Craft (PWC) that was on display
- Tour the Fire Station
- Watch live fire and victim extrication demonstrations
- Obtain safety information on this year’s theme of “Working Smoke Alarms Save Lives – Test Yours Every Month!”
- Spend time with Sparky the Fire Dog, get fire helmets, and fire department badge stickers

The public was educated by the Fire Prevention Bureau on the need for installing and testing smoke alarms at the Smoke Alarm exhibit where they were also raffling off smoke alarms. The Huntington Beach Firefighters’ Association prepared hot dogs for lunch and the Fire Management Association provided beverages. CERT and RACES shared information with the public and Search & Rescue Explorers assisted with the successful event.
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<tr>
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<td>(714) 536-5555</td>
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<td>City Clerk</td>
<td>(714) 536-5227</td>
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<td>Passports</td>
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<td>Graffiti Removal</td>
<td>(714) 960-8861</td>
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Fred A. Wilson, City Manager

www.huntingtonbeachca.gov