

CITY MANAGER'S WEEKLY REPORT

September 17, 2012

CITY MANAGER

Candidates Forum – October 4

The League of Women Voters and the American Association of University Women will be hosting a City Council Candidates Forum on October 4. The forum will start at 7:00 pm and there will be a Meet and Greet with the candidates at 6:00 pm prior to the forum.

The Meet and Greet will take place in room B-8 of City Hall. The Candidate Forum will be in the Council Chambers. The LWV and AAUW will determine the agenda for the evening and the questions that will be asked of the candidates.

The Forum will be broadcast live on HBTV Channel 3 and webcast live as well. It will also be posted on the City's website and replayed on HBTV3 during the month of October - schedule to be determined.

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Huntington Beach Art Center

Please join us on Saturday, September 22, for the opening reception of the fall exhibition titled the Cylinder, the Sphere and the Cone. Artists Lana Shuttleworth, Gary Simpson, and Pat Warner present a contemporary view of landscape in sculpture, painting, and mixed media. The reception begins with a members and patron preview at 6pm. The public reception begins at 7:00 p.m. Call 714-374-1650 for information or visit: www.huntingtonbeachartcenter.org.

Please join us for the **11th Annual Art of the Brew** on Thursday, September 20, from 6 – 9 p.m. for some of the best micro brews in Orange County. The event includes local and regional brewers offering a tasting of their best brews under a canopy beer garden setting. BBQ will be provided by the Rancho Rocke BBQ food truck along with live music by Chris and Daniel. Tickets are \$35. Call 714-374-1650 for reservations.

Huntington Beach Senior Services

Each weekday, Huntington Beach Senior Services delivers meals to qualified homebound residents 60 years of age or older. Participants in the Home Delivered Meals program requested a fresh sandwich platter instead of the frozen microwavable lunch. SeniorServ of Anaheim, which provides the meals to Seniors Outreach each morning, responded to requests and brought the sandwich platter back to the menu two days a week. For information on the Home Delivered Meals program, call Seniors Outreach at 714-960-2478.



Country Line Dancing

The City Gym and Pool is now offering Country Line Dancing. This fun class teaches different line dances ranging from the basic "Power Jam" and "Electric Slide" to the trendy "Country Girl Shake it for Me" line dances. Country fans ages

16 and up can take beginning and intermediate classes on Wednesday nights beginning September 26. Registration is available online at www.hbsands.org or at any community center. For additional information, please call the City Gym and Pool at 714-960-8884.

Parks Make Life Better!

The Beach is my Park!

The 42nd Annual Huntington Beach "Locals Only" City Surf contest, sponsored by The City of Huntington Beach Community Services Department, Huntington Surf & Sport, and Duke's Huntington Beach was held on September 15 and 16, just south of the pier. Surf conditions were GREAT! Participation was limited to persons residing in the Huntington Beach Union High School District - one hundred and sixty surfers registered in ten divisions. Each participant received an HSS bags filled with highly coveted surf items, and winners of each division received awards and prizes donated by Huntington Surf & Sport, Duke's Huntington Beach. This marks the second year that the contest was part of "Surf City Days" - a local beach festival put on by the Downtown Huntington Beach Business Association.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Downtown Art Walk

On Wednesday, September 19th from 6:00 – 9:00 pm, the Huntington Beach Downtown Business Improvement District will host the Downtown Art Walk, featuring a variety of local artists and artwork. The event will take place in the Downtown Area. Maps are available at the Downtown Art Center and various downtown businesses. The event promises to offer guests and artists a joyful evening of art, music and fun. For more information, please visit www.hb-downtown.com.

FIRE

National Preparedness Month – Make a Plan

National Preparedness Month (NPM) is observed in September and should encourage Americans to take simple, but important steps to prepare for emergencies.

Preparing for a disaster is a priority of the city's Emergency Management and Homeland Security Program. Countless hours have been spent preparing for emergencies that may occur in our community. However, we cannot do it on our own.

Make a Plan

Your family may not be together when disaster strikes, so it is important to plan in advance:

- how will you contact one another
- how will you get back together
- what to do in different situations

The following emergency plan templates are available at www.ReadyOC.org

- Family Emergency Plan
- Pet Emergency Plan
- Senior Emergency Plan

- Evacuation Plan
- Shelter-in-place Plan

Regardless of the type of disaster, there are things you can do to prepare. Contact your local Red Cross chapter or visit the FEMA Website to be aware of the potential for natural disasters in your community. After identifying the types of disasters that could strike where you live, create a family emergency disaster plan. Make it simple so everyone can remember the details.

- Discuss what to do in an evacuation. When told by officials, go immediately to a shelter as instructed or to the home of a family friend or relative who lives out of the area. Find out about your local shelters beforehand.
- Know evacuation routes. Pre-establish several different routes in case certain roads are blocked or closed.
- Family members can become separated during an emergency. Be prepared by creating a plan for how to reach one another. Establish an out-of-area contact (such as a relative or family friend) who can coordinate family members' locations and information should you become separated. Make sure children learn the phone numbers and addresses, and know the emergency plans.
- Post emergency phone numbers by the phone
- Assemble a family disaster supplies kit and keep a small one in the trunk of your vehicle

For preparedness questions specifically for the City of Huntington Beach, contact Brevyn Mettler, Emergency Services Coordinator at 714-374-1565 or at bmettler@surfcity-hb.org.

Disaster Preparedness On-line Resources

www.ReadyOC.org

www.HuntingtonBeachca.gov/CERT

www.Ready.gov

www.ShakeOut.org

www.AlertOC.org

AlertOC – Annual Test of the County's Regional Mass Notification System

On September 20, the City of Huntington Beach will be participating in the third annual test of the County's regional mass notification system which is being held in conjunction with National Preparedness Month. This test replicates a large scale, multi-jurisdictional emergency requiring thousands of numbers to be called simultaneously across 24 cities and unincorporated areas. This year, more than two million Orange County residents will receive a call at 10:00 a.m. The phone message will urge all residents to prepare for real-life emergencies by registering their contact information at www.AlertOC.com for the best chance to receive vital, timely information when away from home.

The key feature of AlertOC is the ability for residents to register more than one contact method at a specific address. This enables landlines, cell phones and e-mail addresses to be incorporated into a single notification system and increases the potential of reaching the greatest number of community members as rapidly as possible.

Emergencies can happen at any time. A wildfire could spread or a flood could close the roads to a neighborhood while residents are away from home. In these instances, AlertOC is a critical link for residents to immediately learn of any required actions. Residents are encouraged to self-register their cell phone numbers and other alternate numbers to be a part of the regional test at www.AlertOC.com.

Please contact Brevyn Mettler, Emergency Services Coordinator at 714-374-1565 or at bmettler@surfcity-hb.org if you have any questions.

2012 Huntington Beach Disaster Preparedness Expo

The Huntington Beach Fire Department Emergency Management and Homeland Security Office sponsored the third annual Disaster Preparedness Expo at the Huntington Beach Central Library on Saturday, September 15. There were over 1,900 visitors from the community.

The Police Department, Fire Department's Urban Search & Rescue (USAR) Team, Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES), and FireMed also participated and the National Weather Service, American Red Cross, and Ready OC were represented as well.

There were demonstrations by experts in disaster preparedness, the public was educated on the hazards facing Huntington Beach and what is needed to plan for emergencies, and Tsunami preparedness brochures and Emergency Preparedness packets were distributed. Vendors were also present providing disaster preparedness literature and supplies.

INFORMATION SERVICES

Did you know that you can find information about the FireMed Paramedic Subscription program and online program enrollment is available on the City website? To find program information and online enrollment, click on the Services navigation tab and click on the then Community Safety link. You will find a link to the FireMed program from this Community Safety page: <http://huntingtonbeachca.gov/government/departments/fire/FireMed/enroll/>

LIBRARY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

An Evening with the Authors on October 11

The Friends of the Huntington Beach Public Library are hosting special panel discussion featuring a number of Southern California authors. This special event takes place at the Central Library on Thursday, October 11 and is moderated by Susan McBeth, founder of "Adventures by the Book." The participating authors include Laurel Corona, Kathi Diamant, Zohreh Ghahremani, Marjorie Hart, Divinia Infusino, and Georgeanne Irvine. Book sales and signings will begin at 6:00pm with the panel discussion beginning promptly at 7:00pm.

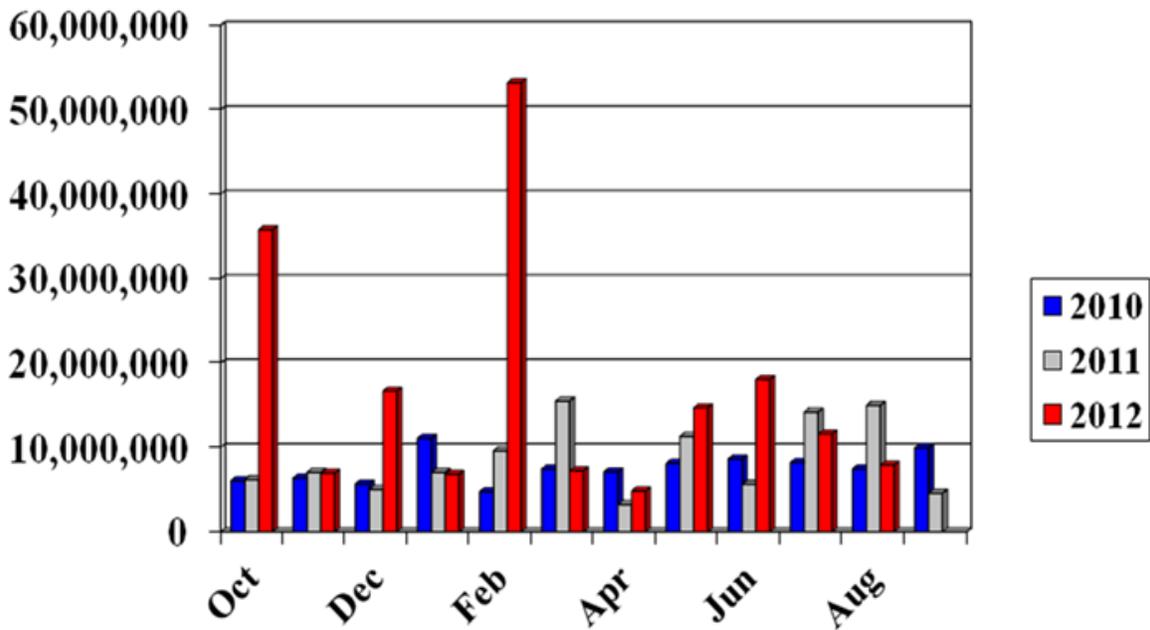
Tickets are \$10 and seating is limited. Please make checks payable to FOTL and mail to 7111 Talbert Avenue, Huntington Beach, CA 92648 or pay in person at the Friends Gift Shop.

Payment for reservations must be received no later than Monday, October 8. For more information about this special event, contact the Friends of the Library at (714) 375-8429.

PLANNING & BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Construction Valuation (\$)

Residential, Commercial & Industrial



Year-to-Date construction valuation is up 84% over the same period last year; \$183,656,438 compared to \$99,654,924 respectively. This growth was primarily driven by a strong gain in the multifamily housing and the commercial/retail sector. McGraw-Hill Construction states that the housing market has likely reached bottom, however the recovery will be slow. For the City of Huntington Beach this is not the case, the recovery period has been on a steady incline over the last couple of years, mostly due to the adoption of the Beach and Edinger Corridors Specific Plan. Overall, zoning application processing, construction plan review, building permit issuance, and inspections are continuing to increase.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

HB Officer is Top Gun at Motor Rodeo and Skills Competition

On September 12, the Orange County Traffic Officers Association (OCTOA) hosted its annual Motor Rodeo and Skills Competition at the Huntington Beach State Beach. Over 150 motorcycle officers from Orange, Riverside, Ventura, and Los Angeles Counties participated in the daylong event. The event is an opportunity for motor officers to showcase their technical riding skills, challenge themselves, and engage in some friendly competition.

Throughout the day, officers rode through a series of cone patterns that contained sharp turns and complex movements while maintaining control of their motorcycle and being aware of their surroundings. The challenges come as officers navigate increasingly difficult patterns while under the watchful eye of other officers and spectators. Judges grade the officer's performance and document the results on a score card. Points are lost for striking cones, riding out of the pattern, dropping the motorcycle, and for putting a foot down on the ground. Officers are categorized by the type of motorcycle they ride.

The three main categories are Harley Davidson, BMW, and Honda. This year four motor officers from the Huntington Beach Police Department participated: **Officer Jeff Gasteiger, Officer Mark VanMeter, Officer Phil Scott, and Officer David Dereszynski.** After several hours of riding, the scores were tallied. **Officer Mark VanMeter took the overall 2nd Place** award in the Honda category. All of the officers performed exceptionally well in the cone patterns and continued to keep the high performance standards the HBPD strives to maintain.

In addition to the cone patterns, officers have the opportunity to compete in the "Top Gun" competition. This is a separate challenge in which motorcycle officers go head to head in a "follow the leader" fashion, attempting to eliminate the other by causing or forcing one to make a mistake. The winner of each heat moves on to the next until a single winner is identified. After many rounds of eliminations, **Officer Mark VanMeter was declared the overall winner, securing this year's title as "Top Gun."** This is a great time for all and helps to build working relationships between agencies. Proceeds from this event help to offer traffic related training and also to support injured officers and the families of officers killed in the line of duty.

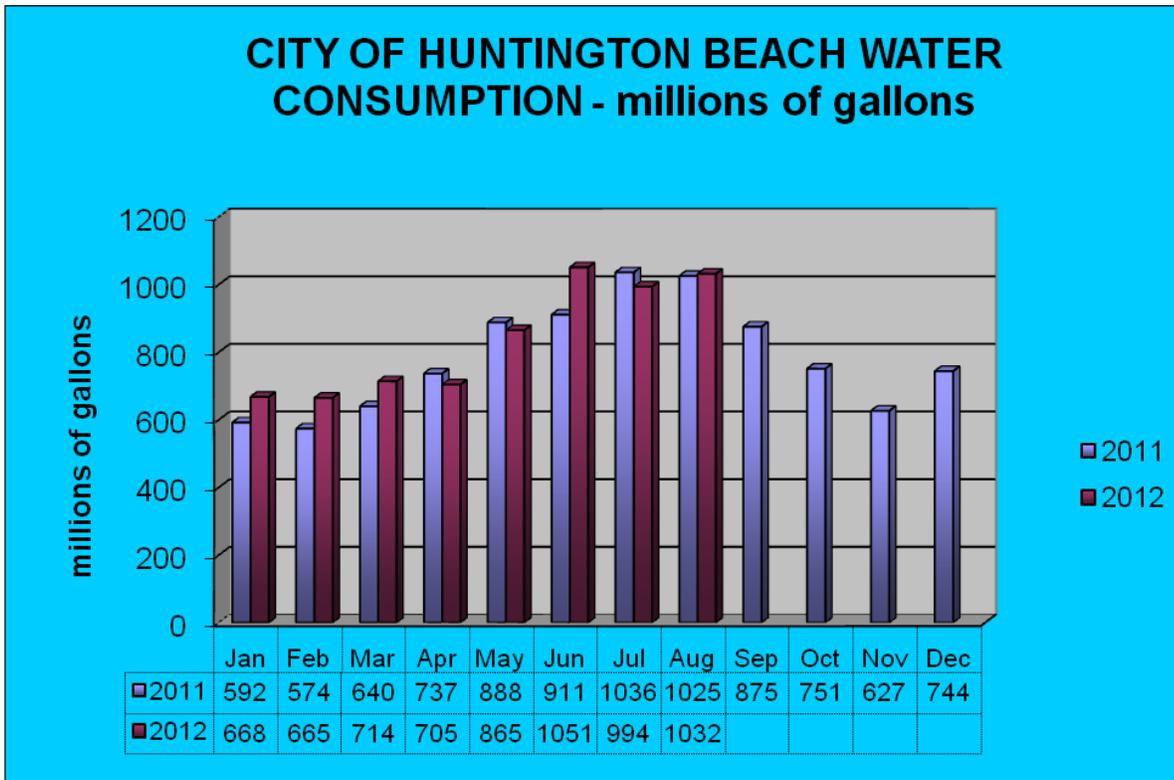
PUBLIC WORKS

Facilities Will Receive ADA Upgrades to Improve Accessibility

On September 17, City Council awarded a construction contract to renovate several facilities to better accommodate individuals with disabilities. Improvements to the Banning Branch Library, Oakview Community Center, and Central Park restrooms will begin this Fall. The project is made possible by grant funding awarded to Public Works from the Community Development Block Grant program. The work was planned in consultation with a licensed architect and accessibility specialist. This contract is part of a multi-year effort to improve accessibility at city facilities. Recently completed projects include the City Gym and Pool and Edison Community Center.

Time to Adjust Irrigation

With the cooler fall months around the corner (hopefully), residents are encouraged to adjust their irrigation schedules accordingly. Be Water Wise!



Free Electronics Drop-off This Weekend to Benefit Project Self-Sufficiency

The Public Works Department and All Green Electronics Recycling will be holding a free electronic recycling event this Saturday, September 22. The drop-off event will take place from 9 am to 4 pm in the parking lot at the Edison Community Center, 21377 Magnolia Street, Huntington Beach. The event is open to businesses and residents from Huntington Beach, Sunset Beach and other neighboring cities. Items to be collected and recycled include computers, monitors, televisions, cell phones, MP3 players, printers, microwaves, cables, wires, laptops and basically anything electronic. This is a perfect opportunity to clean out the garage or warehouse, get rid of those old dust-collectors and help protect the environment at the same time. Workers will be available to remove the items from cars so you won't even have to lift a finger to do your recycling! Project Self-Sufficiency will receive a donation based on the total weight of TV's and computer monitors collected. For more information, call Public Works at 714-375-5010 or All Green Electronics Recycling at 1-800-780-0347.