

CITY MANAGER'S WEEKLY REPORT

September 2, 2013

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Huntington Beach Senior Services – Senior Services is Our Park

On Saturday, September 7, 2013, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., the Huntington Beach Council on Aging will hold its annual Senior Saturday Community Festival at beautiful Pier Plaza in downtown Huntington Beach. Senior Saturday is the largest FREE Senior Expo in Orange County. Huntington Beach Hospital and Fountain Valley Regional Hospital are the Platinum Sponsors for this Silver Anniversary event celebrating 25 years of valuable resources, entertainment, food, and family fun!

Eighty sponsor booths will offer information, products, and services geared toward Baby Boomers as well as the older adult population. Many of the booths have free giveaways. Visit the HB Senior Services booth and get the scoop about the services, activities, and classes at the Michael E. Rodgers Seniors' Center and the Seniors Outreach Center. Then stop by the HB *Seniors on the Go* booth for information on senior transportation and a free tumbler cup. This is an excellent opportunity for Boomers, seniors and their families to spend a Saturday by the Pier while gathering pertinent information amid a festive atmosphere.

In addition to the sponsor booths there will be a \$2.00 breakfast, \$2.00 lunch, health screenings, entertainment, and prize drawings throughout the day. The Singing Goodtimers open the festival at 9:00 a.m. and Tony Odell Rogers will bring down the house at 12:45 p.m.

Pier Plaza is located adjacent to the Huntington Beach Pier at the intersection of Main Street and Pacific Coast Highway. Free shuttle service to and from the event is provided from City Hall at 2000 Main Street and the Michael E. Rodgers Seniors Center, 1706 Orange Avenue. Free parking is available at both shuttle locations

Bring your family and friends for a fun filled morning and afternoon. For more information, please call the Michael E. Rodgers Seniors Center at (714) 536-9387 or visit www.hbcoa.org.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Surf City Downtown Shuttle Service Continues Through October 1

September is one of the most pleasant times of the year to enjoy the downtown, and the Surf City Downtown Shuttle is a great way to get there! It's fun and passengers can continue to enjoy this free service through October 1. The Shuttle operates every Tuesday during Surf City Nights from 5:30-10 PM and on Saturday and Sunday from 10 AM to 10 PM, departing from the Huntington Beach Civic Center every 30 minutes and travelling to stops at Main and Orange and the Strand. Free parking is available at the Civic Center for Shuttle passengers too! For more information on the Surf City Downtown Shuttle, visit http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/residents/parking/shuttle_parking/.

FIRE**National Preparedness Month**

National Preparedness Month (NPM) is observed each September in the United States and is sponsored by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). NPM encourages Americans to take simple steps to prepare for emergencies including:

- "Get a Kit" - Assembling emergency supply kits
- "Make a Plan" - Organizing a family emergency plan
- "Get Educated" - Training and engaging in community preparedness and response efforts

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

Throughout the month of September, the Fire Department will be highlighting important topics in the City Manager's Weekly Report to help educate you on the importance of being prepared for emergencies.

The city is exposed to a variety of hazards such as earthquakes, flood, tsunami, terrorism, etc., and our greatest individual defense is being prepared. In a disaster, emergency response personnel and local officials may become overwhelmed and resources will be limited. Advance preparation is necessary because there won't be time to shop or search for the supplies needed when a disaster strikes. A disaster plan will help with safety, security, and comfort. Regardless of the type of disaster, there are things you can do to prepare. Are you fully prepared if a disaster strikes Huntington Beach today?

For preparedness questions specifically for the City of Huntington Beach, contact:

Brevyn Mettler, Emergency Services Coordinator
Emergency Management & Homeland Security Office
714-374-1565
bmettler@surfcity-hb.org

For more information on Disaster Preparedness, please visit the following On-line Resources:

www.ReadyOC.org
www.HuntingtonBeachca.gov/CERT
www.Ready.gov
www.ShakeOut.org
www.AlertOC.org

INFORMATION SERVICES

Did you know the City website contains a page that has links to Community Safety Service information? You can find links to safety tips, public safety departments, emergency preparedness, crime reporting, most wanted, etc. You can find a link to this page under the Services navigation tab: <http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/services/community-safety.cfm>.

LIBRARY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Remodeling at the HB Central Library in September

September is going to be a busy month at the Central Library. There are a number of remodeling projects underway, to improve the entry and Circulation Services area in the building. Starting September 3, there will be some disruption, as tile is removed and desks are refinished. All Library patrons should be prepared for noise, dust and redirection. Once completed, the work will improve the entrance, circulation services desk and lower level, and enhance the library experience for all.

Change Someone's Life – Become a Literacy Tutor!

Huntington Beach Adult Literacy Services will hold a New Tutor Orientation on Wednesday, October 2, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Central Library. Literacy Services relies on community volunteers to help others improve their basic communication skills in reading, writing, and speaking. After successfully completing the orientation and four training sessions, tutors are matched with adult learners for one-on-one weekly tutoring sessions. A one-year commitment is requested. Register for the Orientation at www.hbpl.org/literacy_programs, click the "Become a Literacy Tutor" link and choose the "Adult Literacy Registration Form" or call the Literacy Office at (714) 375-5102.

September is Library Card Sign-Up Month

September is Library Card Sign-Up Month! A library card today offers much more than the privilege of borrowing books – it also allows borrowing of videos, books on CD, and Ebooks; it grants 1-hour of free internet use daily at the Library; and it allows access to online tools that provide homework help, live tutoring, GED test-prep, resume and career guidance, interactive foreign language instruction, reference resources for class assignments, and more!

Getting a Huntington Beach Library card is free and easy for all City residents, property owners and HB business owners. Minors can obtain a card with permission from their parent or legal guardian. Simply visit any one of the five Library locations within the City – Central Library, Helen Murphy Branch, Oakview Branch, Main Street Branch, or Banning Branch – and bring two (2) forms of ID, such as a driver's license, student ID, credit card or bank statement, utility bill, lease agreement, or other printed proof of current address. Applicants can choose to pre-register online via the Library's website www.hbpl.org, clicking on the brown "My Account / Renew" tab, selecting the "Sign up for a Library Card" button, and then completing the registration process in person. Anyone not eligible for a free Huntington Beach Library card may still obtain one by paying an annual fee of \$25.

For more information on how to sign up for a Huntington Beach Library card, call (714) 842-4481. Remember, a library card is the smartest card in your wallet!

PLANNING & BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Planning Commission

On Tuesday, September 10, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers the following item is scheduled for the Planning Commission:

1. **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT NO. 01-003 (GUN RANGE REMEDIATION AND REUSE)** **Applicant/ Property Owner:** City of Huntington Beach, Community Services Department

Request: To analyze the potential environmental impacts associated with a proposal by the City to remediate the lead contamination that resulted from the prior use of the ±4.9 acre site as a gun range and re-use it as a park element within Central Park.

Location: Huntington Central Park (between Goldenwest St. and Gothard St., south of Talbert Ave.)

City Contact: Ricky Ramos, Senior Planner

A copy of the agenda is available on the City's website. Please contact the Planning Division, at (714) 536-5271, with any questions.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Pedestrian and Bicycle Rider's Safety Laws Review

The Huntington Beach Police Department receives complaints every year regarding traffic violations near our schools. These complaints include vehicles speeding, double parking, blocking/impeding traffic, failing to yield to oncoming traffic, making illegal U-turns, not signaling, and driving past school buses with flashing red lights, just to name a few.

In the past 12 months, our officers have issued about five hundred citations to juveniles for bicycle and pedestrian violations. The most common violations include riding on the wrong side of the road, not wearing a helmet, riding double, riding outside the bike lane, riding motorized scooters, walking against don't walk signs, jaywalking, etc... Although citations are unpleasant for everyone, they are necessary to ensure bicycle and pedestrian safety in our city.

In the past year, the Huntington Beach Police Department has responded to 76 traffic collisions involving pedestrians resulting in 76 injuries and two fatalities. We also responded to 135 collisions involving bicycles resulting in 130 injuries. Our goal is to have no injuries or fatalities occur, but that is not possible without your help.

We have attached a short list of some of the most common violations related to bicycle, pedestrian, and vehicle operations. This is simply a reminder of some of the state and local laws we enforce daily for your safety and your children's safety. I encourage you to discuss these laws with your children and remind them of their responsibilities as pedestrians and bicycle riders. I also hope this will serve as a friendly reminder to you as a driver while you drop off and pick up your children at our schools.

The Huntington Beach Police Department is both committed to and concerned with your child's safety. Let's all do our part to make this school year the safest year yet for our children.

21200 CVC (Bicycle rider responsibilities) Every person riding a bicycle upon a highway has all the rights and is subject to all the provisions applicable to the driver of a vehicle by this division.

21201 CVC (Bicycle Safety; Brakes, Handlebars, Lights, Reflectors)

(a) Brake required.

(b) Handlebars raised above the shoulders prohibited.

(c) Must be able to safely stop & to put one foot on ground when stopped.

(d) During darkness, every bicycle operated shall be equipped with a; White light to the front. Red reflector on the rear. White or yellow reflector on each pedal. White or yellow reflector on each side forward of the center of the bicycle. White or red reflector on each side to the rear of the center of the bicycle.

21202 CVC (Ride on right side of roadway) Any person operating a bicycle upon a roadway at a speed less than the normal speed of traffic moving in the same direction at that time shall ride as close as practicable to the right-hand curb or edge of the roadway.

21203 CVC (Hitching rides) No person riding upon any motorcycle, motorized bicycle, bicycle, coaster, roller skates, sled, or toy vehicle shall attach the same or himself to any streetcar or vehicle on the roadway.

21204 CVC (Riding double, Seat required) No person operating a bicycle upon a highway shall ride other than upon or astride a permanent and regular seat attached thereto.

21208 CVC (Bike lanes) Bicycles shall ride within the bicycle lane when a bicycle lane is present.

21212 CVC (Bicycle Helmets) A person under 18 years of age shall not operate (nor ride upon as a passenger) a bicycle, a non-motorized scooter, skateboard, or wear in-line or roller skates, unless that person is wearing a properly fitted and fastened bicycle helmet.

21235 CVC (Motorized Scooters; electric or gas powered)

(a) Brake required.

(b) Operate only on highways with a speed limit of 25 mph or less.

(c) Bicycle helmet required.

- (d) Valid driver's license required.
- (e) Passengers prohibited.
- (f) Carry any article preventing at least one hand upon the handlebars.
- (g) Riding on sidewalk prohibited.
- (h) Handlebars raised above shoulders prohibited.
- (i) Leave motorized scooter blocking any sidewalk prohibited.
- (j) Hitching ride to any other vehicle on the roadway.

22411 CVC (Scooter speed) No person shall operate a motorized scooter at a speed in excess of 15 miles per hour.

21456 CVC (Walk against signal) Cross against "DONT WALK", "WAIT", or "Upraised Hand" symbol prohibited.

21955 CVC (Jaywalking) Between adjacent intersections controlled by traffic control signal devices, pedestrians shall not cross the roadway at any place except in a crosswalk.

21650.1 CVC (Ride against traffic) A bicycle operated on a roadway, or the shoulder of a highway, shall be operated in the same direction, as vehicles are required to be driven upon the roadway.

27400 CVC (Wearing headphones) A person operating a motor vehicle or bicycle may not wear a headset, or earplugs in, both ears.

22102 CVC (U-turns) No person in a business district shall make a U-turn, except at an intersection, or on a divided highway where an opening has been provided. This turning movement shall be made as close as practicable to the extreme left-hand edge of the lanes moving in the driver's direction of travel immediately prior to the initiation of the turning movement.

22103 CVC (U-turns) No person in a residence district shall make a U-turn when any other vehicle is approaching from either direction within 200 feet, except at an intersection when the approaching vehicle is controlled by an official traffic control device.

22106 CVC (Unsafe starting, unsafe backing) No person shall start a vehicle stopped, standing, or parked on a highway, nor shall any person back a vehicle on a highway until such movement can be made with reasonable safety.

22107 CVC (Unsafe turn, signaling) No person shall turn a vehicle from a direct course or move right or left upon a roadway until such movement can be made with reasonable safety

and then only after the giving of an appropriate signal in the event any other vehicle may be affected by the movement.

22108 CVC (Signaling prior to turn) Any signal of intention to turn right or left shall be given continuously during the last 100 feet traveled by the vehicle before turning.

22109 CVC (Unsafe stop) No person shall stop or suddenly decrease the speed of a vehicle on a highway without first giving an appropriate signal.

22352 CVC (School zone) Maximum speed in a school zone is 25 (twenty-five) miles per hour, when children are present.

22400 CVC (Impeding or blocking traffic) No person shall drive upon a highway at such a slow speed as to impede or block the normal and reasonable movement of traffic. No person shall bring a vehicle to a complete stop upon a highway so as to impede or block the normal and reasonable movement of traffic unless the stop is necessary for safe operation or in compliance with law.

22454 CVC (School bus loading passengers) Do not pass school bus until flashing red lights and/or stop signal arm cease.

10.48.105 HBMC Three-minute student loading zones. No stopping, standing or parking at any time for any purpose other than loading or unloading of passengers, which shall not exceed three (3) minutes. The restricted parking applies between the hours of 7 a.m. and 4 p.m. on days that school is in session. (Note - This is not a three-minute parking zone, but a loading and unloading zone only).

PUBLIC WORKS

Proper Disposal of HHW is Convenient, Free and Good for Our Environment

Computers, TV's, electronics, and many common household products are considered to be "household hazardous waste" or "HHW." Products such as paints, cleaners, automotive fluids, batteries, and pesticides that contain potentially hazardous ingredients require special care when you dispose of them. Improper disposal includes pouring them down the drain, on the ground, into storm sewers, or in some cases putting them out with the trash. The dangers of such disposal methods might not be immediately obvious, but improper disposal of these wastes can pollute the environment and pose a threat to human health. For information and to view a list of HHW items, please visit the website for OC Waste & Recycling at www.oclandfills.com/hazardous.

Proper disposal of household hazardous waste is convenient and free for Huntington Beach residents. Just take your HHW items to the County collection center located at Rainbow Environmental Services, Gate #6, 17121 Nichols Lane, Huntington Beach, CA. The collection center is open Tuesday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Closed on major holidays and rainy days.