

CITY COUNCIL WEEKLY UPDATE

April 9, 2020

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Electronic Development Services Processes - In January 2019, DS staff implemented an electronic plan review process that allowed us to review plans and issue permits online. Customers were quick to use this process, which saves them a significant amount time and money. In the first year, 62% of reviews were performed in this new paperless process. During this pandemic, we are performing well over 95% of our work electronically and are quickly transitioning to a 100% paperless process for all of development services work. The actions taken a year ago to develop this process have made the Development Services Department exceptionally capable of performing work remotely. We know of no other city in San Diego County that has this capability and current success in serving customers during this pandemic.

The Building Inspection team is also using technology to inspect work using facetime, videos and pictures. There are still some inspections being performed in person, however staff has been encouraged to use remote technology as much as possible.

We are encountering some challenges to work remotely, often related to other agencies being shut down completely, and we continue to find solutions. Customers are providing feedback regularly that “Oceanside is doing better than the rest.”

FINANCIAL SERVICES

Update on Short-Term Rental (STR) Permits - 63 permits have been approved and 12 were denied. Finance is moving to a new software system, MuniRev, this month. The new system will allow STR and TOT certificate holders to pay their fees and taxes online. We have had more closures than usual last week (16), due to the current pandemic situation. There were several comments from property owners that they were moving to long-term rentals.

WATER UTILITIES

Community Choice Energy (CCE) Update Provided to City of El Cajon - City staff has reached out to the City of El Cajon City Manager to provide an update on the City of Oceanside’s CCE effort. City Manager Graham Mitchell is planning to speak with the County’s CAO to see how the jurisdictions along the HWY 78 corridor and the county can continue a discussion on CCE Program options.

Utility Relief Program and Solid Waste and Recycling Technical Assistance - Since the utility relief program was established on March 24, the City’s Zero Waste Technical Assistance team has worked with over 25 local businesses to “right size” solid waste and recycling services to better meet their needs throughout and after COVID–19. Monthly average cost savings for small businesses have ranged from a reduction of approximately \$75 to over \$150, while still meeting minimum service and recycling requirements.

Virtual Earth Month – April 1-30 - The Green Oceanside team is celebrating Week 2 of the month-long Virtual Earth Month celebration. This week’s theme is all about climate and energy, and how our community can learn about clean energy alternatives, and what they can do to help protect our planet for generations to come. The community is encouraged to visit the Earth Month [webpage](#) to join in on the weekly activities, readings, virtual Earth Festival experience, and participate in contests to earn the chance to win a Visa gift card to use at Oceanside businesses.

Water Department Purchases Reusable Face Masks from Local Businesses - In accordance with County guidelines regarding face coverings, the Water Utilities Department recently partnered with two local Oceanside businesses to procure face coverings for its field crews. A special thanks goes to [Rais Case](#) and [Sew O'side](#) for working overnight and throughout the weekend to ensure that essential employees serving the public are protected.

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

Communications - Aside from numerous COVID-19-specific communications, staff began a campaign to highlight the ways the City is continuing to provide critical services to the community, including the recently approved-by-Council meal program to assist residents and restaurants (right). Additionally, the COVID webpage analytics revealed over 64,500 visits were made to the City's [COVID webpage](#).

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Published by Terry Gorman Brown [?] · 1 hr · 🌐

Oceanside Parks & Recreation staff are delivering meals to the most vulnerable Oceanside residents. The City Council approved this novel program to assist residents and support local restaurants by having them prepare nutritious "to go" meals. The meals are delivered to group homes serving the elderly, those with chronic mental illness, and others during the pandemic.

#OceansideCA #Oceanside #COVID19 #community - with City of Oceanside Parks and Recreation and Oceanside Fire Department Wrench and Rodent Seabastropub Guahan Grill Mission Ave Bar and Grill Matsu 松



COMMUNITY EVENTS * SUBJECT TO CHANGE

- May 14 **Bike to Work Day.** Various Pitstops in Oceanside. [Info](#)
- May 16 **El Camino HS Wildcat Car Show.** 7:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. (760) 805-2277.
- May 16 **Operation Appreciation.** Civic Center Plaza.
- May 27 **Law Enforcement/Special Olympics Torch Run.** 9:00-9:45 a.m. (619) 283-6197.
- Jun 6 **US Elite Taekwondo Championship.** Beach Community Center. (760) 712-6154.
- Jun 6 **VANC Car Show.** 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. 1617 Mission. (760) 722-1277.
- Jun 11 **San Diego EDC Annual Dinner.** 4:30-8:30 p.m. Petco Park. [Info](#)
- Jun 13 **Pride by the Beach.** 11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Pier View Way/Civic Center Plaza. (760) 994-1960.
- Jun 19 **Concert in the Park.** 5:00-8:00 p.m. Rancho Del Oro Park. (760) 435-5041.
- Jun 13-20 **Race Across America.** Pier/Strand area. (720) 381-6053.
- Jun 26 **North County Economic Summit.** 7:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. CSUSM. [Info](#)