City Manager Weekly Update

TO: Mayor and City Council Members
    City Commissioners

FROM: Benjamin Siegel, City Manager

DATE: February 6, 2020

SUBJECT: Weekly Update

City Council Meeting Schedule: To accommodate voter participation in the primary and general elections, the City Council approved a modified 2020 City Council meeting schedule at its February 4 meeting. The regularly scheduled meetings of Tuesday, March 3 and Tuesday, November 3, have been rescheduled to Monday, March 2 and Monday, November 2. For a complete 2020 City Council meeting schedule, please contact the City Clerk’s Office at (949) 493-1171.

Full Closure for Emergency Project on Ortega Highway: State Route 74 (Ortega Highway) will be closed from 6:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., Saturday, February 8 and Sunday, February 9 in both directions from Grand Avenue to just south of the Lookout Roadhouse restaurant in Lake Elsinore. During the closure, Caltrans will install permanent rock slope protection as part of the slope stabilization work currently taking place. For questions and additional information regarding the closure, please see the attached Caltrans press release and map.

Verdugo Project Update: A significant project milestone was reached this week with the City’s contractor completing installation of pavers on the Verdugo Street south side sidewalk and train plaza area. The area is now open for pedestrian travel between Camino Capistrano and the train plaza. Installation of the planting pots and landscaping on the south side of Verdugo Street has also continued. The area between the Regency Theater and the train plaza is scheduled to be paved by the end of the week. Improvements to the northern sidewalk are anticipated to begin later this month.
2020 Voter Participation Opportunities: Starting this year, Election Day in Orange County will be more than a one-day event! Additional and convenient ways to participate are now available. All registered Orange County voters will receive a vote-by-mail ballot. Ballots may be mailed in or dropped off at any ballot drop box in the county. The San Juan Capistrano ballot drop box is located at La Sala Auditorium (31495 El Camino Real) and is currently accepting ballots. If you prefer to vote in person, registered voters may vote at any vote center in Orange County. For questions, plus a list of all county-wide drop boxes and vote center locations, please contact the Orange County Registrar of Voters online or at (714) 567-7600.

Upcoming DUI Checkpoint: The Orange County Sheriff’s Department will be conducting a DUI and driver’s license checkpoint in San Juan Capistrano from 8:00 p.m. Friday, February 21, to approximately 1:30 a.m. Saturday, February 22. Throughout the weekend, deputies will be on high-alert for impaired drivers. The City and Sheriff’s Department encourage everyone to plan ahead and designate a driver or use a ride-share or taxi.

Call for Applications for the Youth Advisory Board: Applications are currently being accepted to fill 15 youth member vacancies and two adult advisor vacancies on the Youth Advisory Board. The youth appointees will serve a one-year term through June 2021, and adult advisor appointees will serve a two-year term through June 2022. Applications are available on the City’s website and at the Office of the City Clerk, 32400 Paseo Adelanto. Applications will be accepted until 4:30 p.m. on Friday, February 21. For more information, please contact the Office of the City Clerk at (949) 493-1171.

Association of American Retired Persons (AARP) Tax Preparation: AARP is offering free tax preparation for seniors and low-income households, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays from February 4 through April 14 at the San Juan Capistrano Community Center (25925 Camino Del Avion). Appointments must be made in person at the Community Center. Walk-ins will be accepted provided there are available tax preparers. For additional information or questions, please contact Audie Sturla, AARP Representative, at (949) 369-0755 or by e-mail.

UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEMS (Tentative and Subject to Change)

February 18, 2020
- Ortega Highway Gateway Landscaping Project
- Recognition of San Juan Hills High School Football Team for Winning the CIF-SS Division 4 Championship

March 2, 2020
- Approval of Plans & Specs for Meredith Canyon Road Rehabilitation Project
- Fiesta de las Golondrinas Proclamation