

City Manager Weekly Update

TO: Mayor and City Council Members
City Commissioners

FROM: Benjamin Siegel, City Manager

DATE: October 10, 2019

SUBJECT: **Weekly Update**

Verdugo Street Construction Closure: Beginning Monday, October 14, Verdugo Street (from Camino Capistrano to the train depot plaza) will be closed to vehicular traffic for approximately three months in order to accommodate construction of a long-awaited beautification project. This major capital improvement project will provide wider sidewalks, decorative brick pavers, enhanced lighting, landscaping and a more pedestrian-friendly gateway to the downtown. During construction, both the Franciscan Plaza parking structure and Multi-modal parking lots will be accessible from Camino Capistrano. Wayfinding signage will be placed throughout the downtown directing motorists to parking locations. Electronic message boards have also been placed throughout the downtown notifying the public of the impending street closure, and notifications have gone out to all downtown businesses located in the general vicinity of Verdugo Street. City staff have coordinated extensively with downtown businesses to mitigate potential impacts to customers. Additionally, the City has created a dedicated [webpage](#) that includes project information and will provide construction schedule updates. Questions regarding the Verdugo Street Beautification Project should be directed to Tom Toman, Assistant Public Works Director, at ttoman@sanjuancapistrano.org.

Increased Wildfire Risk: The National Weather Service has issued a regional Red Flag Warning that will be in effect through 6:00 p.m. Friday, October 11. A Red Flag Warning is issued when warm temperatures, very low humidity, and strong winds are expected to combine to produce an increased risk of fire. In response, the Orange County Fire Authority (OCFA) has increased staffing levels and equipment to be ready to respond to any potential wildfire situation. In anticipation of strong winds, the City's Public Works and Utilities Department will have crews available in the event City infrastructure is impacted and for roadway debris removal. Forecasted weather conditions could also disturb local power lines. San Diego Gas and Electric (SDG&E) is actively monitoring weather conditions and has provided a dedicated [webpage](#) for updates regarding service interruptions. To learn more about wildfire preparedness, please visit the OCFA [website](#) or see the attached flyer. For additional information regarding the City's emergency preparedness program, please contact Lynn Mata, Emergency Services Manager, at (949) 443-6304 or lmata@sanjuancapistrano.org. To report wind related service requests during non-business hours, please call (949) 493-1171 and you will be directed to the appropriate City personnel.

Opioid Addiction in Orange County: As part of the Orange County Sheriff's Department's "Stay Safe OC" campaign, join OCSA Narcotics Investigator Christopher Ledbetter on Thursday, October 17, from 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at the Community Center (25925 Camino Del Avion) to discuss the impacts of opioid addiction in Orange County and steps law enforcement is taking to address this new threat. For additional information, please see the attached flyer or contact Celina Corley, Crime Prevention Specialist, at (949) 443-6370.

H2O for HOAs Event: The City of San Juan Capistrano is partnering with several South Orange County public agencies to host an educational water efficiency workshop on Tuesday, October 29, from 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Laguna Hills Community Center (25555 Alicia Pkwy, Laguna Hills). Presentations will be provided on watershed protection, water efficiency resources and rebates, homeowner association (HOA) landscape design and maintenance as well as other aspects of HOA water management. A complimentary breakfast will be provided and [online](#) pre-registration is required. For additional information please see the attached flyer or contact the City's Water Conservation Division at (949) 487-4304 or sicconserve@sanjuancapistrano.org.

Successful Creek Clean-Up Event: On September 21, the City participated in the California Coastal Commission's 35th annual Coastal Clean-up event. The event was held at Descanso Park where roughly 60 volunteers helped to remove trash from San Juan Creek and Arroyo Trabuco Creek. This was a six-fold increase from the volunteer turnout in 2018! The event was supported by the City's Youth Advisory Board, Public Works staff and the local Rotary Club. Volunteers included local residents, the business community, as well as teachers and students from local schools. Through their efforts, approximately 2,400 pounds of trash and approximately 40 pounds of recyclables were collected.

Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee Vacancy: Applications are currently being accepted from San Juan Capistrano residents to fill one vacancy on the Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee. The appointee will serve a term through December 10, 2021. Applications will be accepted until 4:30 p.m., Friday, November 1. Applications are available on the City's [website](#) and at the Office of the City Clerk, 32400 Paseo Adelanto. For more information, please contact the Office of the City Clerk at (949) 493-1171.

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

October 15, 2019

- Continued Public Hearing: River Street Market Place Project
- Initiation of Specific Plan Amendment for The Ecology Center "Transformative Community Farm" Project

Ready, Set, Go!

GET SET: Red Flag Warning



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What is a Red Flag Warning?



A Red Flag Warning is issued by the National Weather Service when low humidity, warm temperatures, dry fuels and strong winds could combine to produce extreme fire behavior that is either occurring or will occur within 24 hours. These are some of the criteria* considered prior to issuing a Red Flag Warning:

- Sustained wind speeds averaging 15 mph or greater
- Relative humidity of 25% or less
- Temperature over 75 degrees F
- Ten hour fuel moisture at 8% or less for one day

**specific weather criteria can vary by region*

During a Red Flag Warning you should **ALWAYS** follow the instructions provided by your local fire department and be prepared to take action if a fire develops in your area.

Red Flag Warning Safety Tips

Equipment

- Avoid using lawn mowers on dry vegetation.
- Follow all local fire restrictions on the use of chainsaws, mowers and other equipment during high risk times.

Outdoor Fires

- Be mindful of any burn bans in your area and obtain a permit if needed.
- Extinguish outdoor fires properly, never leave them unattended. Always drown them with plenty of water.
- Soak ashes and charcoal in water and dispose of them in a metal can. These materials can re-ignite days after a fire or BBQ is extinguished.
- Report unattended outdoor fires immediately to 911.

Property

- Keep your lawn green and mowed all season.
- Create at least 100 feet of defensible space around your home by removing leaves, weeds, brush, firewood and other flammables. Make sure to clean roof and gutters too.

- Make sure access roads to your property are cleared and properly labeled.

Vehicles

- Do not throw cigarettes or matches out of a vehicle. They can ignite grass on the side of the road and start a wildfire.
- Do not pull your vehicle over in dry grass.
- Ensure that trailer chains don't drag on the ground.

Set

Always Maintain Situational Awareness

Watch weather reports and make sure you are signed up for state and local emergency alerts.

During a warning, your local fire department can:

- Send text alerts, post information on social media and notify media outlets.
- Suspend open burning.
- Increase staffing and patrol highly vulnerable areas.
- Staff reserve equipment.
- Discuss allied resources with community stakeholders.
- Change fire threat signs to extreme.

For more information, **contact your local fire department.**



The Ready, Set, Go! Program seeks to share information with residents on what they can do to successfully prepare for a wildland fire. Residents are encouraged to be "Ready" by taking personal responsibility for their themselves, their family and their property, to be "Set" with situational awareness and to "Go" and act early. Speak with your local fire department about your area's threat for wildland fire and learn more about the wildland urban interface (WUI).

Ready, Set, Go!

Wildland Fire Action Plan

Ready (Before the warning occurs)

- Create at least 100 feet of defensible space around your home. Clear flammable vegetation by trimming trees and removing pine needles and leaves from roofs, eaves and gutters. Box in vents with 1/8th inch metal mesh to block embers.
- Complete and practice your Personal Wildland Fire Action Plan.
- Become familiar with area roads, including all exit routes from your immediate area.
- Make a plan to accommodate animals or pets in case of wildfire or evacuation.
- Sign up with local agencies to receive emergency notifications.

Set (During the warning)

- Maintain good situational awareness by following weather reports and the news from your local media outlets.
- Have your "Go" kit packed and near your door in case you need to evacuate quickly. Suggested items to pack include:
 - Your Personal Wildland Fire Action Plan.
 - Prescription medications and any medical devices you may need.
 - Emergency first-aid supplies.
 - Important documents including your passport, birth certificate, driver's license, marriage license, insurance policy and any other legal documents.
 - Pet medications.
 - Personal electronics including cell phone, laptops and any charging cables you may need.
 - A week's worth of clothing and two pairs of shoes.
- Make sure your car is fueled and parked right outside your house so you can leave quickly.

Go! (Act early when a wildfire threatens)

- Get your "Go" kit and leave well before the threat approaches, following an accessible exit route.
- Use your personal action plan for guidance.
- Cooperate with local authorities during evacuation & re-entry processes.

Remember: An evacuation can occur anytime, day or night.
Be prepared you can evacuate quickly and safely.

www.wildlandfirersg.org

IAFC's Wildland Fire Programs are funded in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service. In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs). To file a complaint alleging discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington DC 20250-9410 or call toll free voice (866) 632-9992, TDD (800) 877-8339, or voice relay (866) 377-8642. USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



Combating the Opioid Epidemic in Orange County

Opioids are killing one person every other day in Orange County

Orange County Sheriff's Department Narcotics Investigator, Christopher Ledbetter, will explain the latest opioid trends. Come hear about the highly addictive drug, fentanyl, and how it has intensified the opioid epidemic in Orange County. Learn how and what law enforcement is doing to adapt to this new threat. This presentation is for concerned parents, teachers, school administrators, medical professionals, social workers, addiction specialists, law enforcement professionals and anyone who wants to know more about this deadly epidemic.



OCSD has new safe handling procedures for all drugs due to the lethality and prevalence of fentanyl

Event Coordinator: Celina Corley, Crime Prevention Specialist, San Juan Capistrano Police Services,
32400 Paseo Adelanto, SJC, 92675 | (949) 443-6370

Event Location
San Juan Capistrano Community
Center
25925 Camino Del Avion, SJC



October 17, 2019
6:30 to 8:00 pm



Please Join Us

Tuesday, October 29, 2019

8am - 11:30am

Laguna Hills Community Center
25555 Alicia Pkwy, Laguna Hills, CA 92653

TO REGISTER VISIT
bit.ly/H2OforHOAs



**FREE
EVENT**

Breakfast
Included

Opportunity
Drawing



**AN EDUCATIONAL AND NETWORKING EVENT PROVIDED FOR HOA BOARD MEMBERS,
PROPERTY MANAGERS, AND PROFESSIONAL LANDSCAPERS FOCUSING ON:**

Protecting Your Watershed - Amber Shah, City of Laguna Hills

Water Efficiency Resources & Rebates - Lindsey Stuvick, Moulton Niguel Water District

Landscape Design for HOAs - Jodie Cook, My Avant Garden

Irrigation Maintenance for Large Landscapes - Toni Monzon, Bilingual Training Institute

HOA Assistance Case Studies - Matt Davenport, Monarch Environmental

Partners

Cities: Aliso Viejo, Dana Point, Laguna Beach, Laguna Hills, Laguna Niguel, Laguna Woods, Lake Forest, Mission Viejo, Rancho Santa Margarita, San Clemente, and San Juan Capistrano

Water Agencies: El Toro, Irvine Ranch, Laguna Beach County, Moulton Niguel, Santa Margarita, and South Coast

