



Memo

TO: City Council
FROM: Robert Clark, City Manager
DATE: July 24, 2014
SUBJECT: Weekly Update

Leaf Blower Ban

The City Council directed staff to draft an ordinance banning leaf blowers. As part of this process we must comply with CEQA by preparing an initial study, and probably posting a negative declaration. With this in mind we have tentatively scheduled the public hearing on the Ordinance on September 23. We will propose that the ban take effect on January 1, 2015 which will give us time after the adoption to conduct a public information program.

Arcade Plaza Crime Watch

The Sheriff's Department and I are working with the Arcade merchants to continue to reduce activities that are illegal or which discourage shoppers from visiting certain stores. Some of the merchants are being very proactive, and are encouraging all merchants to report activities which are actionable by the Police.

Risk Management Review

The California Joint Powers Insurance Authority (CJPIA) conducted a site visit and audit of our policies and risk management practices on Thursday, visiting the city manager, city clerk, human resources, and public works and recreation departments. Typically, CJPIA visits member agencies every few years to ensure the member is taking appropriate steps to limit liability exposure. Our last review was in 2011. The site review was very helpful, and the City will be receiving a full report with recommendations to consider.

Skatepark Flyer Produced

Staff has produced an informational flyer highlighting the need to follow the rules at the Ojai Skatepark. The flyer was requested by members of the community to help encourage persons who use the park to follow the posted rules, including not riding bikes and scooters in the park, and always wearing a helmet and safety equipment. Volunteers in the skate community have agreed to hand the flyer out to persons at the park as they are able. They hope to begin distribution at the park this weekend. Hopefully, some persons will heed the notice and discontinue using the park in violation of posted rules. However, we don't expect this to end the issue with persons not following rules at the park.

Trolley Security Grant Awarded

The City was notified of being awarded Proposition 1B Transit Security grant for \$56,600 (no match required) to install new fencing and an automated gate for the Public Works/Trolley yard, new fencing and gate in the lower yard, and additional security cameras. This Prop 1B grant is in addition to the

recent award of a grant in the amount of \$195,000 for a new trolley (no match). This is part of State Proposition 1B Transit Safety, Security & Disaster Response bond funding.

Trees:

The drought is taking its toll on trees throughout the City's public and private land. The following trees recently fell or required removal:

- 2 of 3 trunks of an older multiple trunk live oak in the barranca/drainage above Daly Park fell Tuesday night with relatively minor damage to fencing and landscaping on adjacent properties. This tree is in a difficult location to remove, in a narrow barranca.
- A eucalyptus at the end of Signal St, at the Shelf Rd entry, has died and is scheduled for removal.
- An older valley oak on Shady lane was developing cracks and endangering the home and is scheduled for removal.
- A 30 inch limb on an older live oak on Ventura St at Saddle lane fell across the road last week.

FEMA Flood Mapping Outreach

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will conduct a meeting Thursday, July 24 at 6:00 p.m. at the City of Ojai Council Chambers, 401 South Ventura Street, Ojai, California. The meeting will briefly review the new East Ojai Area flood maps and resulting properties in the revised Special Flood Hazard Area (previously referred to as the 100 year flood plain). These maps become effective on September 26, 2014. A FEMA flood insurance expert will discuss flood insurance coverage requirements and options, other implications, and be available to answer questions.

Summer Trolley Service at Lake Casitas

The Trolley service at Lake Casitas just completed its third weekend. The agreement between Lake Casitas and the City is for Saturday service from July 5-August 30. Riders can hop aboard the trolley to access key locations around the lake such as the Marina Café, the Park Store and the very popular Water Park. In addition to the route around the lake, the trolley also comes into downtown Ojai several times which gives campers the opportunity to visit Ojai, and also shuttles people from Ojai to the lake. So far most of the ridership has been within the lakes premises. The average number of riders has been just under 200 per Saturday.

Upcoming Agendas

The tentative upcoming agendas are listed below:

August 12

Parks and Recreation Commission -6pm

Consent

2nd Reading Flood

2nd Reading PRC Duties

Stuart Consulting Contract

Investment Policy Amendment

Discussion

Fire Flow

Green Coalition Funding Request

County Telecommunications Regulations (Comments)

HERO Program

Closed Session

Department Head Compensation

RDA Loan Litigation

August 19

Special Joint Meeting with PRC regarding Skateboard Park

August 26

Consent

Paving Contract Notice of Completion

Records Retention Update

Discussion

Review Lighting Ordinance

Affordable Housing Discussion

Successor Agency

ROPS 14-15B

Sept 9 (Cancelled)

Sept 23

Presentation

School Bond Measure (Hank Bangser)

Consent

Form 700 Review

Public Hearing

Telecommunications Ordinance

Leaf Blower Ban Ordinance (Ban)

Discussion

Skate Park Security

July 4th Chairs

Holiday Meeting Schedule