

Stop Polluting Our Newport

From: Kiff, Dave <DKiff@newportbeachca.gov>
Sent: Sunday, January 22, 2017 3:24 PM
To: undisclosed-recipients
Subject: Insider's Guide - Tuesday, January 24, 2017

The *Guide* is late today, coming to you on a rainy Sunday. I hope you're home and dry and reading a book or watching the games today (or something good on Netflix).

The Newport Beach City Council's next meeting is this coming **Tuesday, January 24, 2017** starting at 7:00 p.m. More detailed Council meeting information is at the end of the *Guide*. I don't summarize every item on the agenda, so make sure you look at the City Clerk's [agenda page](#) to read the whole [agenda](#) if you'd like.

There is no Study Session, so the **Regular Session begins at 7:00 p.m.** Here's what caught my attention from the agenda:

- Our bi-monthly update on **water conservation activities**. Which seems very ironic in light of the recent days' storms. I was asked a question recently by a local resident "doesn't this mean the drought is over?" Well, not quite. There are great amounts of snow in the Sierra, well-above average storage in many, many reservoirs, and the soil is well-soaked. What would trigger an end to the drought is all of that plus at least two things: (a) A formal declaration by the Governor that it's over; and (b) great improvement in groundwater storage in the Central Valley as well as the rest of Southern California. When we get enough regular rain to refill the aquifers across the state and below us (recall that Newport Beach gets about 65-70% of our drinking water from the aquifer that is beneath Huntington Beach, Fountain Valley, and much of central Orange County), then water regulators are more comfortable declaring an end to the drought. From what I've heard, it would take a few years of more than average rainfall to do that. Lastly on this point, many officials think that we'll always be in some sort of conservation mode or mandate, even a light one – because of our geography, changes in climate that mean less retained snowpack into spring, changes in population, and more.
- Representatives of the **Harbor Commission** will come in to the Council to outline their **objectives for 2017**. These include making the harbor a more welcoming destination for visitors, as well as improving communication and peace among the many varieties of Harbor users – from SUP-ers to kayakers and more.
- The **Board of Library Trustees** is interested in seeing if members of the community would support a **new lecture facility** that would allow more people to attend various library events, including the Distinguished Speakers Lecture Series. As such, they've asked the Council to grant them a one-time waiver to see if the Trustees can go out and raise private donations for the lecture facility.

- At his first meeting as mayor back in December 2016, Mayor Muldoon said that he'd like the Council to revisit – and support – the **filming of Planning Commission meetings** for later webstreaming on the City's website. That request is on the agenda Tuesday.
- In November 2016, the Planning Commission approved a request by the **Village Inn** (at Marine and Park on Balboa Island) to add a 200-square foot outdoor dining area along Marine Avenue, in the public right-of-way. Bike racks for about 20 bikes would be removed, and replaced with "bike corrals" on certain blocks of Marine Avenue. The Planning Commission's approval included conditions limiting the outdoor seating to 16, as well as limiting interior live entertainment to four musicians or singers (versus five). The Village Inn would also be required to get one of the City's relatively new "Operators Licenses," which gives the Police Chief the authority to help control issues at certain late-night locations when issues arise. A resident near the Inn appealed the Planning Commission's approval to the City Council. I would guess that this formal public hearing will take up the lion's share of the Tuesday meeting's discussion time. Please read the [staff report](#) if you are following this issue (it's Item #15 on the agenda).

In the category of **random notes**:

- Help us be eyes and ears - if you see **trees downed** (or leaning) in the coming hours and days, don't hesitate to call the PD's non-emergency line – that's 949-644-3717. We think we lost anywhere from 75-100 trees in Friday's rain and wind, and that's a lot to keep up with in terms of safe removal. Always sad to see them go, but thankfully we didn't hear of any reported injuries to persons. I am always thankful that we have enough resources to do more regular trim cycles for city trees so that most of them can weather storms like these.
- We **still** have no news yet from the **OC Registrar of Voters** as to the Registrar's signature count on the **Museum House referendum petitions**.

As always, thanks for reading. I'm sorry it was late this week. Please forward this *Guide* to family, friends and members of your HOA if you represent one. I always like hearing from you, too, so please don't hesitate to ask a question or offer a comment.

Sincerely,

Dave Kiff
 City Manager
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City Council Meeting Information: The Newport Beach City Council meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of most months (the exceptions are August and December). Typically, there is a **Study Session** that starts at 4:00 p.m. Study sessions are times for the Council to take a deeper look at a specific issue, or hear a presentation, that might eventually lead to a specific and more formal action. A **closed session** often follows the Study Session. Closed sessions are typically to address legal, personnel, and other matters where additional confidentiality is important. The

Regular (evening) Session typically starts at 7:00 p.m., and often has a specific listing of 20-40 different items ready for formal votes. Items on the “Consent Calendar” are heard all at once, unless a Council member has removed (aka “pulled”) an item from the Consent Calendar for specific discussion and separate vote. If an item on the agenda is recommended to be “continued”, it means that the item won’t be heard nor voted on that evening, but will be pushed forward to another noticed meeting.

Public Comment is welcomed at both the Study Session and the Regular Session. The public can comment on any item on the agenda. If you want to comment on a Consent Calendar item that was not pulled from the Consent Calendar by a Council Member, you will want to do so at the time listed on the agenda – right before the Council votes on the entire Consent Calendar (it’s Roman Numeral XIII on the posted agenda). If an item is pulled, the Mayor will offer that members of the public can comment as that specific item is heard separately. Additionally, there is a specific section of Public Comment for items not on the agenda, but on a subject of some relationship to the city government. If you cannot attend a meeting and/or want to communicate with the City Council directly, this e-mail gets to all of them: CityCouncil@newportbeachca.gov. Please know that I get a copy of that e-mail, too, because in almost all cases it’s something that the City Manager follows-up on. It’s my head-start.

The Council meets in the Council Chambers at 100 Civic Center Drive, off of Avocado between San Miguel and East Coast Highway. There is plenty of parking in the parking structure behind City Hall. You are always welcome to attend in person, but you can also watch on TV (Channels 3/31) or stream it on your computer.

This *Insider’s Guide* is not an attempt to summarize every item on the Agenda – just the ones that seem of specific interest to Dave. I encourage you to read the full agenda if you wish.