



Nancy Gardner Councilwoman



Newsletter: July 2007

Newport Beach, California

City Contacts

City Hall

General Information 644-3309

Table with 2 columns: Department Name and Phone Number. Includes Administrative, Building Dept, City Clerk, etc.

Emergency Services table with 2 columns: Service Name and Phone Number. Includes Emergency, Fire Dept, Police Dept.

Libraries table with 2 columns: Branch Name and Phone Number. Includes CdM, Main, Mariners, Balboa.

Oasis Senior Center 644-3244

Post Office table with 2 columns: Branch Name and Phone Number. Includes CdM, Main.

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STORY BEHIND HARBOR PATROL MAILER

The County has been looking at divesting itself of some responsibilities/expenses by shifting them to cities. One of those mentioned was the Harbor Patrol. This apparently did not sit well with the Sheriff's department.

ADDING INSULT TO INJURY

The Daily Pilot asked the Council to answer the question, "Should the City take over the Harbor Patrol?" My response: "In the short time I've been on the Council, this has not been a topic for a study session or a future agenda, so at this point I don't know if there is any valid reason for the City to take over the Harbor Patrol."

The Pilot printed only my first sentence, leaving out everything in italics. They also edited Mike Henn's response. After both of us objected, it was explained that they didn't have room for our entire response.

CAMERAS INSTALLED

The surveillance cameras have been installed for Big and Little Corona, Pirate's Cove and the Wedge. These will alert the police to anyone entering those areas after the beaches have closed.

MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS

The Media and Communications Committee hasn't officially declared a position, but I doubt that we'll be recommending Wi-Fi. According to an expert that we brought in, companies haven't figured out a way to cover a city and make a profit, primarily because Wi-Fi's not very fast compared to DSL, and it's all about speed today.

BIG CORONA CONCESSION STAND

The Council turned down a proposal from Rudy's Pub and Grill to run the concession stand at Big Corona (although inviting Rudy's to resubmit) and asked Mayor Rosansky and me to revise the Request for Proposals before sending it out again.

Nearby residents expressed concern about the hours, feeling that if the stand kept beach hours (6 am to 10 pm), they would be exposed to noise from employees arriving before six and noise from employees and customers leaving after ten.

The compromise: No restaurant, no tables and chairs on the sand, no alcohol, an option for the concessionaire to upgrade the menu if he/she wanted and to have longer hours, but late enough in the morning and early enough at night (8:30 pm in the summer, dusk in the off-season) so that residents won't be unduly impacted.

STORM WATER MANAGEMENT

Staff of the California State Water Resources Control Board has suggested a proposal that would essentially ban storm water from entering an ASBS (Area of Special Biological Significance) because storm water contains pollutants. I think everyone knows that I've spent a lot of time working on ocean issues, and I have a special affection for the Little Corona area.

Storm water is a different issue, however. I just don't know what we can do with it. We can't divert it to OCSB because the district doesn't have that kind of capacity. The kind of infrastructure that could contain all the water from a big storm—where would we possibly put it?

Also, I have a concern about sediment transport. Little Corona gets all its sand from Buck Gully, and the sand gets moved to the beach by storms. Because of the development of that watershed, there is less sediment available than in the past which makes it all the more important that what there is makes it to the beach.