



# Nancy Gardner

Councilwoman



Newsletter: August 2007

Newport Beach, California

## City Contacts

### City Hall

General Information  
644-3309

<b>Departments</b>	<b>644-</b>
Administrative	3127
Building Dept	3275
City Clerk	3005
City Council	3004
City Manager	3000
Economic Dev	3225
General Services	3055
Graffiti Hotline	3333
Harbor Resources	3034
Licenses	3141
Mayor	3004
Public Info Office	3031
Planning Dept	3200
Public Works	3311
Recreation	3151
Refuse Collection	3066
Senior Services	3151
Streets/Sidewalks	3060
Utilities	3011
Water/Sewer	3050

Emergency Services	
Emergency	9-1-1
Fire Dept	633-3104
Police Dept	644-3717

Libraries	
CdM	644-3075
Main	717-3800
Mariners	717-3838
Balboa	644-3076

Oasis Senior Center  
644-3244

Post Office	
CdM	673-2989
Main	640-4663

## COUNCILWOMAN

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## CORONA DEL MAR BRANCH LIBRARY MEETING

As I have mentioned, there is a plan to relocate the Corona del Mar branch to the Oasis as part of the new building. As envisioned, it would be geared for adults, especially seniors, and eliminate the children's section.

There will be an opportunity to hear about the plan in more detail and voice support or opposition on **August 27, from 9:00 am to 11:00 am and from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm**, at the CdM branch.

## DREDGING

Everyone agrees the harbor needs dredging. Every year the Army Corps of Engineers puts it on the list of projects, and we send emissaries back to D.C to plead for the funding, but every year they come back with empty pockets. The result is a harbor that is less and less navigable.

To get the job done, the City is considering a new approach. The Corps would dredge the whole harbor. In return, the City would take over all future maintenance. Feelers have been sent out, and there has been interest expressed, but since it's Washington, I wouldn't go out and buy a bigger boat thinking it's going to happen.

## LITTLE CORONA CLEANING

A few weeks ago I was down at Little Corona catching a few waves and was shocked at how dirty the beach was. Since Little Corona is an ASBS (Area of Special Biological Significance), it can't be cleaned in the same way Big Corona is, but staff used its collective ingenuity to come up with a way to protect the integrity of the beach while giving it a good cleaning.

## TREES

I don't know how everyone else feels, but I have palm tree fatigue. I think we've overdone it in the last few years, particularly as they don't provide shade or much bird habitat. I don't want to change out things that are already planted, but I'm hoping to persuade the Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission to agree to some new choices for the district in the future.

## CITY HALL

At Council meetings and in the local papers it seems to be all about the park and the park site, but I have been getting a steady stream of emails from people who can't understand why we're ignoring the current site. Most of them like the history associated with the present site and feel that concerns about tsunamis are misplaced.

To that point, all of our records are archived off site, so no matter where we end up, in the event of a disaster they will be safe. I'd be interested in hearing any thoughts on this.

## BACK BAY SCIENCE CENTER

The building is almost complete, and now the focus shifts to what's inside.

Initially, the Department of Fish and Game (DFG), which controls the property, wanted programs geared more to the elementary school level, but there are already a number of programs, some at the Mary & Peter Muth Interpretive Center, some farther down the coast at the Ocean Institute, which are geared to that level, so the City and others have been promoting programs for high school and college students that could produce real science, the sort of thing that would help us better understand and protect the bay.

The County's Public Health Agency lab, which is on site, and UCI were among those interested in this approach, and at a recent meeting DFG seemed amenable while reserving the right to doing something for the younger crowd.

## WHAT DO YOU THINK?

- CdM Branch Library Closure
- Palm Trees
- City Hall Location

## Comments

This is a two-way process, so please don't hesitate to contact me with your ideas and opinions.