



# Nancy Gardner

Council Member

Newsletter: August 2010

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

### COUNCIL MEMBER

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## YES, WE ARE A CHARTER CITY, BUT NO, WE'RE NOT BELL

For those interested, you can go to the city's web page, get the budget and get all of the salaries and benefits. We've posted all this information for years. Also, the council does not boost its stipend by sitting on city committees. No council member is remunerated for sitting on a city committee or task force. That is just part of the job.

## AB/FAB LANDSCAPING

People don't usually swoon over medians, but I drove down Superior recently and was bowled over by the landscaping of the median. Steve Rosansky's instruction to staff was to think of it as someone's front yard rather than the middle of a busy street, and the results are a wonderful example of just how great drought-tolerant plants can look with a good design.

## FARMERS' MARKETS

We now have two in town. Saturday mornings, it's Corona del Mar which has been a fixture for years, and for the other side of the bay there's now one on Sundays in Lido Village. A different mix of vendors makes each unique, so you can spend your whole weekend squeezing peaches and thumping melons.

## WE DON'T SWIM IN YOUR TOILET . . .

I'm sure most of you remember the rest of the sign that was often posted at swimming pools. We could say the same thing of the bay. We spend a lot of time and money on water quality, and people have often inquired why we don't do a dye tab program like the one in Avalon. Well, now we are. The Harbor Master has agreed to handle this for all visiting boats—one more layer of protection.

## WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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

## EXPANSION OF SMOKING BAN?

There is no smoking on public beaches, and now the Environmental Quality Affairs Committee is considering a recommendation to extend that ban. Among the areas under discussion—public parks, walkways, outdoor dining areas. Rejected as being too far reaching was eliminating all outdoor smoking, although it has always seemed a little odd that smokers don't want the smell of smoke in their residences, so they go outside and smoke, exposing their neighbors to the smell.

## AND SPEAKING OF ODORS—LEAF BLOWERS

After some delay the city is sending out a survey to property management companies to see what the effect would be if there was a complete ban on leaf blowers or a ban of gas-powered blowers. The other day my neighbor's gardener was blowing leaves between the houses when I had the windows open. The exhaust blew in and was so unpleasant I had to vacate the house, so it's more than simply noise that's an issue.

## ORANGE COAST RIVER PARK

The concept of OCRP (unifying the management of various open space properties along this end of the river to improve habitat and recreational opportunities) has been widely accepted, but getting a management structure has been difficult. Frustrated, Jean Watt has stepped up and organized a new non-profit, OCRP, with the mission of acquisition, restoration, management and maintenance of properties along the river to accomplish those goals. Aiding her are Gary Gorman, a founder of the Huntington Beach Wetlands Conservancy who managed the acquisition and restoration of Talbert Marsh, and Dennis Baker who just completed a three-year term as chair of the Newport Bay Naturalists, leading that group in a number of restoration projects. Look for a lot of activity from this group and some real benefits to that area of the river.