



== CITY OF ==

# NEWPORT BEACH

## Public Works Department Monthly Activities Report

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To: Parks, Beaches & Recreation Commission

From: Public Works Department

John Salazar, Acting Deputy Public Works Director



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### Inclement Weather Event Mid-October

Inclement weather arrived early this year with a heavy rain event October 14, 2025. While the rain and wind was short, it was intense with storm gusts blowing in from the southwest. These forces are in direct opposition from the normal Santa Ana winds which arrive from the northeast. In all, the City of Newport Beach experienced two tree failures and two moderate sized limb breaks, aside from scattered smaller debris.

Despite the heavy wind and rain, the City suffered far fewer limb breakages than expected. This is an indication that the City's tree maintenance program, trimming all 35,000 trees over a two-year period, is preventing unnecessary damage. Frequent light trimming prevents the 'sail-effect' upon the limbs during strong wind gusts.



### Police Department Landscape Renovation

During the recent modifications of the Police Department parking lot, much of the landscape and irrigation were removed, and the size of the planters was reduced to provide additional parking. Public Works Department staff and contractors recently completed the restoration of the planters, installing new

irrigation mainlines and valves with water-conscious drip irrigation. Crape myrtle trees, and coprosma and carissa groundcover were installed. A thick layer of mulch was laid down to provide the final touches.



## Civic Center Hydroseeding

The Public Works Department recently completed a hydroseeding project at the Civic Center Park. Getting the seed down in fall both takes advantage of cooling weather and makes sure it is down before winter rains. The process consists of hydraulically spraying a seed mixture combined with a recycled cellulose (paper) blend. A tackifier is added to ensure the seed and mulch stays in place on the sloped areas. The perennial seeds used are a blend of Mission Bells, red, orange and white California Poppy, Primrose, Lupine and Gaillardia. This project is sure to add a splash of perennial color to the park slopes, welcoming patrons to the Civic Center this spring.





## Centennial Plaza Plaque Refurbishment

As part of the City's Centennial celebration, the Centennial Plaza, at Marguerite Avenue and East Coast Highway, was created. The Plaza has approximately 25 bronze dedication plaques. The dedications include the clock tower, mosaic walls, chimes and trees. Over the years, the plaques have faded due to oxidation. Public Works Department staff completed a refurbishment of the plaques that includes power washing, sanding, painting the patina (background), sanding the lettering to a bright finish, and finally, applying a sealer. This annual maintenance process can take several days.

*Before*



*After*



## Special Tree Removals

On October 17, 2025, a Public Works contractor conducted emergency removals of Special City Lemon-Scented Gum Eucalyptus (*Corymbia citriodora*) trees located at 1700 Starlight Circle (tree located on Glenwood Lane) and 1805 Glenwood Lane.

A field inspection and report by the City's Consulting Arborist confirmed the trees' overall risk level to be moderate, based on potential for Sudden Limb Drop, a biological phenomenon associated with Eucalyptus trees. Another factor considered was site failure history in the neighborhood, as during the previous month a large limb fell from the tree at 1700 Starlight Circle in clear weather. Due to the unacceptable risk threshold and the lengthy time before the next Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission meeting to present the recommendation for removal, considering the likelihood of inclement weather during the intervening time period, thus exposing the public to further risk, the trees were removed. The trees will be replaced with Australian Willows trees.



## Trees Maintenance

During September and October 2025, Great Scott Tree Service (GSTS) trimmed Coral, Ficus, and Palm trees City-wide. During the same period, GSTS trimmed all the trees in Grid 9 (Cameo Highlands), Grid 10 (Cameo Shores) and Grid 11 (Shore Cliffs) and responded to 12 tree-related emergencies and completed

seven service requests. Grid 17 (Balboa Peninsula) was started after Labor Day, and crews will be pruning trees there through December.

<b>Month of:</b>	<b># of Trees Trimmed:</b>	<b># of Trees Removed:</b>	<b># of Trees Removed Because a Problem Tree:</b>	<b># of Trees Planted:</b>
September	1,391	13	2	22
October	1,281	43	1	54

**Prepared By:**

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Parks and Trees Section