



Agenda Item _____
June 4, 2019

TO: Parks, Beaches & Recreation Commission

FROM: Public Works Department / Municipal Operations Division
Micah Martin, Deputy Public Works Director
949 644-3055, mmartin@newportbeachca.gov

TITLE: Parks and Trees, and Beach Maintenance Divisions Activities Report

2019 Arbor Day Event – Mariners Elementary School

The 2019 Arbor Day Celebration was held at Mariners Elementary School on Thursday, April 25. Staff planned the event with the assistance of School Principal Matt Broesamle and NMUSD Board Member Karen Yelsey. Landscape Manager Dan Sereno emceed the event and provided a presentation on the transformation of Newport Beach over the past 70 years, showing how it converted from an area with very few trees to one containing the vast and diverse urban forest it has today.

To celebrate the occasion, Mayor Diane Dixon presented an Arbor Day Proclamation to Principal Broesamle. Walt Howald, Chair of the Parks, Beaches, and Recreation Commission, spoke on the importance of trees as a natural resource. California Department of Forestry & Fire Protection's Urban Forester Lynnette Short presented the Tree City USA Flag.

The 3rd graders displayed artwork, while some of the 3rd graders read poems they wrote in celebration of Arbor Day. After the ceremony, the students, assisted by the City Arborist Kevin Pekar with his crewmembers Harold Link and Brian George, and representatives from Great Scott Tree Services, planted trees at Mariners Park. This was an outstanding celebration of Arbor Day!



Public Works Landscape Maintenance

Our Public Works team is always on the lookout for opportunities to beautify our city. The park staff has continued replacing aged plant material with drought tolerant plants. Striving to save water, the park staff has slowly been transitioning out the Indian hawthorn plants (*Raphiolepis indica*) with many varieties of agaves, aloes, and aeoneums. Our latest work is at Irvine Terrace Park, located at 721 Evita Circle. This area of the park shares a lot of history with our Newport Beach Sister City Okazaki, Japan. The sculptures in these planters were gifts given to the City on special anniversaries since 1984 from the Okazaki South Rotary Club.

The most recent sculpture, the Tokugawa statue was given to the City of Newport Beach in 2014 from the City of Okazaki in celebration of the 30th anniversary of our sister city relationship. With a fresh coat of mulch to keep the weeds down, along with enhancing the planters, this park is looking great! Please make sure to stop by and enjoy the park!

Balboa Pier Piling

High surf measuring 10 to 12 feet, with strong currents and waves, displaced a piling at the Balboa Pier. City staff monitored the situation until the free-floating piling made its way ashore. Municipal Operations Division crew retrieved it, cut it up, and hauled away the pieces. The Pier was inspected by a Public Works Inspector and determined to be safe. The piling will be replaced in an upcoming project later this year.

Trees Maintenance

The City tree maintenance contractor Great Scott Tree Service trimmed trees in Newport Coast, Eastbluff, and Buffalo Hills areas and responded to tree-related emergencies.

Month of:	# of Trees Trimmed:	# of Trees Removed:	# of Trees Planted:	# of Problem Trees Removed
April	2410	50	45	0

Prepared by:

Kevin Pekar, Landscape Manager
Parks and Trees Division

John Salazar, Manager
Field Maintenance Division