

Insider's Guide for the Newport Beach City Council Meeting on February 11, 2020

Our next City Council meeting is Tuesday, February 11. Items that may be of interest are highlighted below.

Study Session begins at 5 p.m. for this meeting to discuss prohibiting motorized uses on the Oceanfront Boardwalk. Shared use of this amenity has been talked about for decades. Yes, we found a staff report from 1980 on the subject of bicycles on the Boardwalk! Over the last several years, technology has changed at a rapid pace and the types of motorized vehicles on the Boardwalk has increased significantly. Council asked for a study session on this item to see if prohibiting this type of activity is something the community and the City Council would like to consider.

The Regular Meeting begins at 7 p.m. and the following are items of note:

- On the Consent Calendar is an agreement with Newport Bay Conservancy to designate funds for Phase 2A of the Restoration Work in Big Canyon. The Newport Beach Conservancy has been awarded two grants in the amount of \$1,688,731 which will provide funding to restore nine acres of coastal sage, upland, riparian and freshwater marsh habitats, remove invasive or diseased trees in an additional two acres and replanted with a native plant palette. The project is expected to be completed in 2023. The City enjoys a great partnership with the Newport Bay Conservancy, and we are thrilled to get this grant.
- Current Business includes an Ordinance to Amend the Newport Beach Municipal Code as it relates to Short-Term Lodging. The City Council and staff have worked extensively with the community on this issue over the past year. With the advent of home sharing websites and the prevalence of short-term rentals, many concerns were raised by residents living next to the short-term rental properties. The proposed changes will set a new standard for short-term rentals and provide the City with additional tools to enforce residential standards. Several changes include: providing adequate parking for guests, limiting the number of guests in a rental unit, providing exterior signage and an answering service to respond to complaints 24/7 and limiting the total number of permits that can be issued citywide.