

February 20, 2015

City Manager Report



"I read the news today, oh boy..." (Lennon/McCartney)

Message from the City Manager

I am pleased to announce two new faces at City Hall. On February 17th, the City Council appointed Scott Smith to the position of City Attorney and Matthew "Mal" Richardson to be Assistant City Attorney for the City of San Clemente. Both positions are contract positions, and will effectively begin work on March 1st. Mr. Smith and Mr. Richardson have impressive resumes with extensive legal knowledge and expertise, while specializing in serving municipal governments.



Mr. Smith is a partner in the Municipal Law practice group of Best Best & Krieger LLP (BB&K), where he has specialized in municipal, land use and environmental law since graduating from law school in 1985. He graduated valedictorian from Utah State University with a degree in political science and Spanish. He received his J.D. degree with honors from Brigham Young University Law School in 1985. He joined BB&K upon law school graduation and bar admission in 1985. In 2011, the Los Angeles Daily Journal named Mr. Smith one of California's top 25 land use attorneys. He serves on the California State Bar Public Law Section's Executive Committee, the League of California Cities Legal Advocacy Committee, and as Secretary of the Orange County City Attorneys Association.

Mr. Smith currently serves as contract City Attorney for the Cities of Aliso Viejo and Lake Forest. He resides in San Clemente with his wife Wendy. And have three sons and one daughter.



Mr. Richardson, also a partner with BB&K, assists both private and public clients in transactional and litigation issues in municipal government, land use, and environmental law. Mr. Richardson received his law degree from the University of California at Los Angeles and received graduate and undergraduate degrees in Comparative Literature from Brigham Young University. He has served as Deputy and Assistant City Attorney for numerous cities throughout southern California. He currently serves as Assistant City Attorney for the cities of Lake Forest, Azusa, and Mammoth Lakes, overseeing the cities' planning and land use issues, and providing advice on all aspects of municipal law. Mr. Richardson is married with three daughters and a son.

For those of you who do not regularly attend City Council meetings to see the City Attorney, you may have little knowledge of what a city attorney does for a city. So, what exactly is a city attorney? First, it's important to realize that the Government Code of the State of California provides that the city attorney of a general law city advise the city officials in all legal matters pertaining to city business, frame all ordinances and resolutions required by the legislative body, and perform other legal services required from time to time by the legislative body.

James Makshanoff, City Manager

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In a nutshell, though the city attorney's work is not limited to giving legal advice and the drafting of ordinances, resolutions, contracts and other legal documents, the city attorney is also expected to defend the city, its officers and employees in suits and actions filed against them. In addition, he represents the city in such suits, actions or other legal proceedings as are initiated by the city. And we all know how critical sound legal analysis and knowledge of the law is when expecting advice and legal services on behalf of our city. There are a slew of complex laws to understand in the governance of a city. I feel confident with their ability to practice not only good law, but to do so with the utmost integrity and conduct.

Sincerely,

James



Ole Hanson Beach Club Update

Have you seen the Ole Hanson Beach Club lately? Although it is difficult to see this jewel of San Clemente being torn apart, this much needed renovation will ensure our citizenry and out of town guests experience many more years of enjoyment at this iconic landmark building in San Clemente.

I know many of you are anxious for our beloved Ole Hanson Beach Club to re-open. In the mean time we will be posting regular updates on the progress of the renovation. You will be able to find the updates on our City's Website, and FaceBook page. The first update has already been posted to keep you informed and see for yourself the progress being made. You might even discover some unknown surprises that were found. Here is a direct link to the first [progress report](#).

Courtney SandCastle Sensory Garden is Opening!

After many years spent on this labor of love Courtney's SandCastle Universal Playground and Sensory Garden will be complete. This couldn't have happened without the help of many volunteer hours and numerous donations from local businesses.

We would also like to express a special thank you to the City Council, Beaches, Parks & Recreation Commission, Courtney SandCastle Foundation, and San Clemente Junior Woman's Club for the many years of hard work, creative thinking, and personal time that helped make Courtney Smith's dream become a reality.

You can see pictures of all the work in progress that went into creating this exceptional facility by [clicking here](#).

If you haven't seen this unique facility I encourage you to come to the Grand Opening on March 21st at 10:00 a.m.

Meet our new Interim Community Development Director Rob Zur Schmeide



Robert M. “Rob” Zur Schmeide has over 36 years of experience in public policy, municipal administration, and public/private development. He has held executive and upper management positions responsible for land use planning, complex real property transactions, urban redevelopment, community economic development, and affordable housing programs. His career includes public agency work in Southern California and his native Midwest, as well as real estate development and construction management experience in the private sector. Rob is a Managing

Principal with Kelly Associates Management Group (KAMG). KAMG provides management support and advisory services to public, private, and non-profit clients. Prior to joining Kelly Associates, Rob served as Deputy Director of the Development Services Department of the City of Long Beach, overseeing the bureaus of planning, redevelopment, and affordable housing. Prior to Long Beach, Rob served six and a half years as Director of Redevelopment and Economic Development for the City of Fullerton, and while in Fullerton served on the Orange County Workforce Investment Board. He was elected in November 2014 to a four year term on the City of Laguna Beach City Council, having served as a City of Laguna Beach Planning Commissioner for over 13 years prior to his election. Rob is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners, and an associate member of the Urban Land Institute.

Rob received a Bachelor of Science degree in Public Affairs and a certificate in Urban Studies from the School of Public and Environmental Affairs at Indiana University, and also holds an MBA from the Mihaylo College of Business and Economics at California State University Fullerton.

I am appreciative Rob agreed to accept this interim position while we search for a permanent Community Development Director. His background and knowledge along with his warm and friendly demeanor will be extremely valuable to us.

Upcoming Events

March 3 - Mayor’s Prayer Breakfast – 7:00 a.m. – San Clemente Community Center Auditorium

March 3 – City Council Meeting- 6:00 p.m. - 100 Avenida Presidio-City Council Chambers

March 4 – 2015 Long Term Financial Plan Workshop - 4:00 p.m. - 100 Avenida Presidio-City Council Chambers

March 14 – Free Shredding Event – 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. – City Yard by U-haul 390 Avenida Pico

March 17- City Council Meeting- 6:00 p.m. - 100 Avenida Presidio-City Council Chambers

March 21- Courtney Sandcastle Phase II Sensory Garden Grand Opening - 10:00 a.m.-
987 Avenida Vista Hermosa, San Clemente, CA 92673



**Photo by San Clemente Resident
Cori-Kramer Goudchaux
Hiking Trail in Talega**