

# CMReport



August 4, 2017

## Letter from the City Manager

As you know, the Transportation Corridor Agencies (TCA) is revisiting alignments to extend the 241 toll road which will adversely impact San Clemente. Your City Council has taken a unanimous position of opposition to all alignments by adopting Resolution No. 16-57 on September 15, 2016. On the city's website under the toll road link, you will find numerous resolutions and statements of opposition to the toll road that have been adopted by neighborhood HOA's and our elected representatives. To read, visit: <http://san-clemente.org/about-us/city-news/toll-road-information>.

Last winter, the TCA abandoned plans to build a toll road in a route that bypassed San Clemente and tied into I-5 south of town. Several regulatory agencies and environmental advocacy groups challenged that proposal for impacts that it would have on the San Mateo Creek Watershed, Trestles, and other State Park and coastal resources. After years of defending that project, TCA abandoned it and entered into a much-celebrated settlement. The problem with the settlement is that TCA self-inflicted so many constraints on toll road alignments in the settlement that it's left only with the possibility of putting it right through the city, destroying vast open space, trail, and habitat areas and compromising generally our quality of life. The City's lawsuit is designed to challenge several TCA decisions that committed it to those disastrous consequences.

The City Council voted on July 18<sup>th</sup> at their regular council meeting to file a lawsuit against the TCA. The lawsuit will seek to set aside the effects of the settlement that box in TCA on alignments that would ruin open space preserves and protected ridgelines and run in close proximity to community parks, schools, trails, and homes in San Clemente and other South County communities. Much of this open space is protected by voter initiative and, ironically, was set aside by transportation agencies to mitigate the impacts of other development and highway projects. The notion of setting aside open space, habitat, and trails as community amenities and to enhance quality of life is as old as San Clemente itself, and TCA does not need to study the idea of destroying it to know that it is at all worthy of pursuit. The City's lawsuit seeks to reset and broaden the process of solving South County transportation challenges, but outside the small corner that TCA has painted itself. The city council also voted to allocate \$89,000 for a mobility study for the city, analyzing ways to improve traffic circulation in south Orange County using arterial roads instead of a toll road.

If you have any questions, please email me at [MakshanoffJ@san-clemente.org](mailto:MakshanoffJ@san-clemente.org) or call my office at 949.361.8322. Also, I encourage you to sign up for the TCA's email updates about the 241 Toll Road [241update@thetollroads.com](mailto:241update@thetollroads.com).

Sincerely,

*James*



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## I-5 Construction Update

**Southbound I-5 Lane Closures:** The southbound I-5 will be reduced to one lane from Camino Capistrano to PCH/Camino Las Ramblas. Southbound lane reductions will begin at 10 p.m., August 4, and all lanes will reopen by 7 a.m., Saturday, August 5. The following ramps will also be closed during this time:

- Southbound I-5 on-ramp at Camino Capistrano
- Southbound I-5 off-ramp to PCH / Camino Las Ramblas

All southbound I-5 traffic will be diverted to the carpool lane during the nighttime lane closures. Motorists wishing to avoid the lane closures should use the Ortega Highway and Camino Capistrano off-ramps as detours.

The closures are needed to allow crews to perform a concrete pour to repair an existing dip in the roadway on the southbound I-5, approaching the PCH/Camino Las Ramblas exit.



## August Meetings

|                    |  |                |  |
|--------------------|--|----------------|--|
| <b>August 15th</b> | <b>City Council Meeting</b>                      | <b>6:00 pm</b> | <b>Council Chambers 100 Avenida Presidio</b> |
| <b>August 8th</b>  | <b>Beaches Parks &amp; Recreation Commission</b> | <b>6:00 pm</b> | <b>Council Chambers 100 Avenida Presidio</b> |
| <b>August 16th</b> | <b>Planning Commission Meeting</b>               | <b>6:00 pm</b> | <b>Council Chambers 100 Avenida Presidio</b> |

## August Events

|                    |   |                       |   |
|--------------------|---|-----------------------|---|
| <b>August 10th</b> | <b>Beach Concert-Ultimate Stones</b>            | <b>6:00 pm</b>        | <b>On the Beach-North of San Clemente Pier</b>    |
| <b>August 13th</b> | <b>Fiesta Music Festival</b>                    | <b>9:00 am-7:00pm</b> | <b>100-200 Block Avenida Del Mar</b>              |
| <b>August 18th</b> | <b>Movie in The Park-Beauty &amp; The Beast</b> | <b>7:30pm</b>         | <b>Tierra Grand Park-399 Camino Tierra Grande</b> |
| <b>August 19th</b> | <b>Annual Arts &amp; Crafts Show</b>            | <b>9:00am-5:00pm</b>  | <b>Community Center-100 N. Calle Seville</b>      |



Photo by Spy Ayala