

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

## Letter from the City Manager

### Update on Homelessness in the City

The number of people sleeping on the streets and in public places in Orange County has grown exponentially in recent years, affecting local residents, businesses and people experiencing homelessness.

2018 began with county supervisors preparing to have law enforcement evict hundreds of homeless people from the Santa Ana riverbed near Angel Stadium. Unfortunately, there was no definitive plan in place for where these people would go once the riverbed was cleared. Since that time, federal lawsuits have been filed against the county and three cities over the riverbed evictions, pointing to a shortage of shelter space in Orange County.

As with most cities, the City of San Clemente's Municipal Code prohibits camping in public places. It is unlawful for any person to engage in camping upon any land or easement owned, operated, or managed by the City of San Clemente. Typically, the City would enforce these laws in order to prevent or deter those people who are experiencing homelessness from occupying, streets, parking lots, sidewalks, parks and other public spaces. However, a recent ruling by the Federal Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals (*Martin v. City of Boise*) cast serious doubt on the City's and Sheriff's ability to enforce these laws without providing adequate shelter and housing as an alternative to arrest.

Due to these challenging circumstances and recent court rulings, the City is actively working with its partners at the County, the Orange County Sheriff's Department (OCS), and various non-profits in the community to take a holistic approach to public safety and addressing the needs of those people in our city who are experiencing homelessness. The City is focused on outreach to assist the homeless population and provide them with access to available resources and services. As of last summer, the City has contracted with Mercy House, a non-profit dedicated to providing housing and comprehensive support services for the homeless. When the City or OCS Deputies come in contact with a person experiencing homelessness, Mercy House is contacted and they assess the person, and through their network of service providers they can link folks to resources based on their needs such as transportation for substance abuse treatment, mental health programs, or find them a shelter for the night. Recently, the City has contracted for temporary housing that can help get people off the streets and offer them a place to sleep. Now that the City has these resources, if a person experiencing homelessness refuses to take advantage of the shelter bed being offered, then OCS is able to enforce the City's anti-camping laws by making a custodial arrest.

As we look toward the future, shelters can be a short-term improvement for people, but solving homelessness requires longer-term housing options that are affordable. As of January 1, 2019 a new law approved by the state legislature, has created a regional Orange County agency to finance 2,700 homes for homeless people called the Orange County Housing Finance Trust. In addition to the Housing Finance Trust, it is expected that the state will make available grants for addressing homelessness in 2019.

In the meantime, the City will work collaboratively with our partners in neighboring cities and at the county to cooperatively come up with solutions and work towards delivering resources that will help get people experiencing homelessness off our streets. It is our mission to do everything in our power to address this issue and ensure the safety of all of our residents.

At the council meeting on February 5th, Lt. Peters and Stephanie Ogas from Mercy House provided a very informative presentation on homelessness. I highly encourage you to look at the presentation on our [city website](#) or you may view the [video](#) of the presentation that was provided to City Council.

As a reminder, you can find resources and more information about homelessness in the community on the City website at <http://www.san-clemente.org/departments-services/housing-social-services/homeless-resources>. Also, if you need to report an issue related to homelessness, you can contact the Orange County Sheriff's Department's non-emergency number: (714) 288-6742.

Sincerely,

*James*



## Residential Friday Trash Service Delayed Until Saturday

Due to the recent heavy rains, CR&R's trash and recycling services are being impacted. Residential customers who have service scheduled for Friday, February 15 will have their materials serviced on Saturday, February 16.

Trash and recycling services are scheduled to resume as normal on Monday, February 18. We apologize for any inconvenience.

For questions or more information, contact CR&R at 877-728-0446.

## City Offices Closed on Monday, February 18th

The third Monday of February honors President's of the United States and is a federal holiday. City offices will be closed on Monday, February 18th and will re-open on Tuesday, February 19th.

If you have an emergency City staff will be on duty for scheduled building inspections, and emergencies related to water, sewer and utilities operations.

Police and fire services staff will continue their regular schedules uninterrupted. For non-emergency calls dial (949) 770-6011 and for emergencies always dial 9-1-1.

In the event assistance is needed during the holiday closure: signal/light outage, sewer/water main issues and issues/calls related to beaches, parks, trees, trails, and irrigation and facilities (restrooms, etc), please call the City's 24/7 answering service at the numbers below:

Utilities (Water/Sewer): (949) 366-1553

Maintenance (Streets/Signals/Street Lights) and Beaches & Parks Maintenance (Parks/Trees/Trails):  
(949) 361-8317

## City Council Meeting for February 19, 2019

The next City Council meeting will be held on February 19th at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers located at 100 Avenida Presidio

Here are a few items on the agenda that may be of interest.

### Special Presentations

#### *Orange County Text –to -911*

A presentation by Dispatch Bureau Commander, LT. Gene Inouye, Orange County Sheriff's Department, concerning Orange County law enforcement and fire dispatch center's Text-to-911 service.

### Consent Calendar

#### *Item 6-I-Request For Fee Waiver For Orange County District Attorney Grip to Use City Fields.*

The San Clemente GRIP Soccer camp has been offered successfully for several years during Capistrano Unified School District's spring break using the soccer fields at Vista Hermosa Sports Park. The camp affords over 100 youth the opportunity to learn and practice the fundamentals of soccer while positively interacting with local police and other community volunteers. There is no cost to the student, as program funding and supplies are made possible through generous sponsorships from local businesses and community member's support.

### Public Hearings

#### *Item 7-A-Zoning Amendment 18-243-City—Initiated Amendment of San Clemente Municipal Code Title 17 for Accessory Dwelling Units.*

Staff will be recommending that the Council approve a city-initiated amendment (ZA 18-243) of San Clemente Municipal Code Title 17 for Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU's). The purpose of the zoning amendment is to provide reasonable regulations concerning the development of ADUs within the City. These regulations are intended to comply with State Planning and Zoning Law related to ADUs in residential areas, including California Government Code section 65852.2

### New Business

#### *Items 9-B Report on City Commissions and Committees*

City Council will be discussing and reviewing the structure, composition, and performance of the City's commissions and committees, with special attention to efficiency in terms of staff usage and resources.

To view the February 19th meeting agenda in its entirety, please visit our city website at [san-clemente.org](http://san-clemente.org)

## Spring Classes and Summer Camp Registration Began on February 13th.

Registration is open for Spring classes and summer camps. Early bird discounts are available on Summer Camps for youth. Hurry and sign up before these classes/camps fill up! [View classes and Register Online](#)

## Happy 91st Birthday San Clemente!

In honor of our City's 91st Birthday there will be some special activities being offered on Saturday February 23rd

A very popular activity last year, the Kids Fishing Derby, will take place on the San Clemente Pier between 9:00 a.m.—12p.m. for ages 6-13 years. Besides fishing, other activities will be offered such as face painting, fishing crafts, Mermaid visits.

There will also be FREE family swim from 12-4 pm at the Ole Hanson Beach Club. Pre-register on-line at [san-clemente.org/recreation](http://san-clemente.org/recreation)