

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

Letter from the City Manager

In what seems like the blink of an eye, summer is over! Wow, did that go by fast! I hope everyone had a wonderful time enjoying the amazing weather here in San Clemente and that you took the opportunity to spend quality time with family and loved ones. All of San Clemente public schools are officially back in session, which means more drivers on the road, less congestion at the beach, and Football is back! In fact, our hometown Tritons demolished the Oceanside Pirates last Friday night for their first win of the season – way to go guys!

As I look to the fall season that is just around the corner and as our beautiful trees will begin to change color, I can't help but think about the environment and recycling. With that said, I wanted to take a moment to share more information about the recent closure of the RePlanet Recycling facilities in town. For those of you who haven't heard, RePlanet, California's largest operator of recycling redemption centers, shut down all its California facilities on August 6th. In total, RePlanet closed 284 of its centers, including the ones in San Clemente, due to increased business costs and falling prices of recycled aluminum and PET plastic. Because of this, many of our residents have few to no options for redeeming their recyclables, which is especially concerning for folks in our community who may rely on recycling for supplemental income, or who have made recycling a priority due to its positive benefits to the environment. When I heard the news I started doing some research on California's recycling industry and found that an estimated 40% of all redemption centers have closed in the last five years. Unfortunately, these closures mean that more bottles and cans will end up in landfills. During my research I also found out that China, which has bought much of the U.S.'s recyclable material, has become stricter about what kinds of materials it will accept, and that has also had adverse effects on the recycling industry in California. As a result, many advocates are urging the state to step in and reform how it subsidizes recycling centers to account for rising operating costs in the wake of the steep drop in aluminum and plastic prices.

It remains to be seen what the future holds for recycling in California, but there are still locations available in Southern California, if residents are looking to redeem their bottles and cans. Remaining recycling centers can be found at the following website: <https://www2.calrecycle.ca.gov/WhereToRecycle/> . If you're interested in finding out more information about what the state is doing in response to the recent closures, you can find updates here: <https://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Markets/RecyclingClosures/> .

All the best,

James



City Offices will be Closed Monday, September 2nd

Labor Day, the first Monday in September, is a creation of the labor movement and is dedicated to the social and economic achievements of American workers. It constitutes a yearly national tribute to the contributions workers have made to the strength, prosperity, and well-being of our country.

Our city staff members will be enjoying a day off on Monday, September 2nd in honor of Labor Day. City offices will re-open on Tuesday, September 3rd at 7:30 a.m.

City Council Meetings

The next City Council meeting will take place at Council Chambers located at 100 Avenida Presidio on Tuesday, September 3, 2019. Here are a few items coming up on the agenda that may be of interest to you. Agenda items listed below are linked to the Administrative Reports. To view the entire agenda for the September 3rd council meeting, [click here](#)

- [Hours of Operation of Lights at Ralphs Skate Court](#)
- [Ordinance Introduction-Regulation of the Operation of Leaf Blowers](#)
- [Landscape Conceptual Design for the Camino de Los Mares Rehabilitation Project](#)
- [Review of Pickleball Pilot Program and Installation of Pickleball Lines on Court #1 at San Geronio Park](#)
- [Proposed Modifications to City Council Agenda Template and Policy and Procedure 1201-11 \(City Council Meeting and Operating Procedures\) as it Relates to City Council Meeting Oral Communications Practices](#)
- [Amended Policy and Procedure 1201-11 \(City Council Meeting and Operating Procedures\)](#)

Wanted: Your Innovative Ideas about Transportation

The Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) is launching an online *Ideas Forum* where you can contribute your ideas on improving transportation in Orange County. If you have a great idea about how to improve transportation in Orange County or a way to reduce freeway congestion or perhaps you have observed ways to make bus service more efficient, here is a direct link to the [Ideas Forum](#). Enter your great ideas or join in the discussion with others, OCTA is looking forward to hearing from you.

Upcoming Events

SC Open

The 19th Annual SC OPEN Skateboard Contest hosted by the City of San Clemente & the Friends of the City of San Clemente Beaches, Parks, & Recreation Foundation. The Co-ed SC OPEN Skate Contest will take place at the San Clemente Ralphs Skate Court; open to all ages. The contest will start at 9:00am. Entry fee is \$40/skater. On-site registration will be based upon availability and will begin at 7:30 a.m. on the day of the event. Other activities include a vendor fair and food and beverages. **ALL SKATERS MUST WEAR SAFETY EQUIPMENT: TO INCLUDE HELMET & KNEE AND ELBOW PADS to participate.** If you are interested in being a vendor or sponsor, contact Recreation at (494) 429-8797. Register online at www.san-clemente.org



American Cancer Society Relay For Life

On Saturday, September 14th from 9am-2pm the American Cancer Society Relay for Life event will take place at the Laguna Niguel Regional Park. The Coastal event is the combined effort between the cities of San Clemente, Laguna Niguel, Laguna Beach, Dana Point and Aliso Viejo. This event will feature musical entertainment, a silent auction, Luminaria celebration, team booths and more. There will also be a 5K Fun Run at 8 am, prior to the Relay event. For more information go to Relay For Life website.

