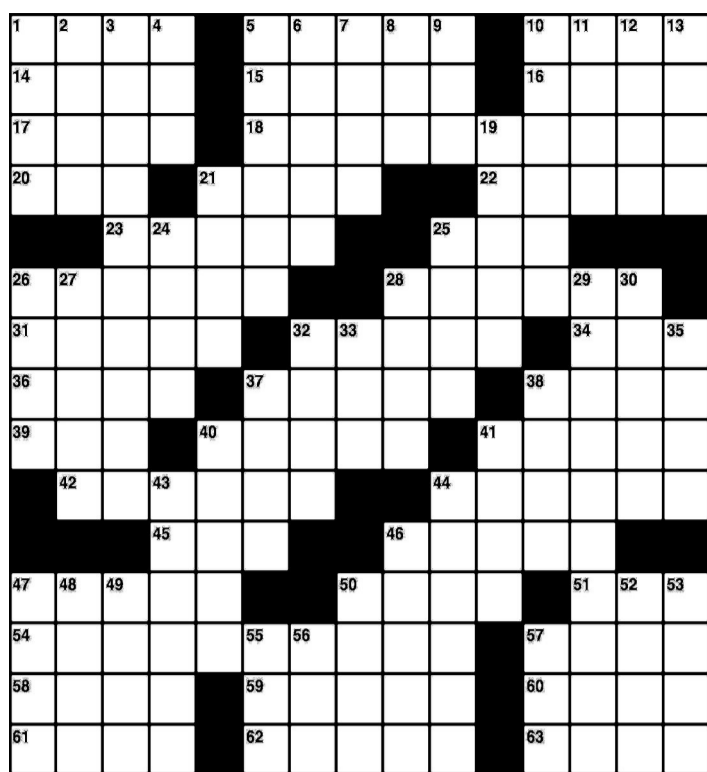


THE DAILY COMMUTER PUZZLE

By Jacqueline E. Mathews



- ACROSS**
 1 Not in danger
 5 Undress
 10 Blemish
 14 "Queen for _" of old TV
 15 Mr. Ledger
 16 Forbidden action
 17 Where we wait for a plane
 18 Done out of _; convenient at the time
 20 "I _ Man of Constant Sorrow"
 21 Pekoe and oolong
 22 Becomes furious
 23 Birds with eerie cries
 25 Bowl-shaped pan
 26 Glows
 28 Dodge City's state
 31 Diets successfully
 32 Those listed in a will
 34 Carry something heavy
 36 Time-_; game breaks
 37 Yes-man
 38 _ up; agitate
 39 Fraternity letter
 40 TV's Morgan
 41 Actress Sharon
 42 Resounds
 44 In need of a haircut
 45 Unser & Gore
 46 Empire State Building topper
 47 Classic board game
 50 Other _; besides
 51 _-faced; deceitful
 54 Conquers
 57 Everett, for one
 58 Lucie's brother
 59 Public discussion
 60 _ firm; didn't buckle
 61 Household pests
 62 BBQ utensil
 63 Provokes

SUDOKU

By The Mepham Group

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit sudoku.org.uk.

	9		6			4		
			3					
8		2						5
9			5	1			6	3
		4		2		5		
6	5			7	4			1
7						9		2
				7				
	6		5				8	

For answers to the crossword and Sudoku puzzles, see page A5.

- DOWN**
 1 Lengthy story
 2 First of zillions
 3 Always expecting the worst
 4 Storm center
 5 Martin & Charlie
 6 Austin's place
 7 Knocks
 8 Ending for social or suburban
 9 Prof.'s degree
 10 Moves furtively
 11 Early Atari game
 12 _ in a blue moon
 13 Items in Santa's bag
 19 Actor Jeremy

- 21 On one's _; alert
 24 Singles
 25 Cautious
 26 Feed the pigs
 27 Provide shelter for
 28 Children
 29 Including everything
 30 Taking to court
 32 Works in the garden
 33 Q-tip target
 35 Author Zane
 37 Classic Father's Day gifts
 38 Asterisk
 40 Unwanted nasal growth
 41 Tibia
 43 Joel Chandler or Julie
 44 Sudden muscle contractions
 46 _ off; disregard
 47 Soft drink, for short
 48 Kiln
 49 Lie down for a bit
 50 Harbor bird
 52 Word attached to side or board
 53 Likelihood
 55 Frequently, to a poet
 56 Wine and dine
 57 Actor McBride

Tribune Media Services

Laguna Beach to consider wastewater financing options and economic impacts of coronavirus

BY LILLY NGUYEN

Following a 1.4-million-gallon sewage spill in Laguna Beach on Thanksgiving, the City Council authorized a one-year sewer user charge increase of 10% to pay for a wastewater system capital improvement program.

Now, the City Council will consider new financing options for the 10-year program in response to the stay-at-home order issued by Gov. Gavin Newsom in March, which city staff said has caused significant impacts to both the city and to ratepayers.

Up for council consideration Tuesday night is whether the city should increase the sewer user charge by 5%, the proposed 10% or not at all.

All options will provide funding until more information is known about an Administrative Civil Liability assessment as related to the Thanksgiving spill and options on how to improve the North Coast Interceptor over the next decade, city staff said. Staff expects to return with more information in March 2021.

Staff is also preparing for negotiations with the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board on the potential ACL assessment and how funds may be applied to improvements to the sewer system and environmental projects, city staff said.

"The impacts of the COVID-19 virus have yet to be fully realized," city staff said. "The city is in a difficult position of needing to continue improvements to the wastewater system and bracing for the economic impacts of the pandemic."

PROPOSED TOURISM MARKETING DISTRICT

The City Council also plans to take action on the conversion of the business improvement district to a tourism marketing district, a process that would require more than 50% of the hotels supporting the establishment and submission of signatures for the district.

The council received public input at its March 31 meeting.

The business improvement district was adopted in April 2001 with the intent of using additional taxes on businesses to promote off-season cultural events and encourage hotel occupancy. Converting to a tourism marketing district would allow the district a five-year term instead of being renewed annually.

If approved, the term would begin

"The city is in a difficult position of needing to continue improvements to the wastewater system and bracing for the economic impacts of the pandemic."

— Laguna Beach city staff

July 1 and end June 30, 2025.

The proposed tourism marketing district would include all lodging businesses within city borders. An annual assessment of 2% of gross short-term room rental revenue would fund sales, marketing and communications and programs by the city Arts Commission, Laguna College of Art + Design, Laguna Playhouse and Laguna Art Museum.

The city will remain responsible for collecting the assessment on a quarterly basis and distribution of the funds. Visit Laguna Beach will be responsible for managing the tourism district's programs and reporting annually to the City Council.

A staff report prepared for Tuesday's meeting said if an insufficient number of business owners submit written protests the council may adopt the proposed assessment and, following the public hearing, establish the Laguna Beach Tourism Marketing District and adopt a resolution doing so.

To successfully protest the new district, the number of business owners protesting would have to add up to 50% of the assessed levies.

Residents are encouraged to send comments on agenda items to City Clerk Lisette Chel-Walker at lchel@lagunabeachcity.net. All communications must be received by noon Tuesday.

Council meetings are livestreamed on the city's website at lagunabeachcity.net/cityhall/citygov/cityclerk/mam.htm and can be viewed on Cox cable Channel 852.

Residents can also call in at (669) 900-9128 to listen to the meeting and comment during designated periods. While calling, dial 91119733371# and press *9 to comment on an item. Time for remarks may be limited.

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