# Daily Pilot

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2024 /// dailypilot.com



Photos by James Carbone

**FASHION DESIGNER** Ashley Morgan from UC Irvine walks the runway with her design during the 12th annual Art and Nature festival at Laguna Art Museum earlier this month. The back of model's outfit has a standing wave representing the Pacific Ocean.

## Upcycled fashion show turns mission statements into art

BY ANDREW TURNER

dozen years into the exploration of the intersection between the creative components and natural elements of the world, Laguna Art Museum came up with a kick-off event that made the subject matter the belle of the ball.

An upcycled couture fashion show invited students and faculty from local colleges to design dresses that aligned with the mission statements of community partners for the 12th annual Art and Nature festival.

Guests, many of them from among the represented organizations, sat among long rows of chairs in the first-floor gallery, which provided the pathway for the Nov. 2 runway show.

"It was a fabulous response," said Robin Rundle, the museum's education coordinator, adding that there are plans to bring the fashion show back in 2025. "There was so much excitement. One of the great parts was really the opportunity to describe the mission statement to the audience, and then describe the student designer, what their artist statement was, as well, and then have

See **Fashion**, page A3



**ERICA PATAPOFF'S** design for the Laguna Beach Garden Club was named the best interpretation of a mission statement at the upcycled couture fashion show at Laguna Art Museum.

## Costa Mesa planners weigh Shalimar Park expansion against loss of housing units

BY SARA CARDINE

What does an underserved community of low-income residents need more — open parkland areas or housing?

That dilemma reared its head this week, as Costa Mesa planning commissioners met to determine whether the city's purchase of a residential property adjacent to Shalimar Park — a precursor to expanding the west-side parklet — would conform to a portion of the general plan regarding open space.

City leaders are interested in acquiring the .16-acre lot, located

at 778 Shalimar Drive, and potentially demolishing an aging 3,390-square-foot fourplex occupied by tenants to provide more open space in the highly developed Shalimar neighborhood.

The proposal would build upon an effort to renovate the pocket park to allow for more active uses, after conceptual designs were approved in August by the City Council.

But members of the public Tuesday raised concerns about housing and the displacement of low-income residents who'd be

See **Planners**, page A5

### Judge rules against Voter ID lawsuit

Dismissal of state's challenge clears the way for H.B. officials to ask voters to show ID before casting their ballots.

#### **BY ERIC LICAS**

A judge dismissed Friday a challenge filed by the state of California in Orange County Superior Court to local laws requiring voters to present identification in Huntington Beach's municipal elections.

The motion for dismissal granted by Judge Nathan Vu enables the city to move forward with a series of amendments to its city charter approved in March. Measure A passed with the support of 53% of voters and allows officials to ask people to present ID before casting a ballot in Huntington Beach' municipal elections.

"This is a great day for our City," Huntington Beach officials said in a statement Friday. "We have not only successfully defended our City's Voter ID law, but also the rights of our residents from attacks by Governor [Gavin] Newsom and the State."

Huntington Beach officials assert that, as a charter city, it has the authority to conduct and set policy surrounding municipal affairs like elections. They have accused lawmakers in Sacramento of bullying local governments and "tyranny."

The dismissal of the state's challenge to Measure A follows the election of a conservative-backed real estate agent as Huntington Beach's chief election officer. Lisa Lane Barnes won 57.53%

See **Rules,** page A2

#### ALSO FROM THE DAILY PILOT:



Sarah Mosqueda

MICHELIN-RATED HOMESTYLE BURRITOS COME TO COSTA MESA PAGE A4

NEWPORT HARBOR BOYS' WATER POLO MEETS RIVAL JSERRA FOR OPEN DIVISION CROWN PAGE A6

# Surf City adds safety info, advertising to lifeguard tower design

BY MATT SZABO

Huntington Beach is one of the most frequented beaches in the country.

Space on the lifeguard towers is valuable commodity, and now businesses can pay to have their logo there.

The city introduced its new lifeguard tower design for city beach towers at a small ceremony on Nov. 7, using Tower 11, near the lifeguard headquarters, as a prototype.

Each of the 24 towers at Huntington City Beach will have space for an advertisement, Deputy Fire Chief Eric McCoy said, as well as a QR code that visitors can scan to access *safebeachday.com*, which the city has been using

since 2022. There is also safety information displayed on the tower.

The website offers real-time data from each lifeguard tower, as crews are responding to emergency incidents.

"For example, in the middle of July, at Tower 5, that lifeguard is going on a bunch of water rescues," McCoy said. "We have an algorithm in place on the back end, so that if he goes on a certain amount of rescues in a certain time frame, that lifeguard tower is going to turn red [on the website]. That's saying that, 'Hey, there's a lot of rescues happening here right now, it's really busy. Maybe this isn't the best place to go if you're not experienced in the

See **Tower**, page A3



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

**HUNTINGTON BEACH** Fire Chief Scott Haberle, acting city manager Travis Hopkins, state Sen. Janet Nyuyen, Mayor Gracey Van Der Mark and Deputy Chief Eric McCoy, from left, unveil the new lifeguard tower design.



Eric Licas

**HUNTINGTON BEACH** Mayor Gracey Van Der Mark, Councilman Pat Burns, City Atty. Michael Gates and Councilman Tony Strickland respond to a state lawsuit challenging a law requiring ID to vote in local elections during a news conference at City Hall in April.

#### **RULES**

Continued from page A1

of the vote in the race for City Clerk and had been endorsed by the Republican Party of Orange County as well as rightleaning members of the City Council.

Meanwhile, in written warnings and a complaint filed April 15, California Atty. Gen. Rob Bonta has claimed Huntington Beach's voter ID measures conflict with state law and would ultimately suppress turnout "without providing any discernible local benefit." His office filed suit, requesting that the court strike down the provisions of Measure A and affirm that "the Huntington Beach City Charter is preempted by and violates California Law.'

Then in October, Newsom signed Senate Bill 1174. It prohibits local election officials from requiring ID in elections, and was written in direct

response to Measure A.

"The court's decision does not address the merits of the case," representatives from Bonta's office told the Daily Pilot in an email Friday. "We con-

tinue to believe that Huntington Beach's voter ID policy clearly conflicts with state law and will respond appropriately in court."

Huntington Beach City Atty. Michael Gates applauded the dismissal of the suit in a statement. He also said "we anticipate this fight isn't over."

In an interview Friday, Gates said that SB 1174 was factored into Judge Vu's decision to dismiss the case. Gates described it as a rebuke of the state's law and "a black eye for the state of California."

The city has been at odds with lawmakers in Sacramento over numerous, seemingly ongoing flash points.

In September Huntington Beach sued Bonta, Newsom and state Supt. of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond in response to Assembly Bill 1955. It prevents school officials from requiring teachers to reveal students' sexual orientation or expressed gen-

der identity to relatives.

The conservative-leaning majority of the City Council, including Mayor Gracey Van Der Mark, called the state law an "egregious piece of legisla-

tion" that "puts children at risk." Members of the council's minority and critics of Huntington Beach's lawsuit noted that the city doesn't have jurisdiction or standing to manage matters under the purview of school boards. Outgoing Councilwoman Rhonda Bolton said it was a "breach of the city's fiduciary duty as stewards of the public's money."

Another lawsuit filed by Huntington Beach last year encountered a stumbling block in the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals last month. The city's challenge of a state mandate requiring it to zone for over 13,000 additional units of housing was rejected by a panel of judges on Oct. 30. In a two-page decision, they found that "no matter how California categorizes charter cities, they remain subordinate political bodies, not sovereign entities."

Gates said his office intends to sustain its fight against the state's demand that the city plan for more housing, even if that means appealing to the U.S. Supreme Court.

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## THE DAILY COMMUTER PUZZLE

By Stella Zawistowski

**ACROSS** 1 Dance in a concert pit 5 Actress Blair 10 Sunscreen letters: Abbr. 13 Sneezing sound 15 Beg 16 The P in MPH 17 Piglet 18 Amherst school, for short 19 "\_ y plata" (Montana motto) 20 Ricola products: 2 wds. 22 Medication 23 Knotted

24 "You're a \_ for sore eyes!" 26 Remove chalk from 29 Sailboat or ship 32 Needs to repay

35 NYC baseballer 37 Murmur lovingly 38 Hairstyles, for short

39 Journalist \_ B. Wells 40 Director Lee 41 Part of a URL

42 Saying nothing 45 Approximately: 2 wds. 46 Tiny burger

48 Condescend 50 Makes fun of 52 Actor's signals 54 "RuPaul's \_ Race"

56 "Cinderella" villain 61 Mob informant

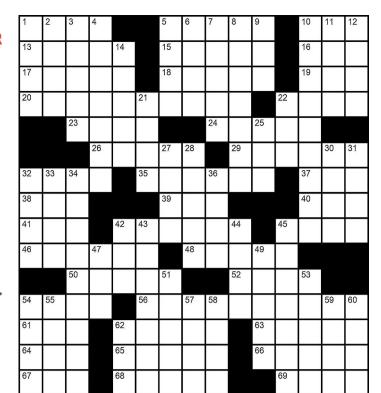
62 Reef material 63 Depart 64 Snacked on

65 Cause to smile 66 Artist Edgar 67 Anderson or Craven

68 Doled (out)

69 Fender blemish

DOWN



#### **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*.

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

For answers to the crossword and Sudoku puzzles, see page A4.

1 Not feminine:Abbr.2 Eight, in Spanish3 Holler4 Phillysandwiches5 Cowboy bootattachment6 Red Muppet

7 High jumps 8 Enormous 9 TV spots 10 Mustang or Corvette: 2 wds. 11 Lima's country 12 Croaking critter 14 This, that, and the \_ of pitchers: Abbr. 25 "Golly!" 27 Travel by boat 28 Finished 30 Very long times 31 Corporate symbol 32 \_ and ends 33 Sweater material 34 Rough calculations 36 "Citizen \_" 42 "Just a \_!" 43 Annoying 44 Idiosyncrasies 45 Top-ranked competitor: 2 wds. 47 Corgi or collie 49 Trade group 51 Sashay 53 Musical venue 54 Attract 55 The R in APR 57 Relaxed feeling

21 6/6/44

22 Batters in place

Tribune Media Services

58 Beseeched

59 Longoria of

60 Take a nap

62 Former QB

baseball

Newton

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#### FASHION ISLAND - NEWPORT BEACH

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### Public drawn to an art 'encounter' at Main Beach

DAILY PILOT | COASTLINE PILOT | HUNTINGTON BEACH INDEPENDENT

BY ANDREW TURNER

It's not uncommon to see people flock to the Orange County coastline during extended weekends, but the crowd amassed at Main Beach on Saturday, Nov. 9, was engaged in untraditional beach activities.

Several hundred stood rooted to the spot on the boardwalk in the late afternoon, when they happened upon a group of performers engaged in a kind of interpretive dance in the

A vocal performer's voice floated on the air, accompanied by notes from a single woodwind instrument.

The dancers — including children — interacted with acrylic pieces of various shapes and sizes, the light from the sun resulting in various shifts in color as the surfaces came into view between the sand and the

"I think that was part of the whole point, to have this magical experience at golden hour," said Victoria Gerard, deputy director of Laguna Art Museum. "... In



**EMMA NGUYEN** performs "Ocean Ions" at Main Beach.

Laguna, there's so many different art activities that go on, and I think because of that, the community really has tolerance for all different types of hypercontemporary experiences.

"People really liked it, and it was awesome to see the artwork come to life after people just kind of saw the installations sitting stagnant on the beach."

It was the latest activation of bringing art outdoors for Laguna Art Museum, which just completed its 12th annual Art and Nature initiative. The show-

case began with an upcycled couture fashion show the previous weekend and was book-ended by the collaboration of commissioned artist Christian Sampson and the Volta Collective, a dance group led by Mamie Green.

Video footage of a sixhour rehearsal for the performance was shot near Bird Rock Beach in advance of the event. The production video is now on view on the second floor of the museum, along with other acrylic works of Sampson experimenting with light.



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

**MEMBERS OF THE** Volta Collective dance group in the "Ocean Ions" performance as part of Laguna Art Museum's Art and Nature programming at Main Beach Park on Nov. 9.

From Nov. 7 through Veterans Day, Sampson's sculptures were placed in five locations — Diver's Cove Beach, as well as two sites in each of Heisler Park and Main Beach.

"There were all those

people on the boardwalk, and it was perfect for that, but it was really not so formal as like, 'The curtain's going up, the curtain's going down, here's where your seat is," Gerard said. "It was really like an en-

counter with the work. That is what, I think, is so great about the Art and Nature program ... it's unexpected."

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#### **FASHION**

Continued from page A1

a chance to describe some of the materials that they used.'

Rundle said that Katharine Story, a creative director and sustainability advocate in Laguna Beach who had just returned from Milan Fashion Week in September, was the sole judge of the contest. The honorees were announced via social media on Thursday.

Alexis Jewell Brown earned best overall honors for "Mother Nature is Crying," which sought to represent Get Inspired's mission of fostering stewardship and curiosity for the natural world through the exploration of science.

As the overall winner, Brown will receive a oneweek internship with Story. The winning design will also be displayed in the latter's Laguna Beach bou

Bell Hernandez, a sophomore at UC Irvine, was recognized for the best use of materials. Hernandez's outfit, "Fates Entangled," utilized cardboard and included the likeness of a seal's head as a hat.

"How I got to costume design as what I wanted to do as a career was really coming from doing special effects makeup or, like, horror movie makeup,' said Hernandez, who was representing Pacific Marine Mammal Center. "That



James Carbone

**BELL HERNANDEZ** walks with a model wearing her design during the upcycled couture fashion show at Laguna Art Museum.

was a really big influence on me, so I've always leaned a little bit more toward the macabre and things that are a little bit

unsettling to people. "When you're dealing with something that has so much impact, like environmental causes and stuff, I found that one of the best ways to make points to people is to be incredibly straightforward with the

damage that we do. Having that seal head there was that little bit of push forward that I think sealed it for me."

Best interpretation of a mission statement went to Erica Patapoff, whose full-length, leaf green gown and headpiece represented the Laguna Beach Garden Club.

"If you saw that going down the runway, you

knew it was the Garden Club," Story said in a video on Instagram announcing the winners. "It was beautiful, it was feminine, it was flowery, it was all things garden and nature and beauty. I really loved it. I think any woman would love wearing that dress."

Honorable mention also went to Matthew Martinez (Boys & Girls Club) and Ayrika Johnson (Laguna Art

The fashion show featured designers from UC Irvine, Chapman University, Santa Ana College and the Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandis-

ing.
Designers had about six weeks to build their creations. Story then opened her studio for fittings with the models.

Ashley Morgan, who was

tasked with representing the Art and Nature initiative of the museum, put a standing wave on the model's back to illustrate the nearby Pacific Ocean, but she also endeavored to incorporate features recognizing the current exhibits of Christian Sampson, Fred Tomaselli and Jay DeFeo.

"I couldn't reasonably put glass around a model's neck, so I used a material called lighting gels," Morgan said of her attempt to pay tribute to Sampson's glass installations. "We use it in theater to change the color of stage lights. ... The koi fish that was in the middle of the piece was representative of Fred Tomaselli. He has an artpiece with a koi fish that has a lot of pieces of technology coming out of its mouth. ... On the inside, I actually painted it, so it had Jay DeFeo's trees represented there."

Following the fashion show, the outfits went on display at UC Irvine. Several have since been returned to the original designers.

"We've done a full week of exhibition this past week, where all the dresses were there stood up on mannequins," Morgan added. "It was open to the public ... to come in, read the artist statements, see how they were partnered and the materials that were

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#### **TOWER**

Continued from page A1

ocean."

Beyond just live information for people already at the beach, those planning a visit can head to the website before making the trip to the sand.

"If a mom is at home, loading up the minivan with a bunch of kids she's bringing down to the beach, she can go to safebeachday.com to figure out the safest place for her car full of kids to the beach. There's not a lot of aquatic rescues, the ocean conditions are minimal, there's not a lot of stingray injuries happening."

As for the advertising on the lifeguard towers, the design has a square that simply says "Your ad here" for now.

The idea is to have advertisements on the back of every tower by the time next summer approaches, McCoy said. The program is currently in the request for proposals process on PlanetBid, where there were 16 prospective bidders as of Friday.

"Certain towers are more popular and have more visibility to the public than others and should/may be priced accordingly," the RFP reads.

Money raised will be used to maintain or replace lifeguard towers, which can be pricey. Currently, that money is coming from the city's general fund, McCoy



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

**HUNTINGTON BEACH** Fire Chief Scott Haberle looks over the new lifeguard tower design at a ceremony on Nov. 7.

"Obviously, we're in this really harsh environment, so the upkeep on these towers is significant," he said. "We wanted to make sure that we're providing the lifeguards with the best possible tools to do their jobs, especially in the busy summertime."

Advertising on lifeguard towers in the city isn't totally new. In 2010, the Huntington Beach City Council approved branding Towers 1 and 2 with the Hurley emblem, after the surf apparel company paid \$90,000 to replace the towers. And Tower 3 currently has the Toyota logo, as the car company is a sponsor of the city's marine safety

**Huntington Beach Mayor** Gracey Van Der Mark and State Sen. Janet Nguyen also gave remarks at the ceremony.

"People from around the world recognize our city's

iconic beachfront and our pier," Van Der Mark said. "Our beaches and lifeguards are internationally recognized as the gold standard. Developing and embracing tower design is a welcome addition to our already picturesque city. This innovative design is a great example of a successful public-private partnership, utilizing the unused space on our 24 lifeguard towers."

Nguyen said a lot of times when parents come to the beach with children. it can be difficult to distinguish the towers from each other.

"This whole new marketing and look of the towers will be so helpful," she said. "It also helps us to think of our businesses and to honor them as well. At the end of the day, our local economy depends on them."

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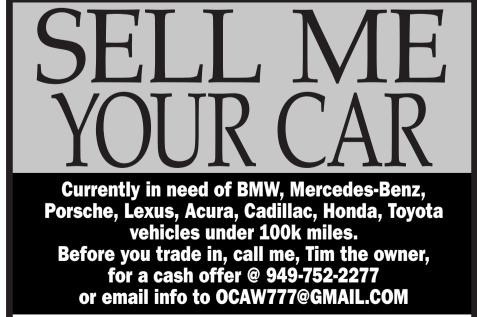
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## Michelin-rated homestyle burritos come to Costa Mesa

#### **BY SARAH MOSQUEDA**

The tightly rolled, homestyle burritos of Burritos La Palma have been a favorite in Orange County since the family-owned chain opened its first area location in 2017.

But the story of Albert Bañuelos' restaurant goes back a lot further.

"We are a burrito that started in Zacatecas 45 years ago," said Bañuelos. "Very simple, very humble roots, and we like it that way. We want to keep it that way."

Burritos La Palma came to the states in 2012 and now has locations in Boyle

Heights, El Monte, Highland Park and two in Santa Ana. On Nov. 4 the brand added a sixth location, at 170 Baker St. in Costa Mesa.

"Costa Mesa means a lot to us," said Bañuelos. "It's special."

The Zacatecan-style burritos served at Burritos La Palma are long and slender compared to the hefty burritos smothered in cheese found at most Mexican American restaurants.

The burritos are filled with guisados, or braised meats, like birria de res, chicken tinga, chicharron in spicy salsa verde and the very homey deshebrada, made up of shredded beef in green chile with potato. Refried beans with cheese are also a favorite along with the Con Todo, filled with birria de res, refried beans and cheese. The burritos are served with a whole Serrano chile and a cup of thin, fresh tomato salsa that perfectly compliments each bite. A Platillo Especial includes a twoburrito combo dressed in Salsa Especial and served with refried beans and a side salad.

Soft, fresh flour tortillas are the base of each burrito. The preservative-free discs also originated at Burritos La Palma, which began as a tortillería in Zacatecas in 1980. The brand has come full circle too, launching Mejorado Tortillas in 2019.

That quality has earned Burritos La Palma many accolades, including a Bib Gourmand from the prestigious Michelin guide for five consecutive years from 2019 to 2023. The lauded flour tortillas also earned Burritos La Palma the Golden Tortilla championship title in 2021's KCRW and Gustavo's Great Tortilla Tournament.

The restaurant's appearance on Netflix's second season of "Taco Chronicles" helped the brand go viral during the pandemic, a time when many restau-



BURRITOS FROM Burritos La Palma are made with fresh flour, award-winning tortillas.

rants were struggling. That popularity made it difficult to produce enough burritos, and since COVID, hours have been kept short with most locations closing at 6 p.m.

"One of the biggest challenges is making the tortilla. We are limited to that production," Bañuelos said. "When we were lucky enough to be featured on Netflix a few years ago, we just couldn't keep up with the demand, which made the hours even shorter. But we are finding ways to meet that challenge."
The Costa Mesa location

is bigger than the other Orange County spots with more staff that can produce more burritos. The new spot will have extended hours, from 10 a.m. until 9 p.m. daily.

Bañuelos said he has plans to expand the menu in Costa Mesa.

'Our menu is a little bigger in Mexico, and the intention of Costa Mesa in the future is to add a few more items that we offer in Mexico," he said.

One dish exclusive to the Costa Mesa menu is a dessert option: a delicious

sweet quesadilla filled with melted cheese, quince paste and butter topped with a sprinkle of sea salt.

"Membrillo, or quince, was something I grew up with in Mexico, even though we would use it on bread," Bañuelos said of the fruit often described as a cross between an apple and a pear.

Additionally, Bañuelos will be adding something to the menu no other locations have offered. "We have been wanting

to add a breakfast burrito for a while, and I feel we are close" Bañuelos said. "We are about to launch it." Bañuelos said Burritos La

Palma plans to bring one more exciting menu offering from Mexico here to the States.

"We want to add corn tortillas to our menu here," he said.

That means diners can look forward to tacos on corn tortillas or gorditas and maybe sopes at Burritos La Palma in the very near future.

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RELATED TO PUBLIC PARKING PAYMENTS Ordinance No. 1706 titled "AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAGUNA BEACH, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING CHAPTERS 10.06 (PARKING) AND 10.07 (PARKING METERS) OF THE LAGUNA BEACH MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING PUBLIC PARKING PAYMENTS AND EXEMPTIONS AND DETERMINING THE ORDINANCE TO BE EXEMPT FROM CEQA PURSUANT TO STATE CEQA GUIDELINES SECTIONS 15060(c) AND 15378(b)(5) was introduced at the City Council meeting of October 22, 2024, and adopted on November 12, 2024, on the following 5-0 vote: AYES: Orgill, Weiss, Whalen, Rounaghi, Kempf; NOES: None; ABSENT: None, ABSTAIN: None Ann Marie McKay, City Clerk



November 27, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. or soon thereafter as the matter shall be heard, a public hearing will be conducted online via Zoom. The

Bell Residence - A coastal development permit (CDP) to raise an existing concrete seawall to a height of 11.42 feet North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (NAVD88). The existing seawall has an elevation that varies from 9.15 to 9.35 feet (NAVD88). The applicant proposes to remove existing distressed concrete coping and construct new concrete coping with a concrete stem wall. The project complies with all applicable development standards and no deviations are requested. All improvements authorized by this CDP will be located on private property.

The project is categorically exempt under Section 15303 under Class 3 (New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures) of the State CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act) Guidelines.

this project in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you raised at the public hearing or in written correspondence delivered to the City or before the public hearing. The application may be continued to a specific future meeting date; if such an action occurs, additional public notice of the continuance will not be provided. Administrative procedures for appeals are provided in the Newport Beach Municipal Code Chapter 21.64 (Appeals). A fee is not required to appeal any final action on a coastal development permit to the Planning Commission. The project site is located within the appeal area of the coastal zone; therefore, final action by the City may be appealed to the California Coastal

The agenda, staff report, and corresponding documents will be available by end of business day on the Friday preceding the public hearing and may be reviewed at the Community Development Department Permit Center (Bay C-1st Floor), at 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach, CA 92660 or the of Newport Beach

www.newportbeachca.gov/zoningadministrator. Please review the Zoning Administrator Agenda for Zoom participation instructions. Individuals not able to attend the meeting may contact the Planning Division or access the City's website after the meeting to review the action on this application. All mail or written communications (including email) from the public, residents, or applicants regarding an agenda item must be submitted by 12:00 p.m. on the business day immediately before the meeting. This allows time for the Zoning Administrator to adequately consider the submitted correspondence.

For questions regarding this public hearing item please contact Daniel Kopshever, Assistant Planner, at 949-644-3235 or <u>dkopshever@newportbeachca.go</u>v, at 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach, CA 92660.

Project File No.: PA2024-0080

Development Permit

Zone: R-1 (Single-Unit Residential)

Coastal Land Use Plan: RSD-B (Single Unit

Location: 2742 Bay Shore Drive

Applicant: Cade Construction

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CITY OF LAGUNA BEACH: ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 1706



CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Wednesday, Zoning Administrator of the City of Newport Beach will consider the following application:

All interested parties may appear and present testimony regarding this application. If you challenge

Activity: Coastal

General Plan: RS-D (Single

Unit Residential Detached) September 25, 2024 Residential Detached) (6.0 - 9.9 DU/AC)

Christensen, Dig Landscape

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Size

Name Thomas Greenwood

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Published: November 16, 2024



**CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH** NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Wednesday, November 27, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. or soon thereafter as the matter shall be heard, a public hearing will be conducted online via Zoom. The Zoning Administrator of the City of Newport Beach

will consider the following application:

Santaniello Residence - A coastal development permit (CDP) for the demolition of an existing singlefamily residence and construct a 4,440 square-foot, two-story, single-family residence with an attached 643- square-foot two-car garage. The project also includes landscaping, hardscaping, and site walls. The project complies with all applicable development standards and no deviations are requested. All improvements authorized by this CDP will be located on private property.

The project is categorically exempt under Section 15303 - Class 3 (New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures) of the State CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act) Guidelines.

All interested parties may appear and present testimony regarding this application. If you challenge this project in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you raised at the public hearing or in written correspondence delivered to the City or before the public hearing. The application may be continued to a specific future meeting date; if such an action occurs, additional public notice of the continuance will not be provided. Administrative procedures for appeals are provided in the Newport Beach Municipal Code Chapter 21.64. A fee is not required to appeal any final action on a coastal development permit to the Planning Commission The project site is located within the appeal area of the coastal zone; therefore, final action by the City may be appealed to the California Coastal

The agenda, staff report, and corresponding documents will be available by end of business day on the Friday preceding the public hearing and may be reviewed at the Community Development Department Permit Center (Bay C-1st Floor), at 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach, CA 92660 or the City of Newport Beach website at  $\underline{www.newportbeachca.gov/zoningadministrator}.$ 

Please review the Zoning Administrator Agenda for Zoom participation instructions. Individuals not able to attend the meeting may contact the Planning Division or access the City's website after the meeting to review the action on this application. All mail or written communications (including email) from the public, residents, or applicants regarding an agenda item must be submitted by 12:00 p.m. on the business day immediately before the meeting. This allows time for the Zoning Administrator to adequately consider the submitted correspondence.

For questions regarding this public hearing item please contact Laura Rodriguez, Planning Technician at <a href="mailto:lirodriguez@newportbeachca.gov">lirodriguez@newportbeachca.gov</a> or at 949-644-3216, at 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach, CA 92660.

Project File No.: PA2024-0014

(PC22)

Activity: Coastal **Development Permit** 

General Plan: Single Unit

Zone: Westcliff Grove Planned Community

Residential Detached (RS-D)

Applicant:

Coastal Land Use Plan: Filing Date: March 20, 2024 Single Unit Residential Detached (0.0 – 5.9 DU/AC) (RSD-A)

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David Hohmann

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CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH **PUBLIC NOTICE ORDINANCE SUMMARY** 

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on November 12, 2024, the City Council of the City of Newport Beach, California, adopted an Ordinance entitled:

**ORDINANCE NO. 2024-27** 

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING TITLE 21 (LOCAL COASTAL PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION PLAN) TO CHANGE THE DEVELOPMENT LIMIT SPECIFIED FOR BAY ISLAND FROM 23 DWELLING UNITS TO A MAXIMUM OF 25 DWELLING UNITS (PA2022-

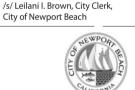
The Ordinance amends NBMC Title 21 (Local Coastal Program Implementation Plan) to correct the maximum number of dwelling units on Bay Island and correct the associated land use designations, consistent with the California Coastal Commission's approval.

This Ordinance was adopted by the City Council of the City of Newport Beach, California, at a regular meeting thereof on the 12th day of November, 2024, by the following vote:

Mayor Will O'Neill, Mayor Pro Tem Joe Stapleton, Councilmember Brad Avery, Councilmember Noah Councilmember Councilmember Councilmember Weigand

The Ordinance shall become final and effective 30 days after adoption.

Dated this 13th day of November, 2024.



CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Wednesday, November 27, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. or soon thereafter as the matter shall be heard, a public hearing will be conducted online via Zoom. The Zoning Administrator of the City of Newport Beach will consider the following application:

Callas Lot Line Adjustment - An application to adjust the shared property line between two contiguous parcels under common ownership. The lot line adjustment will result in land being reallocated from 700 Saint James Road to 714 Saint James Road. There is no proposed change in the

The project is project is categorically exempt under Section 15305 of the State CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act) Guidelines – Class 5 Minor Alterations in Land Use Limitations)

All interested parties may appear and present testimony regarding this application. If you challenge this project in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you raised at the public hearing or n written correspondence delivered to the City, at, or before, the public hearing. Administrative procedures for appeals are provided in the Newport Beach Municipal Code Chapter 19.12.060 (Subdivisions). The application may be continued to a specific future neeting date; if such an action occurs, additional public notice of the continuance will not be provided.

agenda, staff report, and corresponding documents will be available by end of business day on the Friday preceding the public hearing and may oe reviewed at the Community Development Department Permit Center (Bay C-1st Floor), at 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach, CA 92660 or the of Newport Beach

www.newportbeachca.gov/zoningadministrator. Please review the Zoning Administrator Agenda for Zoom participation instructions. Individuals not able to attend the meeting may contact the Planning Division or access the City's website after the meeting to review the action on this application. All mail or written communications (including email) from the public, residents, or applicants regarding an agenda item must be submitted by 12:00p.m. on the business day immediately before the meeting. This allows time for the Zoning Administrator to adequately consider the submitted correspondence.

For questions regarding this public hearing item Rodriguez Laura contact rodriguez@newportbeachca.gov, 949-644-3216, or at 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach, CA 92660.

Project File No.: PA2024-0148

**Zone:** Single

Lot Line Adjustment

Unit Residential (R-1) **Location:** 700 and 714 Saint James Road

Applicant: Amber Miedema

General Plan: Single Unit

Residential Detached (RS-D)

## Daily Pilot

A Times Community News publication.

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### **CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS**

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#### **PLANNERS**

Continued from page A1

forced to relocate from three occupied units should the city move ahead with the park plan.

Eric Jimenez, a neighbor and co-founder of Bright Youth, which unites nonprofits, businesses and community leaders to support Shalimar youth, told commissioners demolishing a four-unit apartment simply to create more open space would create challenges in an already tight housing market.

He suggested the city might retain the fourplex and transform the entire ground floor into a community center.

"This way residents could enjoy not only a brand-new renovated park, coming soon, but a center where city resources, a meeting area, books and technology can be easily accessed," Jimenez said. Cynthia Resident

McDonald questioned eliminating residential units when city officials have been scrambling to comply with a state mandate to plan and zone for 11,760 residential units by 2029, through an update of the city's housing element, another part of the general

plan. "It will cause the displacement of existing residents with no replacement units identified," she said. "This is clearly inconsistent with the general plan's housing element goal HOU-1.2 'to minimize the goal displacement risk for existing residents when considering approval of future redevelopment and public projects. I ask you to consider that."

Commission Chair Adam Ereth emphasized Tuesday's meeting was not about weighing in on details such as the specific use for the lot or how its purchase would be funded it's currently listed for \$1.75 million on Redfin.com —

as the ultimate decision will be up to City Council.

"The decision before us is not what we want to be there," he said. "It's is this use conforming to the general plan?"

Should the council decide to move forward with expanding Shalimar Park, a proposal for a conditional use permit would come before the Planning Commission, at which point the displacement and relocation of the existing tenancy could be discussed.

Similarly, any designs for the space would be reviewed by commissioners prior to final council consideration.

Commissioner Andrade Vallarta said she hoped that if the property were to be purchased, city officials would engage with local residents like Jimenez to clarify a vision that worked best for neighbors.

"To eliminate housing for a park doesn't seem the most helpful for this community that is struggling as



File Photo

SHALIMAR PARK on Costa Mesa's west side is undergoing a redesign and could double in size if the city buys and demolishes an adjacent building, seen here in 2022.

a whole," she said, before addressing Jimenez directly.

"Come out and make sure that it's very clear to

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our leaders what we need here beyond a park," Andrade Vallarta said. "Parks are great, we're all for it, but tuning in to what the community needs would be great, too."

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**CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH PUBLIC NOTICE ORDINANCE SUMMARY** 

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on November 12, 2024, the City Council of the City of Newport Beach, California, adopted an Ordinance entitled:

**ORDINANCE NO. 2024-26** 

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING TITLE 21 (LOCAL COASTAL PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION PLAN) OF THE NEWPORT BEACH MUNICIPAL CODE TO CHANGE THE ZONING DISTRICT FROM COMMERCIAL NEIGHBORHOOD (CN) TO TWO-UNIT RESIDENTIAL (R-2) AND TO AMEND SETBACK MAP S-2B - BALBOA PENINSULA TO REMOVE A FRONT SETBACK DESIGNATION ABUTTING THE SIDE PROPERTY LINE FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 3014 BALBOA BOULEVARD (PA2020-060)

The Ordinance 1) amends the Coastal Land Use Plan (CLUP) to change the coastal land use category from CN to RT-E and 2) amends NBMC Title 21 (Local Coastal Program Implementation Plan) to change the Coastal Zoning District from CN to Two-Unit Residential

(R-2), as well as an amendment to Setback Map S-2B – Balboa Peninsula to remove a front setback designation abutting the side property line, California consistent with the Commission's approval.

This Ordinance was adopted by the City Council regular meeting thereof on the 12th day of November, 2024, by the following vote:

Mayor Will O'Neill, Mayor Pro Tem Stapleton, Councilmember Brad Avery, Councilmember Noah Blom, Councilmember Robyn Grant, Councilmember Lauren Councilmember Erik Weigand

None NAYS:

The Ordinance shall become final and effective 30 days after adoption.

Dated this 13th day of November, 2024.

/s/ Leilani I. Brown, City Clerk, City of Newport Beach

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#### **CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH** NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Tuesday, November 19, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. or soon thereafter as the matter shall be heard, a public meeting will be conducted in the City Council Chambers at 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach. The City Council of the City of Newport Beach will consider the

ANNUAL REPORTING ON DEVELOPMENT IMPACT FEES & DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENTS, which is required pursuant to the Mitigation Fee Act (Government Code Section 66000, et seq.).

Consideration of the report is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Sections 15060(c)(2) (the activity will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment) and 15060(c)(3) (the activity is not a project as defined in Section 15378) of the CEQA Guidelines,

California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3, because it has no potential for resulting in physical change to the environment, directly or indirectly.

Copies of the Development Impact Fee Report and Development Agreements are available for public review and inspection at the Finance Department (Bay C, Second Floor) and City Clerk's Office (Bay E, Second Floor), located at the Civic Center, 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach and on the Finance Department's website at www.newportbeachca. gov/finance.

For questions please contact Accounting Manager Trevor Power at 949-644-3125 or tpower@newportbeachca.gov.

/s/ Leilani I. Brown, MMC, City Clerk, City of Newport Beach

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**CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH PUBLIC NOTICE** ORDINANCE SUMMARY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on November 12, 2024, the City Council of the City of Newport Beach, California, introduced an Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-32

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH, CALIFORNIA, ADDING CHAPTER 15.44 (PUBLIC SAFETY **DEVELOPMENT IMPACT FEE) TO THE NEWPORT** BEACH MUNICIPAL CODE AUTHORIZING **COLLECTION OF DEVELOPMENT IMPACT FEES** FOR POLICE AND FIRE SERVICE FACILITIES

The Ordinance would authorize the City to collect development impact fees for police, fire and life safety services to cover the cost of developing additional police and fire facilities necessitated by new development to continue to protect the community.

This Ordinance was introduced by the City Council of the City of Newport Beach, California, at a regular meeting thereof on the 12th day of November, 2024, by the following vote:

Mayor Will O'Neill, Mayor Pro Tem Joe Stapleton, Councilmember Brad Avery, Councilmember Noah Councilmember Blom, Robyn Councilmember Lauren Kleiman, Councilmember Weigand

NAYS: None

Second reading of Ordinance No. 2024-32 will occur at the December 10, 2024 City Council meeting. If adopted on December 10, 2024, the Ordinance shall become final and effective 30 days after adoption.

Dated this 13th day of November, 2024.

/s/ Leilani I. Brown, City Clerk, City of Newport Beach

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CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH **PUBLIC NOTICE** ORDINANCE SUMMARY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on November 12, 2024, the City Council of the City of Newport Beach, California, introduced an Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-29

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH, CALIFORNIA, ADOPTING A LOCAL COASTAL PROGRAM AMENDMENT TO CHANGE THE DEVELOPMENT LIMIT SPECIFIED FOR THE LIDO HOUSE HOTEL LOCATED AT 3300 NEWPORT BOULEVARD AND 475 32ND STREET (PA2020-068)

The Ordinance would 1) modify Title 21 (Local Coastal Program Implementation Plan) of the Newport Beach Municipal Code to increase the allowable development limit for properties located at 3300 Newport Boulevard (Lido House Hotel) and 475 32nd Street (former Fire Station No. 2) from 103,470 square feet to 118,573 square feet; 2) remove reference to a fire station; and 3) correct a reference regarding height limits.

This Ordinance was introduced by the City Council of the City of Newport Beach, California, at a regular meeting thereof on the 12th day of November, 2024, by the following vote:

Mayor Will O'Neill, Mayor Pro Tem Joe Stapleton, Councilmember Brad Avery, Councilmember Robyn Grant, Councilmember Lauren Kleiman, Councilmember Erik Weigand

RECUSED: Councilmember Noah Blom

Second reading of Ordinance No. 2024-29 will occur at the December 10, 2024 City Council meeting. If adopted on December 10, 2024, the Ordinance shall become final and effective 30 days after adoption.

Dated this 13th day of November, 2024.

/s/ Leilani I. Brown, City Clerk, City of Newport Beach

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**CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH PUBLIC NOTICE** ORDINANCE SUMMARY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on November 12, 2024, the City Council of the City of Newport Beach, California, introduced an Ordinance entitled:

**ORDINANCE NO. 2024-30** 

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH, CALIFORNIA, REPEALING AND REPLACING CHAPTER 14.33 (WATER AND SEWER CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FEE) TO THE NEWPORT BEACH MUNICIPAL CODE AUTHORIZING COLLECTION OF DEVELOPMENT IMPACT FEES FOR WATER AND SEWER SERVICE FACILITIES

The Ordinance would authorize the City to collect water system impact fees and sewage collection and treatment facilities impact fees to pay for the cost of improvements to the water and sewer system necessitated by new development.

This Ordinance was introduced by the City Council of the City of Newport Beach, California, at a regular meeting thereof on the 12th day of November, 2024, by the following vote:

Mayor Will O'Neill, Mayor Pro Tem Joe Stapleton, Councilmember Brad Avery, Councilmember Noah Councilmember Councilmember Lauren Councilmember Erik Kleiman,

NAYS: None

Second reading of Ordinance No. 2024-30 will occur at the December 10, 2024 City Council meeting. If adopted on December 10, 2024, the Ordinance shall become final and effective 30 days after adoption.

Dated this 13th day of November, 2024.

/s/ Leilani I. Brown, City Clerk, City of Newport Beach

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**CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH PUBLIC NOTICE ORDINANCE SUMMARY** 

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on November 12, 2024, the City Council of the City of Newport Beach, California, adopted an Ordinance entitled:

**ORDINANCE NO. 2024-25** 

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH, CALIFORNIA, **AMENDING SECTION 15.02.085 (ADDITION OF** SECTION 105.3.1.1) OF CHAPTER 15.02 (ADMINISTRATIVE CODE) OF THE NEWPORT BEACH MUNICIPAL CODE, TO UPDATE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES FOR THE HANDLING OF PERMIT DEPOSITS AND FEES ASSOCIATED WITH WASTE GENERATED FROM CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS HAVING A VALUATION OVER \$100,000 OR THAT RESULT IN THE COMPLETE DEMOLITION OF A **STRUCTURE** 

The Ordinance amends the section of the Newport Beach Municipal Code related to demolition permits to 1) pay the administrative fees separately, rather than have it deducted from the permit deposit; and 2) allow for the extension of deadlines related to certain conditions associated with demolition permits when there is good cause to do so, such as the deadline to claim a refund of the demolition permit deposit.

This Ordinance was adopted by the City Council of the City of Newport Beach, California, at a regular meeting thereof on the 12th day of November, 2024, by the following vote:

Mayor Will O'Neill, Mayor Pro Tem Joe Stapleton, Councilmember Brad Avery, Councilmember Noah Councilmember Robyn Blom, Grant, Councilmember Lauren Councilmember Erik Kleiman, Weigand None

The Ordinance shall become final and effective 30 days after adoption.

Dated this 13th day of November, 2024.

/s/ Leilani I. Brown, City Clerk, City of Newport Beach

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**CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH PUBLIC NOTICE** ORDINANCE SUMMARY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on November 12, 2024, the City Council of the City of Newport Beach, California, introduced an Ordinance

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-31

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE NEWPORT BEACH, CALIFORNIA, CHAPTER 15.43 (RECREATION ADDING FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT FEE) TO THE BEACH MUNICIPAL **AUTHORIZING COLLECTION OF DEVELOPMENT IMPACT FEES FOR RECREATION FACILITIES** 

The Ordinance would authorize the City to collect development impact fees for recreation facilities to cover the cost of developing additional recreational facilities necessitated by new development.

This Ordinance was introduced by the City Council of the City of Newport Beach, California, at a regular meeting thereof on the 12th day of November, 2024, by the following vote:

Mayor Will O'Neill, Mayor Pro Tem Joe Stapleton, Councilmember Brad Avery, Councilmember Noah Robyn Blom, Councilmember Councilmember Lauren Grant,

Councilmember Erik

Weigand NAYS: None

Second reading of Ordinance No. 2024-31 will occur at the December 10, 2024 City Council meeting. If adopted on December 10, 2024, the Ordinance shall become final and effective 30 days after adoption.

Dated this 13th day of November, 2024.

/s/ Leilani I. Brown, City Clerk, City of Newport Beach

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**CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH PUBLIC NOTICE ORDINANCE SUMMARY** 

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on November 12, 2024, the City Council of the City of Newport Beach, California, adopted an Ordinance entitled:

**ORDINANCE NO. 2024-28** 

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH, CALIFORNIA, ADOPTING LOCAL COASTAL PROGRAM **AMENDMENT NO. LC2021-003 AS MODIFIED BY** THE CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION TO AMEND TITLE 21 (LOCAL COASTAL PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION PLAN) OF THE NEWPORT BEACH MUNICIPAL CODE TO IMPLEMENT **COUNCIL POLICY K-4 (REDUCING THE BARRIERS** TO THE CREATION OF HOUSING) AND NEW STATE LAW REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO **ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS (PA2021-113)** 

The Ordinance amends Title 21 (Local Coastal Program Implementation Plan) of the Newport Beach Municipal Code relative to the construction of Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) and Junior Accessory Dwelling Units (JADUs) within the coastal zone, consistent with the California Coastal Commission's suggested modifications and

This Ordinance was adopted by the City Council of the City of Newport Beach, California, at a regular meeting thereof on the 12th day of November, 2024, by the following vote:

Mayor Will O'Neill, Mayor Pro Tem Joe Stapleton, Councilmember Brad Avery, Councilmember Noah Councilmember Robyn Grant, Councilmember Lauren Kleiman. Councilmember Weigand

NAYS: None The Ordinance shall become final and effective

Dated this 13th day of November, 2024.

/s/ Leilani I. Brown, City Clerk, City of Newport Beach

30 days after adoption.

#### **BOYS' WATER POLO**

## Newport Harbor meets JSerra for crown

#### **BY MATT SZABO**

The fourth quarter has been winning time for the Newport Harbor High boys' water polo team this season. Not only are the Sailors (30-0) undefeated, but each of their wins have been by at least five goals.

One more win will help Newport Harbor achieve its ultimate goal, the CIF Southern Section Open Division title. The team standing in the way is no surprise.

The top-seeded Sailors will face No. 2-seeded JSerra (26-3) for the crown on Saturday at 5:10 p.m. at Mt. Antonio College.

It's the third straight year of this matchup in the Open Division final, with Newport Harbor winning in 2022 and JSerra capturing the title last year as part of an undefeated season.

'It's going to be a tough game," Sailors coach Ross Sinclair said. "Obviously, we've played them twice,

and I think this will be the game where everyone's at full strength. I expect both teams to put in that intensity and focus. Regardless of previous outcomes, it's going to be a tough game."

Newport Harbor beat JSerra 14-6 on Sept. 14 in the final of the South Coast Tournament, and 16-7 on Oct. 19 in the final of the North vs. South Challenge.

The Sailors have shown the offensive firepower and defensive mettle. They have scored double-digit goals in every match but one this season, while holding their opponents to single-digit goals every time. The junior class is ex-

tremely strong, with attackers Kai Kaneko and Connor Ohl and center Geoff Slutzky among the Sailors' top goal-scorers and lefthander Mason Netzer racking up the assists. Meanwhile, a pair of seniors help lead the defensive charge, in goalkeeper Luke Harris



File Photo

**NEWPORT HARBOR** coach Ross Sinclair has guided the Sailors to six straight Open Division title matches. The top-seeded Sailors will play the No. 2-seeded Lions on Saturday.

and center defender Lucca Van Der Woude.

Newport Harbor already beat one rival to make its sixth straight CIF final, topping Corona del Mar 14-6 in the semifinals. JSerra, meanwhile, got nine total

goals from seniors Colt Bradley and Beck Early and junior Connor Colman in a 13-12 semifinal triumph

over No. 3 Oaks Christian.

"Last year, I think we deserved it but it didn't go in our favor," Netzer said. "This year, I think we've got a really good chance. We've been working in every practice, pushing, just getting better every day. I really think that this is our shot this year."

Due to a new group play format, there's a full week between the semifinals and title match this year.

"It's different," Sinclair said. "There's a lot more time to work on ourselves, and work on some things in preparation for the game. It's been a good week. The guys have been focused. I think each day we get closer to the game, they're getting that much more excited to go out there and play. To have the opportunity to play in a championship game is something that's really special."

matthew.szabo@latimes.com Twitter: @mjszabo

#### **FOOTBALL**

## Los Amigos can't solve El Rancho in second half

#### **BY ANDREW TURNER**

GARDEN GROVE — Los Amigos advanced to the second week of the postseason without taking a loss, the journey becoming increasingly dramatic with more on the line each

The fleeting thought of an undefeated season had become necessary for the Lobos to chase down their goal of a CIF Southern Section football title.

After a fast-paced, highscoring start, a silent sec-ond half on offense sealed the fate of Los Amigos, which fell to Pico Rivera El Rancho 40-20 on Thursday in a Division 11 quarterfinal game at Monsoor Memorial Stadium.

"We fall short of our goal of a CIF title, and ultimately, that falls on me," Los Amigos coach Romel Guess said. "I got to do a better job of making sure my boys don't wear this feeling that they're wearing right now and that we're a little bit more prepared to play four full quarters."

Los Amigos (11-1), which capped an undefeated regular season with a lastminute score against Calvary Chapel, had won its last two games — including a first-round win at home against Perris — by a com-



Photos by James Carbone

LOS AMIGOS' Diego Guido tackles El Rancho quarterback Ryan Dominguez in a CIF Division 11 quarterfinal Thursday.

bined four points.

El Rancho (8-4), coming off a victory over traditional rival Bell Gardens in its playoff opener, traded scores early, then shut out the Lobos in the second half. The Dons put pressure on kicks, which paid dividends in field position and on the scoreboard.

Julian Acero blocked a field-goal attempt on the final play of the first half, and Jonathan Medina blocked a punt with the Lobos backed up against their own end zone in the third quarter. The Dons appeared set to return the kick for a touchdown, but the Lobos forced a fumble and recovered it just outside of the goal line.

"That was a crazy type of play," El Rancho coach Adrian Medrano said. "Anytime you have them pinned back on their own 3-yard line, that's still a good thing. I think the field position component was helpful for us throughout the course of the game.'

El Rancho made the ensuing stop, then punched in a rushing touchdown on a 5-yard run by Diego Diaz. Phoenix Navarro had a 9yard rushing touchdown on the Dons' next drive. Ryan Dominguez completed passes to Giovani Montenegro for successful twopoint conversions both



LOS AMIGOS' Raul Cruz runs in for a touchdown against El Rancho in the quarterfinals of the CIF Southern Section Division 11 football playoffs at Garden Grove High.

utes, El Rancho extended its slim 21-20 halftime lead to 37-20, making it a threepossession game with 11 minutes left.

Guess noted the Lobos had been able to take care of the football during the season. Two miscues in the kicking game were costly in the first half, and he described three turnovers after halftime as "uncharacteristic.

"It's hard to stay perfect, man," Guess said. "That's something you think about. You win. In life, period, man, it's hard to get perfect grades. It's hard to get a per-

fect score. It's hard to stay In less than three min- perfect, and you hope that those things don't creep and get you this time of year, but we ain't turned over the ball more than one turnover all year."

Dominguez threw touchdown passes — to Montenegro and Navarro — on the first two drives for El Rancho, which will play the winner of Friday's game between San Gorgonio (8-2) and Grand Terrace (5-6).

Los Amigos answered with rushing touchdowns by quarterback Adrian Ramirez and running back Isaac Galindo.

Raul Cruz's 46-yard sprint in the second quarter

briefly gave the Lobos a 20-14 lead, but after a big kick return by Ray Madrid, the Dons retook a one-point advantage on the next play from scrimmage via a 34yard scoring scramble by Dominguez.

"At the beginning of the season, our goal was never to go 10-0," Cruz said. "Our goal was to make it as far as we could, and to be honest, 10-0, 11-0, it was just a blessing. It was just us all working together."

Los Amigos was one of the last three undefeated teams in Orange County, the others being Mater Dei and Mission Viejo, both of which are competing in the Division 1 bracket.

"Who would thought to start the year we'd be talking about little old Los Amigos, but it shows the work we put in," Guess said. "... We're not done. We got a lot of young guys on here. I know they're going to be better because of this game. Our goals next year won't change.

"Outside of now, they understand what the expectations are and what's possible. It is possible to go 10-0. It is possible to do things here that ain't never been done before."

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#### **GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL**

### Laguna exits regionals against Walnut

#### BY SCOTT FRENCH

WALNUT — Laguna Beach's glorious close-ofseason run ran into a wall Thursday, as the Breakers, three steps short of their first state final in 18 years, were outclassed in an emotional, three-set loss to a re-

fined foe at its best. Top-seeded Walnut was relentless in attack and precise when defending as it rolled to a 25-16, 25-21, 25-18 victory in the CIF Southern California Regional Division IV quarterfinals, ending the Breakers' sevengame winning streak — following a 5-25 start against a blistering nonleague and tournament slate that crowned with last weekend's Southern Section Division 7 title triumph.

The Mustangs (20-12), in their first outing since dropping the Southern Section Division 6 final five nights earlier, took charge at the net behind senior outside hitter Caylin Caballero and sophomore middle blocker Nylah Key, repeatabsorbed Laguna Beach's attacks, and kept

the visitors off-balance with a deceptively nettlesome serve approach.

"They outworked us and they outplayed us, defi-Laguna Beach nitely," coach Sinan Tanik said. 'We had a nice game plan that we weren't able to execute fully, and they were on their game. ... I can say, for us, they were kind of unstoppable."

Caballero delivered 15 kills, Key added five kills and two blocks - one while repelling the third hit in succession - and Walnut led all but three serves of the opening set, closed with a 13-4 run, then pulled out a tight second set on a 9-1 tear and cruised through the third after building a seven-point

"I think our energy and the emotion got to us," said Laguna Beach senior middle blocker Sadie Holmes, who had two kills and three block assists. "We started off a little rough, and I think we all realized this could be our last game together, so we kind of crashed. [Walnut put us] under too much

pressure, and we just felt really emotional. It just got to us."

Tanik contrasted the Mustangs' experience ("they're calm, they're conthey've nected, been playing for years together") with his group's inexperience, and on such a big

"This is the first time we are testing these waters ... this is a team we just put together three months ago," he said. "It's not an excuse, but it's a point I made to the girls [afterward]: This is a team in the works. We will be good in a couple years. This team will grow together, they will feel each other better."

Junior Ivy Bianchi (nine kills) and sophomore Sienna Lee (eight kills) came off the bench to lead the Breakers (12-26), who had a nice run in the second set - they led most of the way, and at 20-16 following a 6-1 run fueled by five of the tandem's finishes couldn't overcome deficient service and passing. Laguna Beach scored just eight points off 36 serves in

the first and third sets two on 19 in the third and surrendered 27 points (to 13 by Walnut) on violations or hitting errors.

"Our girls showed up when they needed to," said Walnut coach Katie Argumosa, whose team will be home for Saturday's regional semifinal against fourth-seeded Brawley (31-11), the San Diego Section's Division III champion. "They left everything on that court [defensively], whether they were throwing their bodies, throwing arms, whatever they could do to keep the ball up, and our offense came to play to-

day.
"I was worried coming off a big loss [to Oak Hills in the Division 6 final], what that would do for our girls, and they really showed up for each other.'

Laguna Beach was aiming for a third state title game and fourth regional final appearance. The disappointment is more profound.

"I don't even think it was the title, of state [champion]," Holmes said. "We're



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

LAGUNA BEACH'S Ivy Bianchi, seen against Cantwell Sacred Heart on Oct. 24, had nine kills against Walnut in a CIF State Southern California Regional Division IV playoff match on Thursday.

just such a close team, and we love playing together, and I think just the fact that this is the last year [with the seniors] we'll all be together is just sad for us. ...

'We're super proud of ourselves for winning CIF. It

was a really exciting season, [how] we stepped it up and realized what we could do. and it was really cool to

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