

## CITY MANAGER UPDATES

### JULY 17, 2020

#### UPCOMING

Monday, July 20, 6:30 PM - [Virtual Planning Commission Meeting](#)  
Tuesday, July 21, 8:30 AM - [Virtual Malibu-Las Virgenes Council of Governments Meeting](#)  
Tuesday, July 21, 5:30 PM - [Virtual Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting](#)  
Wednesday, July 29, 6:30 PM - [Virtual Special Planning Commission Meeting](#) – Short-Term Rentals LCPA

#### COVID-19 RESPONSE UPDATE

City staff continues to monitor and respond to the pandemic by participating in regular briefings and conference calls with partner agencies, and issuing alerts and notifications regarding changes to the situation. The County recently launched [a new online dashboard](#) to track cases, testing, deaths and hospitalizations.

Key updates as of July 16, 2020 include the following:

- 70 confirmed cases and 2 deaths in the City of Malibu (7/15)
- 147,468 confirmed cases and 3,988 deaths in LA County (7/16)
- 2,173 hospitalizations in LA County, which is one of the highest levels to date. (7/16)  
The City's Emergency Operations Center has been activated since March 12 to manage the City's response. Current operational objectives include:
  - Monitor news for changes to regulations that impact City residents and businesses
  - Post updates on all social media platforms on an as-needed basis
  - Identify City rules and regulations that need adjustment due to the pandemic
  - Respond to community concerns regarding compliance with State and County Public Health Orders
  - Maintain field operations per health guidelines and ramp up virtual operation capabilities

In addition, the City continues to provide nearly all regular City services and all staff are working. In order to protect visitors and City staff, visitors are allowed in City Hall by appointment only.

To address the risk posed to people experiencing homelessness, the City recently received a \$5,000 grant through the Las Virgenes-Malibu Council of Governments to create hygiene kits that include items such as face coverings and hand sanitizer to help slow the spread of COVID-19 in the homeless community. The Las Virgenes-Malibu COG homeless outreach coordinator is distributing them to individuals in the region.

#### EMERGENCY SURVIVAL GUIDE

The Malibu Emergency Survival Guide is now available. The Guide is based on the Los Angeles County Survival Guide but customized for Malibu. This comprehensive booklet includes information about creating an emergency plan, emergency food and supplies, what to do when disaster strikes, basic first

aid, important phone numbers and hazards specific to Malibu. Since City Hall is only open on a limited basis due to COVID-19, we encourage neighborhood and community groups to make an appointment to pick up the booklets in bulk to distribute in your neighborhood. To make an appointment to pick up the guide for your neighborhood/community group, contact Sarah Kaplan, Public Safety Specialist, at [skaplan@malibucity.org](mailto:skaplan@malibucity.org) or 310-456-2489, ext. 368.

### **EMERGENCY SIREN SOUND STUDY RESULTS**

In December 2019, the City contracted with Mission Critical Partners to perform a sound study for a system of outdoor emergency warning sirens in Malibu to determine quantity and location of sirens for effective coverage. The final report was completed in June and includes three options for consideration, estimated costs for each and sound coverage maps illustrating the results during normal conditions as well as high wind events. In addition to our topography, two factors that have a big impact on siren sound coverage are wind and home insulation. Sound coverage is dramatically reduced when people are inside their homes and winds are blowing at 40 mph or more. The full results will be presented to the Public Safety Commission on August 5 at 5:00 PM during the virtual Commission meeting.

### **MALIBU REBUILDS**

Since the Woolsey Fire, the Planning Department has approved over 554 applications including 58 since the pandemic began. Based on those approvals, Building Safety has issued 116 permits for single family dwellings and issued 12 permits for a 12-unit multi-family apartment complex. Five single-family homes have been completed, and several more are close to completion. Get all the up to date rebuild statistics on the City's [Rebuild Statistics Page](#).

### **MALIBU REBUILDS – REBUILD CONSULTATIONS**

The Fire Rebuild team is available for complimentary one-on-one consultations about any fire rebuild project. Contact Aakash Shah at [AShah@malibucity.org](mailto:AShah@malibucity.org) to set an appointment for a phone or online meeting. If needed, an in-person meeting may also be scheduled. For ideas about how to get started with your project, visit the City's [Rebuild Page](#), where you can view rebuild options and find all related forms and handouts.

### **MALIBU REBUILDS - FEE WAIVER DEADLINES**

On June 22, City Council extended the fee waiver deadlines to give eligible home owners more time to submit their rebuild projects and receive fee waivers. Fee waiver applications must be received by December 30, 2020, all required Planning Department applications for the project must be deemed complete by December 30, 2020, and all required building permits must be pulled by June 30, 2021. Note that Council also clarified that all fees associated with post-approval revisions to the project's Planning Department approval or building permit issuance will not be waived and will be charged in accordance the City's Adopted Fee Schedule. See [FAQs](#) for more information.

## **MALIBU REBUILDS - DEADLINES FOR NON-CONFORMING STRUCTURES**

To rebuild non-conforming homes and structures without having to bring the structure into compliance or seek variances, property owners must apply with the Planning Department by November 8, 2020. Extensions may be requested for extraordinary circumstances and will be considered by the Planning Commission. Please contact the Fire Rebuild Team at [AShah@malibucity.org](mailto:AShah@malibucity.org) or call 310-456-2489, ext. 385 to discuss any questions or concerns you may have.

## **BUILDING SAFETY ONLINE SERVICES**

To help facilitate Building Safety reviews, Building Safety has transitioned to electronic plan check submittals, permits, and invoices. Visit the City's [Building and Safety Page](#) to find out how to start an electronic plan check submittal and permit request or email [mbuilding@malibucity.org](mailto:mbuilding@malibucity.org) for more information.

## **PLANNING DEPARTMENT ONLINE SERVICES**

The Planning Department continues to provide all services online, by phone or by appointment. All planning staff are working remotely and at City Hall. For a complete list of planning services, visit the City's [Planning Page](#).

## **NOVEMBER 3, 2020 GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION**

The nomination period for the November 3, 2020 General Municipal Election opened on Monday, July 13 and closes on Friday, August 7, or Wednesday August 12 if the incumbent does not file. You can find more information on the [City's elections web page](#). Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, an appointment must be made with the City Clerk to be issued or file nomination papers. To make an appointment, please email [hglaser@malibucity.org](mailto:hglaser@malibucity.org) or call 424-395-6431.

## **PASSPORT SERVICES**

In order to keep City staff and the community safe during the COVID-19 pandemic, the City is not accepting passport appointments at this time. The U.S. Department of State has a phased plan for reopening services and, as of Monday, July 13, a total of 11 passport agencies and centers are in phase one, and five agencies and centers are in phase two of the three-phase reopening plan. Appointments at passport agencies are limited to customers who must travel internationally in the next 72 hours due to a life-or-death emergency. Visit the [U.S. Department of State's website](#) to see its reopening plan and current international travel advisories.

## **RECYCLE RIGHT IN MALIBU**

To reduce contamination in the recycling stream, residents are reminded to skip bagging their recyclables and empty recyclables loose into the recycling bin. Many materials that end up in the recycling bin contaminate the load and damage equipment at recycling facilities. Common non-recyclables include: plastic bags, shipping plastic bubbles and packing peanuts, polystyrene foam, napkins and paper towels, used paper plates and cups and PPE (personal protection equipment). Let's all Recycle Right in Malibu. To learn how, [see the flyer](#) and visit the Environmental Sustainability Department's new [Virtual Environmental Center](#).

### **LOCKING BIN LID ORDINANCE**

To prevent the use of rodenticides, City Council amended MMC, Chapter 8.32 Solid Waste and Recyclable Materials to require all commercial solid waste bins (one to six cubic yards in size) to be kept closed and locked at all times (24 hours/7 days a week). Commercial businesses should arrange for locking lid service by calling their waste hauler, Universal Waste Systems at 800-631-7016 or Waste Management at 805 955-4305.

### **SELF-REGENERATING WATER SOFTENER BAN**

The City has adopted a ban on the use of salt-based regenerative water softeners for properties connected to the Civic Center Water Treatment Facility to reduce the salts in the groundwater. Installation of new salt and potassium chloride-based self-regenerating water softeners existing self-regenerating water softeners at properties connected to the Civic Center Water Treatment Facility must be removed by October 28, 2020.

### **MALIBU BLUFFS PARK AND SKATE PARK CLOSED**

Due to current COVID-19 conditions, and to protect the health and safety of visitors and City staff, Malibu Bluffs Park and the Skate Park is temporarily closed. Online reservations for the Skate Park have also been suspended during the closure. Please visit [the Parks web page](#) for updates regarding the reopening of Malibu Bluffs Park and the Skate Park as they become available.

### **TEMPORARY RESTAURANT RECOVERY PROGRAM**

On June 8, the City Council approved a Temporary Restaurant Recovery Program in order to help local restaurants recover from the impacts of the pandemic. The ordinance allows local restaurants to get a permit to temporarily expand their seating areas to adjacent common areas or sidewalks with physical distancing and other public health protocols in place to continue the fight to slow the spread of coronavirus. Restaurants must obtain a permit before expanding seating. More information about the program, including the permit application form and contact information to request assistance, is available on the City's [Restaurant Recovery Program Page](#).

### **SHORT-TERM RENTALS – ZTA AND LCP AMENDMENT**

The Planning Commission will hold a special virtual meeting on Wednesday, July 29, 2020 to consider a Zoning Text Amendment and Local Coastal Program Amendment pursuant to Council's December 3, 2019 direction to closely follow the home-sharing ordinance implemented by the City of Santa Monica. The special meeting for this item was originally scheduled for March 30 and was cancelled due to the pandemic. [The agenda report for the July 29 meeting is posted on the City website](#). You can also sign up for alerts by text or email on this subject. For complaints or concerns regarding short-term rentals, contact the STR Code Enforcement hotline via email at [STR@malibucity.org](mailto:STR@malibucity.org) or by phone at 310-456-2489, ext. 308. After-hours calls should go to the City's after hours hotline at 310-456-2489, ext. 311, which is monitored by an operator, or call the Lost Hills Sheriff's Station at 310-456-6652.

## **SHORT-TERM RENTALS – “INTERIM” ORDINANCE**

On Monday, June 22, City Council directed staff to bring back the ordinance presented to the City Council on December 3, 2019 establishing provisions to regulate the short-term rental of properties in the City, until the Local Coastal Program amendment on short-term rentals (discussed above) is certified by the California Coastal Commission. The item is planned for a City Council meeting in August. For more information, visit the [Short-Term Rentals](#) web page..

## **PROHIBITION OF PESTICIDES AND RODENTICIDES – LOCAL COASTAL PROGRAM AMENDMENT**

On June 19, the California Coastal Commission (CCC) deemed the City’s Local Coastal Program amendment complete and will be proposing modifications to the City’s proposed amendment. As such, the amendment cannot be processed as de minimus/administratively. A CCC hearing date has not yet been scheduled. Until the amendment is certified, a condition of approval regarding the prohibition will be added to coastal development permits. For more information, visit the [project page](#).

## **FIRE-RESISTANT LANDSCAPE AND MAINTENANCE**

In March 2020, City Council adopted [Ordinance No. 461](#) which amended the Malibu Municipal Code and the Local Coastal Program to foster more fire-resistant landscapes. Last week, the California Coastal Commission deemed the City’s Local Coastal Program amendment complete. The amendment is scheduled for the Coastal Commission meeting in August and will be processed as a minor amendment that can be approved administratively and reported to the Commission. Unless the Commission objects to the Executive Director’s determination, the amendment will take effect automatically upon reporting to the Commission.

## **HOUSING ELEMENT UPDATE**

The City of Malibu, along with all jurisdictions in California, is mandated by California State Government Code Sections 65580 to 65589 to prepare Housing Element updates to its General Plan for State certification within a specified time-frame covering a range of years. Efforts to conduct a comprehensive update of the Housing Element for the 6th planning cycle are underway. On June 19, the City issued a [Request for Proposals](#) to obtain contract planning services to update the General Plan Housing Element, as well as the Safety and Health Element, for submission to the California Department of Housing and Community Development. For additional information, visit the City’s [Housing Element Page](#).

## **GUARDRAIL REPLACEMENT PROJECT**

The Guardrail Replacement Project consists of replacement of the damaged guardrails from the Woolsey Fire at various locations within the City. The contractor will be working on the project for the next few months.

**Locations:**

Encinal Canyon (between Avenida Del Mar to Avenida De La Encinal)  
Birdview Avenue (between Westward Beach Road and Bluewater Road)  
Wildlife Road (between Zumirez Drive and Selfridge Street)

Latigo Canyon (between PCH and Ocean View Drive)

Corral Canyon (PCH to Seabreeze Drive)

LA County and the contractor have resolved the latest change order issues and have resumed construction which is anticipated to be completed by end of July or early August 2020.

**POINT DUME SPEED HUMPS**

At the July 13 City Council meeting, the Council directed staff to install speed humps on Dume Drive and Fernhill Drive between Grayfox Street and Cliffside Drive. Staff is currently coordinating the installation of the proposed speed humps. This work is anticipated to be completed within the next few weeks.

**WESTWARD BEACH ROAD IMPROVEMENTS**

This project includes improving the parking and installing a new walkway along Westward Beach. The City has met with Los Angeles County Beaches and Harbors to discuss the need for an easement. The County is open to providing the necessary agreement to provide the City the space to construct the angled parking, multi-use path and sandwall features. Several action items are underway with target dates within the next three months to take to Council for consideration.

**BROAD BEACH ROAD BIOFILTRATION REPAIRS**

The City's biofilters on Broad Beach Road were damaged from the Woolsey Fire and subsequent storms. The City has obtained the necessary funds from the insurance policy to support the repairs of the biofiltration systems on Broad Beach Road. Design of repairs is underway.

**MALIBU PARK DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS**

This project consists of the design and construction to repair and improve several drainage structures located within the Malibu Park Neighborhood and Birdview Avenue. Locations are included along Cuthbert Road, Busch and Harvester, Morning View Drive, and Birdview Avenue. These repairs and improvements are a result of the severe storm drainage failures associated with the aftermath of the Woolsey Fire. Design is currently underway with an anticipated out to bid date August 2020.

## **ANNUAL STREET MAINTENANCE PROJECT**

This project consists of pavement repairs, crack sealing, Type II Slurry Seal, Asphalt Rubber Hot Mix overlay and new thermoplastic striping. The project limits include the Carbon Mesa, Malibu Knolls and Malibu Country Estates neighborhoods. Weather permitting, the project is expected to be completed in August 2020. The work will be Monday through Friday, 7:00 AM - 4:00 PM. Alternating lane closures and partial street closures will be implemented during construction operations. Traffic control measures will include temporary signage, cones, flaggers and pilot cars. Work will include temporary loss of street parking and temporary loss of driveway access. To date the contractor has completed all pavement repairs and crack seal work. They have also completed the Asphalt Rubber Hot Mix (ARHM) overlay on Malibu Crest Drive, Harbor Vista Drive, Malibu Knolls Road and De Ville Way. The Type II Slurry Seal work is scheduled to take place next week.

## **FEMA PRELIMINARY FLOOD MAPS APPEAL**

The City is in the process of appealing the revised FEMA Preliminary Flood Maps. These revised maps change the flood zone and flood depth along the City's coastline. The proposed changes could have an impact to all existing properties and any new development along the beach. Since December 2019, the City's consultant (Moffat & Nichol) conducted several conference calls with FEMA regarding the City's proposed methodology to determine the base flood elevations along the coastline. They also performed a new land survey and then re-calculated the depth of flooding along the coastline. The majority of the sections analyzed showed a lower base flood elevation. Last week, the City's consultant submitted the revised calculations to FEMA for their review. The City is expecting FEMA's review process to take until November 2020. More information is available on the City's [Floodplain Management Page](#).

## **CALTRANS TRANCAS BRIDGE REPLACEMENT/TRANCAS AND PCH RIGHT TURN LANE**

Caltrans is proposing to replace the existing 96 year-old, 85-foot wide, 90-foot long concrete bridge which was constructed in 1927 to span Trancas Creek on PCH with a new concrete bridge which will be 105 feet wide by 240 feet long. The new bridge will provide two 12-foot traffic lanes, a bike lane, and 10-foot shoulders in each direction. The northbound and southbound lanes will be separated by a 6-foot striped median. The project is estimated to cost \$12.5 million. Construction is expected to begin in February 2021 and end in March 2023.

Along with this Caltrans project, the City will be constructing a new dedicated westbound right turn lane at Pacific Coast Highway and Trancas Canyon Road. The proposed right-turn lane will be approximately 430 feet and will accommodate right turns onto Trancas Canyon Road as well as traffic entering into the Trancas Market shopping center. The project will be funded by Measure R Highway Operational improvements. Caltrans and the City of Malibu hosted a public information meeting on July 15, 2020. A copy of the presentation is available [on the City's website](#).