



I'm happy to report that the City of Manhattan Beach is better positioned than it has been in recent years to provide both a high level of current services and invest strategically for the future.

During my first few months as your City Manager, I have had the opportunity to spend time with our City Council, to be out in the community, to meet with many residents, businesses, and other community leaders and organizations. I continue to be so impressed with the people that make Manhattan Beach what it is; a strong sense of pride in community.

As you may be aware, there are many exciting initiatives that serve as important investments in the community's future and position the City for long-term vitality. These include:

- **Urban Land Institute Engagement Effort:** The City Council has enlisted the services of ULI to hold a 5-day Advisory Panel during the week of January 11–16, 2015 to assist the City in the development of the vision for our Downtown. Over 100 stakeholders will be interviewed by the ULI Panel. In addition the City will hold a Public Reception on Monday, January 12 for those who would like to provide input to the panelists. The final presentation will be presented by ULI on Friday, January 16.
- **OpenGOV:** I am pleased to announce that the City's financial results are now available to the public in graphical format, with the ability to custom query results in several ways. The information includes five years of historical data as well as the current year budget. Users can query revenues, and expenditures by fund, department, expense type.
- **New Quarterly Budget Updates:** Towards my continued goal to be open and transparent, I have instated a quarterly budget update. The first presentation of this update was received by the Council on November 5, 2014. The next report will be presented in February 2015.
- **Community Development Director:** Marisa Lundstedt has been appointed as our new Community Development Director for the City of Manhattan Beach, who will be replacing our retiring Community Development Director, Richard Thompson. Marisa has over 21 years of experience in the private and public sector fields focusing in the areas of management, current and long-range planning, general plan and zoning code implementation, coastal development, environmental analysis, and environmental management. Prior to joining Manhattan Beach, Marisa served as City Planner for the City of Oceanside.
- **New Permitting System:** The Accela Automation project will replace the City's current outdated permitting system in order to provide greater efficiency and improved customer service. The upgraded system includes implementing a new web-based automated permit tracking system that offers modules which allow on-line permit processing and land management services. It will also enable electronic document review and electronic mobile inspection services. The system will have GIS capabilities providing residents access to information via a customized citizens' access module.

Manhattan Beach has long prided itself on being a vibrant beach town community and I look forward to the months and years to come.



Manhattan Beach Adds Additional Segment of Bicycle Lane

As part of the City's ongoing commitment to sustainability and multi-modal transportation, an additional segment of bicycle lane has been installed on Rosecrans Avenue. Identified as a Top 5 priority for the City in the South Bay Bicycle Master Plan, Manhattan Beach Public Works has installed a new eastbound bicycle lane on the south side of Rosecrans Avenue between Highland Avenue and Sepulveda Boulevard. Designed by City Traffic Engineer, Erik Zandvliet, the new lane will enhance the enjoyment and safety of all residents and visitors who choose a two wheel form of transportation.

As a joint project with the City of El Segundo, an additional westbound segment of bike path will be installed on the north side of Rosecrans as soon as right of way acquisition at the Sepulveda /Rosecrans intersection and alignment details are completed. The Rosecrans bicycle lane will extend to Aviation Boulevard upon completion of the undergrounding work and street widening on Rosecrans Avenue east of Sepulveda.

Community Choice Energy Program Comes to the South Bay

On October 21st, the City Council approved a resolution to explore the feasibility of community choice energy programs (known as CCAs) for Manhattan Beach. Staff is working with the South Bay Clean Power working group to understand the potential benefits of Community Choice energy for the region.

The City of Hermosa Beach was the first South Bay city to adopt a resolution supporting the option to conduct a feasibility study on community choice programs. Several other South Bay cities are poised to adopt a similar resolution, as is the City of Santa Monica. Working together, our communities seek to determine whether a community choice energy program would benefit the citizens of the South Bay.

On November 18th, the City of Hermosa Beach hosted an information session for local elected officials and staff to learn more about Community Choice programs. These programs are intended to allow local governments to aggregate and purchase electricity, with a focus on renewable energy, at rates lower than the existing utility. The appeal to local government is the ability to maintain control over the source of electricity, while meeting the public's need for electricity in a way that reduces our carbon footprint.



For more information, please visit the South Bay Clean Power working group at: www.southbaycleanpower.org

GREEN CORNER

Environmental Recognition for Manhattan Beach

2014 has been a good year for the City of Manhattan Beach’s environmental programs. The City enacted several landmark environmental policies (polystyrene/foam container ban and outdoor smoking/e-cigarette policy), improved its plastic bag ordinance, and installed electric vehicle charging stations for the public. Our efforts to protect the environment have not gone unnoticed, and the City received several acknowledgments for its commitment to the environment this year.



Sona Kalapura Coffee, Environmental Programs Manager

On Earth Day, April 22nd, the City received the Public Agency Green Leadership Award from the County of Los Angeles. The theme of this year’s award program was “Greening Our Environment,” and City Staff outlined four key program areas for recognition by the County, including:

1. Alternative fuel and electric vehicles
2. Re-landscape of public property into drought tolerant gardens
3. Pilot food waste collection programs
4. Pollution prevention of the marine environment

Each of these environmental programs ties into the City’s broader goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, as well as specific goals to save energy and reduce water consumption. The City is on target to meet its goals in both the energy and water conservation areas.

In addition, Sona Kalapura Coffee, the City’s Environmental Programs Manager, received the Chairman of the County Board of Supervisors’ Green Leadership Award for her efforts to improve environmental sustainability in the community. Sona followed this award with recognition from VOICE during the Earth Day Celebration at Polliwog Park, and received an Environmental Hero award along with Manhattan Beach residents Craig Cadwallader and Annemarie Dapoz, and local environmentalist Joe Galliani.

On October 2nd, the City was further honored to receive a “Best of Manhattan” award from the Manhattan Beach Chamber of Commerce as an Environmentally Conscious Organization for its sustainability accomplishments this year.

The City looks forward to continuing its environmental protection efforts into the new year. For more information, please visit the Going Green website at www.citymb.info, and sign up online for “Environmental News” updates.

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|  | CITY OFFICIALS | ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICIALS |
| | Wayne Powell..... Mayor | Mark Danaj..... City Manager |
| | Mark Burton..... Mayor Pro-Tem | Nadine Nader..... Assistant City Manager |
| | Amy Howorth.....Councilmember | Liza Tamura..... City Clerk |
| | Tony D’Errico.....Councilmember | |
| | David Lesser.....Councilmember | |
| Tim Lilligren..... City Treasurer | | |
| | | City Council meets the 1st & 3rd Tue at City Hall, 6:00 p.m. |