

City Manager Weekly Update

TO: Mayor and City Council Members
City Commissioners

FROM: Benjamin Siegel, City Manager

DATE: October 13, 2022

SUBJECT: Weekly Update

Welcome to Old Mission Road: This week, the City and Mission San Juan Capistrano hosted a renaming ceremony for the newly installed street signs renaming the portion of Ortega Highway (in front of the Mission) between Del Obispo and Camino Capistrano to Old Mission Road. Approved by the City Council in July, the new name pays homage to the City's historic landmark and will assist visitors in navigating the downtown. Many thanks to the Cultural Heritage Commission and community members for providing thoughtful comments during the name selection process.



Preparations Underway for New City Hall: On July 19 the City Council approved an agreement with affordable housing builder, Jamboree Housing Corporation, for the construction of a 50-unit permanent supportive housing complex paired with a new City Hall. Preparations for the construction project began on October 10 with removal of the former Utility Department Administrative Building. During the construction period, City Hall will temporarily relocate to offices located at San Juan Corporate Plaza (30448 Rancho Viejo Road) beginning November 21. Stay tuned for additional details in the coming weeks! Construction is expected to be complete by Fall 2024.



Camino Capistrano Now Open in Both Directions: Due to significant flooding resulting from a waterline break, a portion of Camino Capistrano was closed this week as the City's water service provider, Santa Margarita Water District (SMWD), conducted a necessary repairs. As of this afternoon, SMWD crews have completed necessary waterline repairs and Camino Capistrano is now open in both directions. For additional information or questions, please contact the SMWD Customer Relations Department at (949) 459-6420.

Rail Service Closure Update: The Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) Board of Directors declared an emergency need for railroad stabilization in southern San Clemente. Since September 30 the Metrolink Orange County Line, Inland Empire-Orange County Line, and Amtrak Pacific Surfliner trains have suspended passenger service due to safety concerns impacting portions of railway in San Clemente. The City continues to monitor for updates and anticipated timeline for service to resume. For additional information and status updates, please visit the Amtrak [website](#) and Metrolink [website](#).

Are you Prepared for an Earthquake?: Each year on October 20, the Southern California Earthquake Center sponsors *The Great California Shake Out* awareness day which asks members of the community to take a moment to evaluate earthquake preparedness measures in place at our homes and businesses. Earthquakes can happen anywhere at any time. To help keep individuals and families safe in an earthquake, the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) provides the [Earthquake Warning California](#) public education program to help increase earthquake preparedness. Additionally, Cal OES launched the nation's first State Earthquake Early Warning System in October of 2019. The system uses ground motion sensors and sensors in smartphones to detect an earthquake and issues a *ShakeAlert* Message in real time so residents can take cover before shaking happens. An earthquake warning can provide additional life-saving seconds for people to Drop, Cover, and Hold On. To register for alerts, visit <https://earthquake.ca.gov/>.

Volunteer Tax Preparers Needed: Join the OC Free Tax Prep program by becoming a certified tax volunteer for the 2023 tax season. The OC Free Tax Prep program is proud to provide free tax preparation services in San Juan Capistrano to low-income taxpayers; especially those aged 50 and older. United Way is recruiting volunteers to assist with the following roles: interpreter, greeter, and tax preparers. By becoming a volunteer, you'll join a dedicated team of over 400 volunteers in Orange County who are working to help secure tax refunds for low-income taxpayers. Training is conducted online and in-person from November 2022 through early January 2023. For additional information, please email WendyP@UnitedWayOC.org or visit their [website](#).

UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEMS (*Tentative and Subject to Change*)

October 18

- Resolution of Intention for Sale of City-owned Downtown Parking Lot and Playhouse Site
- Update on Camino Capistrano Pavement Rehabilitation Project
- Initiation of an Amendment to the Mammoth Offices Planned Community Development Plan (Grace Church Property, Rancho Viejo Road)