

City Manager Weekly Update

TO: Mayor and City Council Members
City Commissioners

FROM: Benjamin Siegel, City Manager

DATE: August 19, 2021

SUBJECT: Weekly Update

LAFCO Approval of Utility Annexation: Earlier today, the Orange County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) unanimously approved Santa Margarita Water District's (SMWD) annexation of the City's water and sewer utility systems. This is the culmination of a six-year process that began in 2015. The LAFCO report noted that "the transfer would result in enhanced efficiency and more cost-effective delivery of these services to the (City of San Juan Capistrano) ratepayers," and that "the transfer of the systems and operations to SMWD will result in improved water supply reliability, completion of capital improvement projects that support upgrades and long-term maintenance of the systems, and rate stability for the utility customers." The actual transfer of the City's utility systems to SMWD is expected to occur later this fall.

Olympic Show Jumping Silver Medal Winners: We are pleased to recognize Robert Ridland, Olympic coach and current operator of the City-owned Riding Park, who recently led the United States show jumping equestrian team to a silver medal win in the Tokyo Olympic Games! Coach Ridland began coaching the U.S. Olympic team in 2013 and previously led the team to a silver medal win in the 2016 Olympic Games held in Rio de Janeiro. Congratulations to Coach Ridland and the U.S. team for this outstanding accomplishment.



San Juan Summer Nites – September 15: Last night, the City held the kick-off *San Juan Summer Nites* concert of the season. Many thanks to our sponsor Rancho Mission Viejo Company, business expo participants and volunteers for making the event a success. The second and final concert of the summer, featuring classic rock group *Tijuana Dogs*, will take place Wednesday, September 15 from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at Historic Town Center Park (31872 El Camino Real). There will be food and drink provided by local restaurants, business expo vendors and free activities for kids. This year's concert series also includes special event trolley services from 4:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. on concert evenings with a convenient trolley stop located just outside the park at Yorba Street. Please visit the [trolley service](#) webpage on the City's website for route details.



Wildfire Preparedness: As fires continue to burn in Northern California, including the Dixie Fire which has been documented as the second largest fire in State history, residents are encouraged to take action now to prepare for a wildfire event. Residents are encouraged to sign up for *AlertOC*, the County wide emergency notification system used in the event of a local or regional emergency. To sign up, please visit the City's [website](#). Additionally, the Orange County Fire Authority has a variety of resources and recommended action items available on its [website](#). Historically, the wildfire season begins to impact Southern California in September, and it is never too early to prepare our homes and businesses for such an event.

Free Youth Bus Pass Program: Beginning in September, the Orange County Transportation Authority will be launching a new pilot program to provide free bus passes to youths age 6 to 18 for a six-month promotional period. OCTA will be partnering with local schools for distribution of the free passes. For more information, please contact your child's school or visit the OCTA [website](#) to request a free pass.

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

September 7, 2021

- Specific Plan Amendment Request for the Los Rios Specific Plan (Zoomars Barn)
- Joint Agreement for County-wide Public Safety Radio System