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# Vic Beach and the City

4/20/26

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**1) City Meeting:** We had a meeting last week with Sue Kempf, Dave Kiff, and Mark Orgill for the city and myself, Mike Roy, and Fiona Williams. We had quite a laundry list of things to discuss. Probably the most valuable part was establishing a better understanding of how to work more productively with the people and the city's structure to achieve practical results where possible.

I think we talked about and touched on many of the major issues: insufficient resources for beach and parking patrols, trash pickup, leash laws, tourism, and many smaller more manageable issues and ideas.

Personally, I was encouraged in that I did feel we had their ear, everyone was proactively engaged and there was some good brainstorming along with a number of things that would get looked into or thought about. Sue has already checked into a number of issues we raised, Dave and Mark both reached out with some requests to get some information out as well as made some good suggestions.

On the other hand, as you might anticipate, the main issues were all things that at best will take a lot of time to do anything differently or to find a means of accomplishing. Nothing new there of course but what did seem hopeful was a better idea of how to work on some of the issues especially by creating some sort of regular neighborhood contact and maintain a hit list of projects and issues that we can work on over time.

Time will tell! Reports to follow as things happen.

**2) PARKING ZOOM MEETING TUESDAY:**

Apologies for the short notice, but if you have some time, please check out the Zoom meeting today that Dave Kiff set up about adding demarcation to Coast Highway parking (roughly from Moss to near Three Arch Bay), as well as paid parking in many locations on Coast Highway, especially on the ocean side.

**Tuesday April 21**

**5:30-7pm**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://lagunabeachcity.zoom.us/j/98695111659>

Meeting ID: 986 9511 1659

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One tap mobile

+16699009128,,98695111659# US (San Jose)

+16694449171,,98695111659# US

Join instructions

[https://lagunabeachcity.zoom.us/meetings/98695111659/invitations?](https://lagunabeachcity.zoom.us/meetings/98695111659/invitations?signature=7CbttbuxPnMisEbwwHINZ2OTeTsUF5Z9hq31wfdRIag)

[signature=7CbttbuxPnMisEbwwHINZ2OTeTsUF5Z9hq31wfdRIag](https://lagunabeachcity.zoom.us/meetings/98695111659/invitations?signature=7CbttbuxPnMisEbwwHINZ2OTeTsUF5Z9hq31wfdRIag)

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**3) Gelson's:** A lot of people here are wondering why the heck we don't have at least some sort of grocery store at the old Gelson's location???? It turns out that Gelson's is deliberately hanging on to the lease on the calculation that it is cheaper for them to deny a market location here so that traffic at their store south of us is increased. Apparently, it calculates pretty clearly as a positive for them.

One suggestion is to launch a letter-writing campaign. Something to the effect that as this information gets out, it obviously creates a very negative impression about the store, and its management to the point of changing shopping patterns, boycotting the store, etc.

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know if you want that and I'll email it to you. Also consider letters to the editor for the local papers.

**4) Trees:** Several people have recently voiced issues with the removal of mature trees in the promenade on Forest.

Here is a report about that:

Following the unexpected failure of a mature eucalyptus tree within the Promenade project area, further investigation by two independent arborists found that nine additional trees present safety risks due to compromised root systems caused by past damage, decay, and improper growing conditions. Based on these findings, and in accordance with City policy, the trees are being removed immediately to protect public safety and reduce liability, with plans to replace them with properly planted specimens while retaining seven older viable trees.

**5) Mosquitoes:** I've talked to several people in the neighborhood who have had problems with mosquitoes the last month or so. I can only imagine this will not improve any in the coming months. Turns out that there are some pretty serious diseases that are in the wind with these things.

Zika and Yellow Fever

The mosquitoes responsible for transmitting Zika and yellow fever have been detected throughout Orange County.

The *Aedes aegypti* (the yellow fever mosquito), *Aedes albopictus* (the Asian tiger mosquito) and *Aedes notoscriptus* (the Australian Backyard Mosquito) have been detected in Orange County. All three invasive *Aedes* mosquitoes bite aggressively during the day and lay their eggs in small containers of water.

<https://www.ocvector.org/>

<https://www.ocvector.org/zika-and-yellow-fever>

You can sign up for "Residential Area Notifications" for your city:

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Take a moment now and then to check your property for small amounts of standing water!

**5) Seahorse:** IT'S OPEN!!!! A super nice neighborhood bar located right before Mozambique at Pearl St and PCH. Stop by and check it out!!

#### The standard stuff:

- **Police Non-Emergency Number:** 949-947-0701 x2
- **Local Services (plumbers/handymen/etc.)**  
<https://vicbch.com/services-12%2F30%2F25>
- **Ask Laguna:** Get the smartphone app!!! Use it to tell the city about graffiti, something broken, or just ask a question. Works great!!!!
- **Subscribe to Newsletter:** If you want to pass this on to a friend, you can always just let me know but also it can be done by going to [www.vicbch.com](http://www.vicbch.com), scroll down to "Newsletters", and hit the subscribe button .

<https://vicbch.com/newsletters-11%2F27%2F25>

That's it for now, See ya in the sun!!!!

Diver Dave signing off

949-295-2224

dforsyth1@gmail.com

2722 Highland Way

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