

# Costa Mesa to hold Community Meetings on Mapping for Voting District Boundaries

Costa Mesa citizens are invited to attend several community meetings throughout the city with demographic mapping expert David Ely, of Compass Demographics, to discuss the process of creating maps for voting district boundaries.

The meetings are scheduled June 2, 4, 15 and 18 and are designed to give residents an opportunity to discuss and interact with others on the district mapping process.

Ely will typically use sample maps as a starting point to give an idea of how equal population district boundaries might be distributed and solicit input and mapping ideas during these meetings.

The meetings will be held:

- Thursday June 2 at 7 p.m. at the Neighborhood Community Center, 1845 Park Ave.
- Saturday June 4 at 10 a.m. at Halecrest Park, 3107 Killybrooke Lane.
- Wednesday June 15 at 7 p.m. at St. Joachim Catholic Church, 1964 Orange Ave.
- Saturday June 18 at 10 a.m. at the Balearic Community Center, 1975 Balearic Drive.

Translators will be present to assist with language needs in Spanish and Vietnamese.

R.S.V.P.'s are requested, but not required, to help plan for the number of attendees and translation needs.

For more information or to R.S.V.P., please email [districtelections@costamesaca.gov](mailto:districtelections@costamesaca.gov) or call the City Clerk's

office at (714) 754-5225.

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## **A day in the life of CEO Assistant Kelly Shelton**

Kelly Shelton, assistant to CEO Tom Hatch, was presented with the CEO Leadership Award for the month of April. See that story [here](#).

To get a better idea of what it's like to be the assistant to the CEO, we spent some time with her and got a glimpse of what her day is like.

See the video for more.

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## **Estancia High teacher and coach John Carpenter presented with Mayor's Award**

Longtime Costa Mesa resident John Carpenter, who is retiring this year after 38 years as both a teacher and coach at Estancia High School, was the recipient of the Mayor's Award at the Tuesday May 17 City Council meeting.

"Tonight, we are honored to have long-time Costa Mesa resident John Carpenter here to receive the Mayor's Award," Mayor Steve

Mensinger said. "John has touched the lives of many throughout this community, especially youth through his work as a teacher and coach at Estancia High School."

Carpenter move to Costa Mesa from El Paso Texas when he was 10 and attended Sonora Elementary, Davis Jr High, Costa Mesa High School and Orange Coast College.

In high school he was an All-American swimmer and a starter on the OCC National Champion Water Polo Team in 1972. In 1985, he was named Newport Beach Lifeguard of the year.

At Estancia, Carpenter spent his career both as the school's water polo and swim coach and also as a biology teacher, serving as the Science Department Chair.

"I'd like to thank Mayor Steve Mensinger for this outstanding and humbling honor, I am deeply touched by it," Carpenter said. "I'd also like to thank the City Council for all you do. I can't believe 38 years have gone by, it's been the most wonderful time in my life and it's going to be harder to leave it."

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## **Public Services Director Ernesto Munoz leaves Costa Mesa for private sector**

Public Services Director Ernesto Munoz has accepted an offer to become Director of General Services for a private asset management group, capping a 22-year career with the City of Costa Mesa that was highlighted by several major milestones including the restoration of wetlands at Fairview Park.

“Ernesto is one of the top engineers I have worked with in my 28-year career in government service,” City CEO Tom Hatch said. “His contributions to the Costa Mesa community are far reaching and we benefitted immensely from his vision and expertise. We are going to greatly miss him here at City Hall.”

Munoz was named public services director in 2012, overseeing a staff of 120-plus employees and managing a budget of more than \$22 million and a Capital Improvement Program budget of \$27 million. The city has more than \$500 million in assets that fall under public services purview.

“Since I took over my responsibilities as director in 2012, we have implemented a very aggressive Capital Improvement Program and constructed approximately \$100 million in infrastructure improvements,” Munoz said. “We continually improved the quality of services and at the same time achieved enhanced efficiency throughout the department.”

Under his leadership, public services also brought the City’s street system’s Pavement Condition Index from 77.6 to 86.3, which is well above the County’s average PCI of 77.

In addition to the Fairview Park wetlands project, Munoz oversaw City Hall’s seismic retrofit as well as the creation of major recreation and sports venues, including the Volcom Skate Park, the Angels Tot Lot and the Jack R. Hammett Sports Complex.



**One of the pools created by Costa Mesa Public Services to restore the Fairview Park wetlands.**

He and his staff have completed multiple street, drainage and alley improvement projects, many with significant grant funding. Most recently, the city entered into a partnership with the OC Fair and Event Center to create a new bio-swale development that will improve walkways and help manage storm water runoff into the Back Bay.

“This has been a very emotional decision for me as I have a deep bond to this community through great relationships with residents and businesses alike,” Munoz said. “I have the best and brightest staff any director can hope for. I have received tremendous support, both from the Councils I have served as well as community members and CEO Hatch, and I don’t regret a minute of my 22 years with this great City.”

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# City looks to fill vacancy on Senior Commission

The Costa Mesa City Council is accepting applications to fill one vacancy on the Senior Commission. Applicants must be a Costa Mesa resident.

The Senior Commission serves as an advisory body to the City Council in matters related to the operation of the Costa Mesa Senior Center.

There is one vacancy with a term expiration of February 2019.

For further information, please contact Acting Parks and Community Services Manager Justin Martin at (714) 754-5065.

Those interested must complete a Commission Application Form from the City Clerk's Office or from the City's website ([www.costamesaca.gov/apply](http://www.costamesaca.gov/apply)).

The completed application may be submitted online; mailed to Costa Mesa City Clerk at Post Office Box 1200, Costa Mesa, California, 92628-1200; faxed to (714) 754-4942; or hand-delivered to the City Clerk's Office at City Hall, 77 Fair Drive, Costa Mesa.

The deadline is 5 p.m., Friday, June 10, 2016.

Appointments are tentatively scheduled for the June 21, 2016 City Council meeting.

For further information, please contact the City Clerk's office at (714) 754-5225 or [cityclerk@costamesaca.gov](mailto:cityclerk@costamesaca.gov).

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# **Caltrans closes right lane of NB Fairview Road 405 Freeway overpass**

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) has closed the right lane of NB Fairview Road overpass on the NB I405 due to water damage.

The partial closure will be in effect Monday, May 16, 2016 through Monday, May 23, 2016. Bicyclists are advised to use extra caution as the pavement may be uneven.

Caltrans appreciates the public's patience while we perform this work.

For more information, you may contact the District 12 Public information Office at (949) 724-2000 or log on to the Caltrans website at [www.dot.ca.gov/dist12](http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist12).

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# **Newport-Mesa Recognizes Six High School Seniors for Character Traits**

Newport-Mesa Unified School District (NMUSD) recognized and honored six high school seniors for their character and leadership traits.

"We have a wealth of incredible students and it is gratifying to annually recognize a few of them," said Superintendent Dr. Fred Navarro. "Getting to know students and their genuine good

natured approach to life is something I look forward to each year," he added.

The Character Trait Award Programs aims to highlight six seniors, one from each high school, who symbolize one of the six pillars of character: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship.

Staff members from the six NMUSD schools nominate a student for each category and the final award choices are decided on by a small committee steered by Superintendent Dr. Fred Navarro.

### **Kaitlynn Kistler, Early College High School – Trustworthiness**

Selected for the Character Trait Award of Trustworthiness, Kaitlynn is a dedicated, thoughtful, and hardworking student. She is a member of the National Honors Society and dedicates her time to assist struggling classmates and goes above and beyond to offer her support.

### **Ryan Kassel, Corona del Mar High School – Respect**

Selected for Character Trait Award for Respect, Ryan is unfailingly courteous, kind and respectful to his peers, teachers, and coaches. He is captain of the Varsity Cross Country team and participates as an intern in the Biorobotics Lab at UC Irvine.

### **Menzin Echols, Back Bay High School – Responsibility**

Selected for the Character Trait Award for responsibility, Menzin has maintained excellent attendance, stellar grades, and earned the respect and friendship of his peers as well as the Back Bay faculty and staff.

### **Clarissa Barragan, Estancia High School – Fairness**

Selected for the Character Trait Award for fairness, Clarissa is good-natured, open minded and patient. She is respectful toward peers and staff and carefully listens to others viewpoints to ensure fairness among peers.



**Peyton Espley-Jones, Newport Harbor High School – Caring**

Selected for the Character Trait Award for Caring, Peyton regularly displays a caring, positive, optimistic approach to things. She is personable, compassionate, and driven to succeed. She is president of a student body of more than 2,500 students and consistently spends time and energy to improve the lives of others through her genuine caring nature.

**Nora Vartanian, Costa Mesa High School – Citizenship**

Selected for the Character Trait Award of Citizenship, Nora maintains a 4.3 GPA, while balancing her academic activities and activities outside of school. She is a member of the Madrigal Choir and the varsity cheer team. She advocates for the needs of herself and others and is active in her church and numerous community service activities.

The winning high school seniors reflect strong leadership traits and exuberate kindness.

Winners are applauded with a six foot banner showcasing their photo, winning character trait and school they represent displayed in the district lobby for one year. Students will also be recognized at a special ceremony June 7, 2016 at 6 p.m. in the Corona del Mar High School Performing Arts Theater.

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**Moorlach slated to speak as part of discussion on sober**

# Living homes in Orange County

Costa Mesa's State Sen. John Moorlach will be part of a Town Hall discussion on Sober Living Homes tonight from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Laguna Hills Community Center.

Moorlach will be joined by state Sen. Pat Bates and Assembly Members William Brough and Matthew Harper as they discuss the laws governing residential recovery facilities as well as what cities like Costa Mesa have done to address the issue.

Also presenting tonight will be Costa Mesa's Assistant City Attorney Tarquin Preziosi, who has played a key role in the enactment and enforcement of the city's single family and multi-family ordinances.

The Association of California Cities Orange County chapter as well as the Orange County Association of Realtors are partner sponsors of the event.

[Click here to see the entire agenda.](#)

The Community Center is located at 25555 Alicia Parkway in Laguna Hills.

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## Arts fuses with action sports at new event this Saturday May 14 at TeWinkle Park

The City of Costa Mesa plans to roll out a brand new alliance between action sports enthusiasts and artists at the upcoming Action Arts in the Park event at TeWinkle Park on Saturday May

14.

The City's Cultural Arts Committee came up with the idea of fusing the city's thriving arts community with the equally thriving action sports industry.

"We are excited to transform the traditional Arts in the Park event into something newer and fresher," said Tracy Taber, a Cultural Arts Committee member. "We want it to be exciting, interactive and full of energy. That's why we chose TeWinkle Park and the Costa Mesa Skate Park as the backdrop of the event. We hope that families enjoy a day in the park while appreciating plenty of arts, culture, entertainment and skating."

Element Skate Brand has signed on as the title sponsor of this unique event and other supporters include the Segerstrom Center for the Arts and Raising Cane's Chicken Fingers.

The free event that runs from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. will include live music from local bands and a DJ.

There will be skateboarding demonstrations, artist exhibits, a rock wall and a mechanical surfboard and interactive art stations.

Families can also visit a kids zone and there will be food trucks offering up a wide variety of cuisines.



The event will also include demonstrations by Costa Mesa-based Operation Clean Slate, which discourages youth from graffiti vandalism and instead involves young people with hands-on activities to channel their talents and improve their community through aerosol art inspired murals.

“Costa Mesa really is a melting pot for all types of art and culture,” said Justin Martin, the city’s Recreation Manager. “There is something for everyone here and that is what makes the scene here so unique. The goal of the Action Arts in the Park is to build on the uniqueness that is Costa Mesa art and really highlight why we are the City of the Arts in a whole new way.”

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## City looking for residents to

# **take part in voter district Meet the Expert meetings**

As part of an agreement the city has reached with a voting rights advocate law firm, City Hall will be hosting three Meet the Expert meetings as it prepares for a voter district formation initiative headed for the November ballot.

The meetings to be held in Conference Room 1A are the first of many that will take place before the measure goes to vote.

The Meet the Expert meetings are designed to be small, face-to-face events with no more than two or three people at a time. Members of the public will meet with a technical consultant, David Ely of Compass Demographics, who will give community members the opportunity to use geographic information system tools to better understand how boundaries are developed.

In order to participate in the Meet the Expert sessions please call the City Clerk office at 714-754-5225 to schedule an appointment. The first meeting will be held this Friday, May 6, beginning at 10 a.m. The next two meetings are schedule for Thursday May 12, beginning at 10 a.m. and Saturday May 14, from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

There will also be two rounds of community meetings in the month of June and those dates will be forthcoming.

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## **Chick-Fil-A operator honored**

# with Mayor's Award

On Tuesday May 3, Mayor Steve Mensinger presented the Mayor's Award to Tammy Guadagno, the operator of the Chick-Fil-A restaurant on Harbor Boulevard, citing the organization's strong support for local schools and community groups.

"It's exciting to see Tammy's passion for our community and how she has ingrained that into her team of employees," Mayor Mensinger said. "We are grateful for Chick-Fil-A's investment in the Costa Mesa community and the positive impact they are having on the local economy."

Guadagno thanked Costa Mesa and said she gives back so much because the community takes care of her and her employees. In turn, she wants to return the favor and take care of Costa Mesa in any way she can.

"It is one of the best communities I've ever been involved in," she said. "I've lived in a lot of places and I'm not going anywhere. Costa Mesa is where I'm staying forever. It's an amazing city."

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## Donald Trump Rally Wrap-Up

Shortly after 7 p.m. on Thursday April 28, 2016, Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump spoke to supporters and attendees at a rally held at the Pacific Amphitheatre, at the OC Fair and Event Center in Costa Mesa. The Amphitheatre filled to capacity, permitting 8,200 attendees into the venue. An additional 3,000 visitors wishing to attend the event were turned away from the Event Center. Numerous protestor groups

organized outside the OC Fair and Event Center property along Fairview Road and Fair Drive.

During the rally, protestor groups crowded the intersection at Fair Drive and Fairview Road and several motorists at the intersection deliberately spun their car tires in a reckless manner, posing a hazard to nearby pedestrians. Due to the swelling crowds and aggressive activity, mutual aid assistance was requested, activating officers from numerous surrounding agencies to provide emergency assistance.

Costa Mesa Police officers coordinated primarily with Orange County Sheriff's deputies and CHP officers to suppress potential violence outside the OC Fair and Event Center. Costa Mesa Police officers declared the crowd an unlawful assembly and gave several dispersal orders before giving the crowd ample time to disperse.

Costa Mesa Police officers in protective riot gear, alongside Orange County Sheriff's mounted deputies, and CHP officers worked collectively to clear Fair Dr. and surrounding streets of unruly crowds, and to keep access to the 55 freeway clear.

Donald Trump exited the area by 9:30 p.m., and mutual aid police agencies' officers successfully dispersed all crowds by 11 p.m.

A total of 17 adults were arrested by Costa Mesa Police officers for failing to disperse. Those individuals were booked at the Costa Mesa Police Department jail and later released on written promises to appear.