

# Fair Board unanimously OKs going forward with Arlington Drive bio-swale and bike trail project

The OC Fair Board of Directors voted 9-0 at the October meeting to begin the process to enter into a partnership with the city of Costa Mesa to construct a new vegetated bio-swale and multi-purpose bike and pedestrian trail along the southerly portion of Arlington Drive.

The board was given a presentation by Public Services Director Ernesto Munoz, who outlined how the city's Engineering Division will work together with Kabbara Engineering and the OC Fair & Event Center to complete the project, which will require the removal of approximately 70,000 square feet of asphalt concrete on Arlington Drive.

The \$3.2 million project will serve to beautify Arlington Drive and provide a biological filtration system for water runoff to the Upper Newport Bay.

To pay for the project, the City of Costa Mesa received a grant for \$1.69 million and the OC Fair & Event Center will provide an additional \$1 million. In addition, the Costa Mesa City Council allocated \$510,000 for the work.

"This project will result in significant benefits to the OC Fair & Event Center and the overall community by installing much needed amenities along this unimproved section of Arlington Drive," Munoz said. "It is exciting to take part in this partnership between the City and the OC Fair & Event Center to achieve common environmental as well as aesthetic goals."

The collaboration between the City, the OC Fair & Event

Center, and Kabbara Engineering will now continue in the development of construction documents.

Presentations of the upcoming improvements will be made to various stakeholders, including the Newport Mesa Unified School District as well as the Mesa Del Mar Community in early 2016.

Construction is anticipated to begin in the fall of 2016.

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## **A train rolls in to the Senior Center**

A new train has steamed its way in to the doors of the Senior Center.

No, it's not your typical railway locomotive. It's a fun and interactive game featuring those small rectangular domino tiles; better known as dominoes and the name of the game is Mexican Train.

A rather new addition to the Costa Mesa Senior Center, Wednesday's from 1 to 4 p.m., you will likely bump into Guy Richards the class leader, Pat Bingo, Daisy Howard, Frances Sorensen, Margarete Stevenson and Robert Garlbraith to name a few, ready for a fun few hours of Mexican Train.

Daisy and Pat sit at a table together sharing smiles and laughter coupled with moments of intense concentration.

"You just stole my move, " Daisy says with a laugh. "I'm fighting to get rid of my tiles."

Mexican Train is an interactive game, encouraging the participants to use elements of strategy, critical thinking

and development of a master plan in their moves. Usually the tables are full with the maximum four players at play, but this particular Wednesday, Oct., 21 there are only five players.

A fun-packed and thought-provoking game, Mexican train offers a quiet place with friends, analysis and evaluation coupled with laughter and smiles.

For questions on the Mexican train class or any other classes contact the Senior Center at 949-645-2356.

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## **Quilting class sews up friendships and crafting skills**

Between exercise, computer and arts and crafts classes such as the Monday afternoon quilting, the Costa Mesa Senior Center is busier than ever.

It's likely that on any day of the week visitors to the senior center can find a presentation or seminar occurring, health screenings taking place or a class in progress.

Quilting is one of those classes.

On Mondays, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., you will find women like Dolores Kaiser, Joanie Hunt, Mina Angorani and Marti Reiter, just to name a few, are cutting, talking, laying out patterns and sewing masterpieces together.

With a combined 63 years of experience and donated materials, these women spend their afternoon quilting and talking about

life, patterns and swapping opinions on their work. On this particular day, there was talk about Oktoberfest, family and surviving cancer.

But quilting together is not just about a free class on Monday afternoon, it's also an opportunity for sociability, comradery and the art and craft of quilting and friendship.

When asked if their quilting class is more than just a time to quilt, a smiling Dolores responds, "Oh yes, we are friends and like to talk about things. We have been quilting together for some time."

To date, these women have donated their works of art to Long Beach Veterans Hospital, Santa Ana Life Center, and Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation and anticipate donating baby quilts to Camp Pendleton this summer.

The time, effort, love and discussions that go into these quilts not only give these women something to do every Monday afternoon, but it's a way for them to get together and more importantly, give back.

For questions on the quilting class or to find out how you can donate material contact the Costa Mesa Senior Center at (949) 645-2356.