

City Manager Leadership Award goes to IT's Senior Programming Analyst Brandon Nguyen

City Manager Lori Ann Farrell Harrison presented this month's City Manager's Leadership Award to Brandon Nguyen, a Senior Programming Analyst in IT.

"I really appreciate Brandon's positive attitude," Farrell Harrison said. "He always treats everyone with respect and genuinely loves helping his co-workers. It was his dedication that helped ensure that our new Land Management System TESSA was successfully launched. I am happy to present him with this award."

Nguyen started at the City of Costa Mesa IT department in October 2022 as a Senior Programmer Analyst. He was assigned to the LMS project, also known as TESSA, right away, and quickly became the key person with a deep understanding of LMS Data Conversion.

Since then, he had worked on a variety of tasks under the LMS Project. His projects include migrating legacy data to TESSA, building new reporting servers, and implementing and troubleshooting the LMS system. Nguyen's onboarding and hard work with the other LMS team staff secured a successful implementation,

Nguyen came to Costa Mesa from the City of Westminster where he worked as a Senior Application Specialist. He successfully implemented and launched LMS for City of Westminster in 2020 and utilized his LMS experience in implementing Costa Mesa's LMS project.

He also implemented a variety of projects for the Westminster Police Department in 2021, including WPD Audit System, Follow-up System, and Homeless Outreach.

He is a hardworking and accountable person who is always ready to learn. He works well with the team to complete tasks on time. When a team project encounters a roadblock, he is excellent at proposing work-around solutions so his team has more time to work on issues and workflow is not impeded.

Nguyen is originally from Vietnam and moved to the United States in 2010. He earned an Associate of Science degree in Computer Science from Orange Coast College in 2012 and a Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science from UCI (University of California, Irvine) in 2014.

Development services executive named as Costa Mesa's new Assistant City Manager

Costa Mesa City Manager Lori Ann Farrell Harrison is pleased to announce the appointment of experienced government executive and development services professional Cecilia Gallardo-Daly to be Costa Mesa's next Assistant City Manager.

After a nationwide search, Gallardo-Daly, who was formerly the Assistant City Manager for the City of San Clemente, quickly became a top candidate for the position. Her years of

experience in Planning, Economic Development, Building, Code Enforcement, Park Ranger Services and Homeless Outreach make her an outstanding fit for this role.

“Cecilia impressed us with her extensive record of accomplishments and nine years of executive management experience,” City Manager Farrell Harrison said. “She is results-driven and puts a premium on customer service, which is an important function of our work here. Her 28 years of experience in successfully managing complex and controversial issues and projects will make her a valuable asset to the City and the entire Costa Mesa community. I’m thrilled to have her join our team.”

Gallardo-Daly most recently served the City of San Clemente as the Assistant City Manager, and prior to that as the Community Development Director, where she was responsible for implementation of San Clemente’s vision and policy as it relates to land use, economic development, environmental and historic preservation and coastal resiliency.

She is also experienced in land-use planning, development project facilitation, architectural review, historic and environmental preservation, General Plan implementation, social service and housing programs and climate and adaptation planning.

“I’m pleased that Cecilia will be our new Assistant City Manager,” Mayor John Stephens said. “Her years of experience in economic development, land-use planning and housing will enhance our talented City team. I look forward to working with Cecilia as we continue to improve the great City of Costa Mesa.”

Prior to joining the City of San Clemente in 2015, Gallardo-Daly worked as a Planning and Environmental Permitting Consultant for local agencies from 2001 to 2013.

Before that, she served in several capacities with the City of

San Diego, holding the titles of Deputy and Assistant Director of the Development Services Department, Program Manager for the City Planning and Community Investment Department and Senior Planner.

She has also held planning roles for the cities of Austin, Texas and Rancho Cucamonga, Rosemead and Sierra Madre in California.

“I am very much looking forward to this great opportunity as I thrive in environments that embrace innovation, public service and customer service. I am eager to bring my creative skills, technical expertise and new ways of providing continued economic, cultural and social vitality to the City of Costa Mesa.”

Gallardo-Daly has a Master of Arts Degree in Urban Planning and a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science from UCLA.

Veteran government affairs and business leader named Costa Mesa's new Community Relations Manager

Costa Mesa City Manager Lori Ann Farrell Harrison announced that veteran government and business leader Lawrence “Broc” Coward has been named the City's new Community Relations Manager.

In this role, he will assist with constituent services, collaborate with City Council and City staff to strengthen

community relations and engagement efforts to foster greater partnership opportunities with the City's residents, business community, faith-based organizations and government partners.

"Broc is a seasoned professional with 25 years of experience in the public and business sectors who will further our connections and enhance our community engagement and customer service efforts," Farrell Harrison said. "I'm so excited that he is now part of our team."

Coward comes to the City of Costa Mesa from the Downtown Long Beach Alliance (DLBA), which manages two of the City's 12 business improvement districts, where he held the title of Chief Operating Officer for seven years. He is experienced in both public and private sector management and has a broad understanding of finance, business advocacy/improvement, crime prevention strategies, special events, and public policy.

"Costa Mesa is a dynamic city with an engaged resident population, very supportive Council, and dedicated City staff," Coward said. "I'm humbled by the opportunity to serve this community and motivated to build on the good work that's already taking place."

During his tenure at DLBA, Coward helped lead the community-based business improvement district with its \$5 million budget, committed to improving and promoting local businesses through a wide range of programs and services provided above the basic services offered by the city. His responsibilities included oversight of "clean and safe services," capital improvement projects, development of special promotions and events, marketing and outreach campaigns.

Previously, Coward worked as the Chief of Staff for then Long Beach Vice Mayor and Council Member Suja Lowenthal; as well as, Chief of Staff for the L.A. Unified School District Board of Education, District 7 and Field Representative for then Assembly Member Alan Lowenthal, Assembly District 54. His

experience working directly with elected officials at both the City and State levels, as well as for a Board Member of the second largest school district in the nation, will bode well for Costa Mesa.

Coward is also experienced in constituent services and public policy, drafting legislation, parking strategies, bikeway and mobility, water conservation and economic development.

Coward holds a Master's Degree in Political Science from Cal State Fullerton and a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science from UC Santa Barbara.

City and School District partner to provide access to fields adjacent to Harper Park



Newport-Mesa Unified School District (NMUSD) officials have partnered with the City of Costa Mesa to open the school's fields adjacent to Harper Park, located at 1768 Tustin Ave, Costa Mesa. Public access to the fields is available after school hours, which is 4 p.m. Monday through Friday and

weekends for families to recreate and enjoy the outdoors.

NMUSD and the City of Costa Mesa are committed to providing the community with access to open space at Harper Park while ensuring student safety during school hours. The District and the City have been working collaboratively to better serve students and the community.

The City hired a park ranger to monitor the field and park during school hours and educate community members about the open space opportunities beyond Harper Park on weekdays after school hours and weekends from 8 a.m. to dusk.

The District and City are pleased to provide access to the larger school fields adjacent to Harper Park during non-school hours for recreational opportunities for students and residents, while the fields will continue to host school and city-sponsored programs and youth sports organizations permitted by the City.

The District and City will work closely in the coordination of activities and field use permits at Harper Park and adjacent fields. Please contact the City's Parks & Community Services Department at (714) 754-5300 to learn more about the use of facilities after school hours or visit the NMUSD Use of School Facilities Webpage.

NMUSD and the City of Costa Mesa will continue to prioritize school and city programming while offering open space opportunities to residents. For the safety of students and residents visiting Harper Park, it is important that everyone uses this space responsibly to help ensure continued access to the school fields during non-school hours.

Community members and organizations play an important role in ensuring the safety, cleanliness, and enjoyment of the park and adjacent fields by keeping pets on a leash and using City-supplied waste bags and trash receptacles at the park to remove pet waste and litter.

NMUSD and the City of Costa Mesa thank you for your support in our commitment to balance and better serve the needs of students and the community.

Street sweeping to be cancelled during Thanksgiving Holiday

Due to the observation of the Thanksgiving Holiday, there will be no residential street sweeping Thursday Nov. 23 and Friday Nov. 24.

No citations should be written on those days.

Street sweeping will resume back to normal schedule, starting the week of Nov. 27.

Veteran legislative leader named Costa Mesa's new Governmental Affairs Manager

City Manager Lori Ann Farrell Harrison announced that veteran legislative affairs leader, Jay Barkman, has been named the City's new Governmental Affairs Manager.

"We are looking forward to having Jay fill this much-needed role to build even stronger relationships with other government agencies and our elected officials at the County, State and Federal levels," Farrell Harrison said. "Jay will also be a huge asset in helping the City build short and long-term legislative priorities under the policy direction of the Mayor and City Council and City leadership."

Barkman has 25 years of legislative experience and comes to Costa Mesa from the Orange County Fire Authority where he held the title of Legislative Affairs Manager/Grant Administrator and worked on Federal processes to secure legislation and increased funding for OCFA and the region's Urban Search and Rescue Task Forces, among other priorities.

"I am honored to have this exciting opportunity to serve the Mayor and City Council and leadership team here at Costa Mesa and most importantly work to benefit all city residents," Barkman said. "As a student at Orange Coast College and a regional partner with OCFA, I've witnessed Costa Mesa flourish to become a destination where people want to live, work, and play. I look forward to helping the City achieve its strategic plan goals through its legislative priorities and platform."

Barkman previously worked as a Senior Consultant for the Assembly Housing Committee and he started his career as a Legislative Aide for the California State Assembly.

In this role, he will he work closely with the City Manager and Council to plan, implement and respond to local, State and Federal legislative, regulatory and policy priorities affecting the City of Costa Mesa.

He will be in close communication with Congressional and State legislative and municipal government offices. He will also be instrumental in coordinating efforts with the City's lobbyists to acquire additional grant funding for the City's various departments and initiatives.

In his previous roles, Barkman's professional achievements include securing \$4.5 million for OCFA from Assemblywoman Petrie-Norris and \$16.95 million for OCFA from Senator Dave Min.

Barkman earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and Public Administration from Cal State Fullerton.

Mayor Stephens named to the OCTA Board of Directors

Costa Mesa Mayor John Stephens was elected by representatives of the 10 cities of Orange County's Fifth Supervisorial District to serve as a Director on the Orange County Transportation Authority's Board of Directors.

"I am honored to be elected to this important position by my peers," Mayor Stephens said. "Transportation, including public transit, is a critical issue for District 5 and the entire county, especially as our population ages and the expense of owning and operating a car increases. I look forward to working with my fellow Directors to increase bus routes and ridership and to improve our freeways, streets and roads."

This appointment is for a two-year term that will begin Jan. 1, 2024.

The Orange County Transportation Authority's Board of Directors consists of 18 members. The OCTA Board is responsible for the coordination of a number of transit services, approval of plans for public mass transit (bus and rail) systems and working on all transportation capital and service priorities.

The OCTA board is also in charge of the administration of the County's voter-approved half-cent sales tax for transportation to capital project delivery related to freeway improvements, local street, and road improvements and rail and transit service countywide.

Stephens has served as Costa Mesa's Mayor since March 2021 and was elected to a two-year term as Mayor of Costa Mesa in November of 2022. Prior to becoming Mayor, Stephens was elected to the Costa Mesa City Council in 2016, and served as Mayor Pro Tem from 2018 to 2020.

Stephens earned a bachelor's degree in Business Administration and Marketing from Cal Poly Pomona and a law degree from the UC Davis Law School. He has been a practicing trial attorney in Orange County for 34 years, and currently is a partner with the Costa Mesa law firm, Stephens Friedland, LLP.

Fire Chief Stefano inducted into the inaugural class of the Cal Chiefs Hall of Fame

The City of Costa Mesa is proud to announce that Costa Mesa Fire Chief Dan Stefano has been inducted into the inaugural class of the California Fire Chiefs Hall of Fame 2023.

The California Fire Chiefs Association (CalChiefs) recently established the California Fire Chiefs Hall of Fame (HOF) to honor and celebrate lifelong contributions and achievements of Fire Chiefs who have gone above and beyond to enhance the California Fire Service.

"Fire Chief Dan Stefano is a blessing to the City of Costa Mesa," Mayor John Stephens said. "He has served our community with distinction as our fire chief for over 10 years. During that time, he has developed a department that is second to none. Chief Stefano is a role model, not just in the Fire & Rescue Department, but throughout the city staff. He is definitely a first-ballot Hall of Famer who well deserves this prestigious honor."

Chief Stefano and OCFA Chief Brian Fennessy are among the few chiefs who have been named to the Hall of Fame while still working in the field. The majority, which includes inductees dating back to 1919, have retired before receiving the honor or have been recognized posthumously

A few Orange County notable inductees include retired Fire Chiefs Chip Prather (OCFA), Tim Riley (Newport Beach), Jeff Bowman (Anaheim and OCFA), and Ronny J. Coleman (San Clemente, Fullerton and California State Fire Marshal). Coleman was recognized in a celebration of life memorial service this past September.

"I am beyond humbled and unbelievably honored to be included with this amazing group," Chief Stefano said. "This honor really speaks to the talented teams and organizations that I have been so fortunate to have been a part of throughout my professional career and, at the heart of it all, my incredible family, friends and professional colleagues, all of whom I am very grateful for every day."

City Manager Lori Ann Farrell Harrison was thrilled to hear of Stefano's induction.

"We are so very fortunate in Costa Mesa to have Chief Stefano's leadership and steady hand directing our Fire & Rescue Department," Farrell Harrison said. "He is a true leader that is highly regarded both in Orange County and throughout the State for his experience, leadership and

courage. On a personal note, I am thankful for his friendship and his commitment to the City of Costa Mesa. We are all better for knowing him. Congratulations to Fire Chief Dan Stefano on this incredible accomplishment.”

With a far reaching and diverse range of organizations in the nomination process, CalChiefs ensures a wide-ranging and all-inclusive perspective when selecting inductees, highlighting the significance of each Fire Chief’s induction. By creating this Hall of Fame, CalChiefs brings public awareness to the sacrifices and dedication of the premier leaders in the fire service industry and inspiring others to follow suit.

For more on the CalChiefs Hall of Fame please visit this website <https://www.calchiefs.org/page/halloffame>.

Public input is sought on housing plans for Fairview Developmental Center

The City of Costa Mesa is planning for housing at the Fairview Developmental Center and is looking for the public’s suggestions and ideas.

Housing, for a variety of income levels, has been identified as the priority use. Come share your ideas about what makes a community a great place to live and help the City develop a Specific Plan for the redevelopment of this 113-acre site.

Two in-person meetings are being planned at the Costa Mesa Senior Center, one in English on Thursday, Nov. 2, and another

in Spanish on Friday, Nov. 3.

A third meeting will be held virtually via Zoom on Monday Nov. 6.

For questions please send an email to

fdchousingplan@costamesaca.gov or for more information visit www.fdchousingplan.com.



CITY OF COSTA MESA
YOU'RE INVITED!

Join us for a workshop to discuss the future of housing development at Fairview Developmental Center

There will be light refreshments and activities for kids!

COMMUNITY-LED
Planning for housing at the Fairview Developmental Center will be a community-led process, and we need your input. Housing, for a variety of income levels, has been identified as the priority use. Come share your ideas about what makes a community a great place to live!

THE SPECIFIC PLAN
The City is initiating a Specific Plan for the redevelopment of the Fairview Developmental Center. The Developmental Center is adjacent to Harbor Blvd and is 113-acres in size.

FAIRVIEW DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER • SPECIFIC PLAN •

ENGLISH MEETING DETAILS:
WHEN: THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2023
WHERE: COSTA MESA SENIOR CENTER
695 W. 19TH ST, COSTA MESA
TIME: 6 PM - 8 PM

VIRTUAL MEETING DETAILS:
WHEN: MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2023
ZOOM MEETING ID: 821 8580 3444
PASSCODE: FDCSP1234
TIME: 6 PM - 8 PM

FOR QUESTIONS EMAIL: FDCHousingPlan@costamesaca.gov
FDCHousingPlan.com



CIUDAD DE COSTA MESA

¡ESTÁ INVITADO!

Acompáñanos a un taller para conversar sobre el futuro desarrollo de viviendas en Fairview Developmental Center



INICIADO POR LA COMUNIDAD

La planificación de viviendas en Fairview Developmental Center será un proceso iniciado por la comunidad y necesitamos su participación. El uso identificado como la prioridad es el alojamiento, para una variedad de niveles de ingreso. ¡Venga a compartir sus ideas sobre lo que hace una comunidad un lugar ideal para vivir!

EL PLAN ESPECÍFICO

La Ciudad está iniciando un Plan Específico para la reurbanización de Fairview Developmental Center. Este centro se encuentra adyacente a Harbor Boulevard y en 113 hectáreas.

¡Habrán aperitivos y actividades para niños!





DETALLES DE LA JUNTA EN ESPAÑOL:

CUÁNDO: viernes 3 de noviembre de 2023

DÓNDE: COSTA MESA SENIOR CENTER
695 W. 19TH ST, COSTA MESA

HORA: 6 PM – 8 PM



DETALLES DE LA JUNTA VIRTUAL:

CUÁNDO: lunes 6 de noviembre de 2023

ZOOM LINK : 821 8580 3444

CONTRASEÑA: FDCSP1234

HORA: 6 PM – 8 PM

¿PREGUNTAS? ENVÍE UN CORREO ELECTRÓNICO A: FDCHousingPlan@costamesaca.gov
FDCHousingPlan.com

OC Health Care Agency and
City of Costa Mesa
Collaborate to Address
Homelessness and Behavioral
Health



COUNTY OF ORANGE – HEALTH CARE AGENCY

For Immediate Release:

October 25, 2023

Contact:

HCA Communications

HCAComm@ochca.com

(714) 834-2178

(Santa Ana, CA) – The OC Health Care Agency (HCA) is partnering with the City of Costa Mesa to enhance services for individuals experiencing homelessness and serious behavioral health conditions. This joint initiative, through the Behavioral Health Bridge Housing (BHBH) Program, is funded through a \$4 million grant from the County of Orange.

“The partnership between the County of Orange and the City of Costa Mesa reflects our unwavering dedication to the welfare of our community,” said Chairman **Donald P. Wagner**, Third

District Supervisor. "The BHBH Program is a crucial step forward in addressing the homelessness crisis and supporting those with behavioral health challenges."

The primary objective of the BHBH Program is to provide immediate and sustainable solutions for individuals experiencing homelessness who face significant behavioral health barriers to accessing assistance. A total of 15 new beds will be established through this grant. The program allocates funds for operational and supportive services and for facilitating the expansion of bridge housing initiatives.

"For too long cities invested local dollars to boost up the County's system of care; but it's a new day in Orange County. The BHBH Program serves as a testament to the County's commitment to combat the homelessness, behavioral health, and substance use crises head on," said Supervisor **Katrina Foley**, Fifth District. "This new housing for our most vulnerable residents fills a gap in the current system of care, expands Costa Mesa's shelter, and creatively leverages funding to expand supportive services."

The BHBH Program is part of the larger initiative led by the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), which will provide a total of \$1.5 billion in funding. For more information about the program and a list of grant recipients, the public can visit [here](#).

"For years, Costa Mesa has led the way in addressing homelessness through outreach and housing, being one of the first to build a bridge shelter," said City of Costa Mesa Mayor, **John Stephens**. "The County's BHBH Program will fill a gap in our service by providing on site mental health and addiction treatment. We thank the County, and Supervisor Katrina Foley specifically, for partnering with Costa Mesa to assist those in the greatest need."

The collaboration between the County and the City of Costa

Mesa underscores the benefit of partnerships in addressing complex societal issues. This joint effort will leverage resources and expertise from both sides to forge the new project.

“This partnership enhances our ability to support the well-being of our community,” said HCA’s Chief of Mental Health and Recovery Services, **Dr. Veronica Kelley**. “The program will offer a lifeline to those who are experiencing homelessness and struggling with serious behavioral health conditions.”

Extended Recruitment – Costa Mesa Residents Sought to Serve On City Committees

The Costa Mesa City Council is currently seeking residents to serve on the following City Committees:

Animal Services Committee: This committee assists with the planning of animal related events, explores and provides recommendations to improve animal services, and promotes pet licensing within the City. The City is recruiting for three members for a two-year term. For further information, please contact Recreation Coordinator Jessica Torrejon at (714) 754-5128.

Active Transportation Committee: This committee assists with the review, update and implementation of the city’s Active Transportation Plan in order to make recommendations for their improvement to the City Council. The City is recruiting for

three members for a two-year term. For further information, please contact Active Transportation Coordinator Brett Atencio Thomas at (714) 754-5275.

Fairview Park Steering Committee: This committee provides advice to the City Council regarding the implementation of the Fairview Park Master plan and impacts of Measure AA on Capital Improvement Program projects, maintenance and activities. The City is recruiting for three (3) members for a 4-year term. For further information, please contact Fairview Park Administrator Kelly Dalton at (714) 754-5135.

Finance and Pension Advisory Committee: This committee provides advice to the City Council regarding events and issues which may affect the financial status of the City. It also evaluates annual and long-term pension and financial impacts. The City is recruiting for three members for a four-year term. Applicants shall have pension knowledge or shall be residents or individuals that conduct business within the City and have a background that includes experience in securities trading, financial planning, banking, auditing, accounting, or a closely related and relevant field. For further information, contact Executive Assistant Stella Giragossian at (714) 754-5243.

Historical Preservation Committee: This committee serves to maintain, preserve, educate and promote the city's historical resources. The City is recruiting for three members for a two-year term. For further information, contact Recreation Supervisor Kevin Stoddart at (714) 327-7561.

Housing and Public Service Grants Committee: This committee meets twice a year and helps to promote community understanding of the activities funded by the U.S. Housing and Urban Development Department (HUD) and Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) with a focus on social service grants. The City is recruiting for three members for a two-year term. For further information, contact Grant Administrator Mikelle Daily

at (714) 754-5678.

Mobile Home Park Advisory Committee: This committee addresses issues that will help improve the quality of life in mobile home parks and to review matters concerning mobile home parks in the City of Costa Mesa. The City is recruiting for two park owner or their representative, two mobile home park residents, and one independent citizen at-large all for a four-year term. For further information, contact Principal Planner Phayvanh Nanthavongdouangsy at (714) 754-5611.

Application Process – Residents who are interested in getting involved in local government are encouraged to complete a Committee Application Form from the City Clerk's Office or from the City's website (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; emailed to cityclerk@costamesaca.gov; or hand-delivered to the City Clerk's Office at City Hall, 77 Fair Drive, Costa Mesa. The deadline is **5 p.m., Monday, Oct. 9, 2023**. Appointments are tentatively scheduled for the Oct. 17, 2023 City Council meeting.

FYI: Applicants who previously applied to one of these committees in February 2023, do not need to reapply. Please contact the City Clerk's Office at (714) 754-5225 to confirm a previously submitted application.

Statement by Mayor John Stephens on the passing of

Senator Dianne Feinstein

For the past 3 decades, Dianne Feinstein has been the Senator of our great State of California. So it is with great sadness that I learned today of her passing. Like the rest of our City, State and Nation, I mourn her loss while we honor and celebrate her incredible life.

Senator Feinstein was a trailblazer who broke through the glass ceiling, inspiring generations of women who followed her. She was the first woman to serve on the Senate Judiciary Committee, the first woman to chair the Senate Rules Committee, and the first woman to chair the Senate Intelligence Committee. She also is the longest-serving woman in Senate history. Senator Feinstein courageously continued her service to the Country through numerous health issues until her last days.

Senator Feinstein was not afraid to work across the aisle to pass landmark legislation that would prove beneficial to California and the Country.

Prior to being a Senator, she was Mayor of San Francisco and served on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. She was a pillar of strength during the tragic 1978 assassinations of Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk.

On behalf of the City of Costa Mesa, I send my condolences to Senator Feinstein's family for their profound loss.