



PRESS RELEASE

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City Officials Unveil Easton's Beach Improvements

Mayor Stephen C. Waluk, members of the Newport City Council and Newport Beach Commission, City Manager Edward Lavallee, and Newport County Convention and Visitors Bureau President and CEO Evan Smith conducted a tour of the Easton's Beach facility today to review recent improvements to the buildings and grounds, especially the Rotunda Ballroom, a cherished wedding and special event venue.

Since last fall, the City has invested \$214,000 for Rotunda structural repairs and Ballroom window replacement; \$108,000 for repaving and pedestrian safety improvements to the west parking lot, as well as another \$100,000 for improvements to the Ballroom facility, including resurfaced floors, lighting, awning canopy, signs, new acoustical ceiling, painting, window dressing, and upgraded bathrooms.

The City's Enterprise Fund, an income-producing account derived from revenues from parking and beach fees, has financed these projects. This fund is managed by Department of Economic Development Director Jonathan Stevens.

As part of the improvement program the City commissioned long-time Newport graphic artist Raphael Boguslav to design a new logo for Easton's Beach. A new 4x7 signature sign featuring the new logo is to be installed in the Memorial Boulevard median this week.

More improvements are underway for later this year. Most notably the City is expected to take delivery of a new \$325,000, 42 foot algae harvester in August. This machine, designed to remove the red seaweed from the littoral waters of the Beach, should restore much of the historic luster of Easton's Beach.

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