

LOOKING FORWARD TO OUR GOALS

By Joy Brenner
2018 Incoming President

As the newly elected President of our Residents Association, I am optimistic that the year to come will be productive, collaborative and positive. As always, we have opportunities and challenges in maintaining the character of our community, but we also have an intelligent, committed and diligent populous. In working together with our city leaders, our businesses and the myriad of community organizations which serve, I feel confident that we will continue to achieve powerful results.

Our Annual Town Meeting will once again give us the chance to enjoy the company of our friends and neighbors and to discuss issues in a meaningful way. Our theme for this year will be "Working Together". We plan to highlight the various groups working for the betterment of CdM and Newport Beach. We might be surprised at the numerous individual and group efforts that invest resources, energy, experience, time and passion making things better.

I am very proud of what our efforts have resulted in over the last thirty years. We will highlight some at our annual meeting. I always feel it is helpful when moving forward to recognize what we have accomplished. It helps to see that we do have power when we work together in a respectful way to achieve results which benefit us all.

Some of the issues becoming increasingly important and on which we will focus are:

- General Plan Update Process and Procedure
- Zoning Regulations and Enforcement
- Airport and FAA Flight Plan Deviations
- Traffic on our Residential Streets & Overall

When I say over the last "thirty years" I think it's important to note that many of our board members have served that entire time, with deep love and dedication to our community. Several of our most dedicated have retired, causing us to recognize the importance of further involving more members and the greater community. That will be a primary effort this year. While feeling great pride and appreciation for all those who serve and have served, we want to reach out and continuing making citizen involvement enjoyable, enlightening and productive.

I look forward to working with all of you to continue achieving extraordinary results for this beautiful place we call home.

Joy Brenner

LOOKING BACK ON OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

By Laura Curran
Immediate Past President
Serving 2016 & 2017

Thank you so much for the opportunity to serve as President of CdMRA for 2016-2017. The Executive team of Karen Tringali, Debbie Stevens, Liz Torelli, and Marge Sawyer provided invaluable, ongoing support and made everything possible. With our new CdMRA Executive Board members, (President, Joy Brenner and Paul Blank as Treasurer,) CdMRA is in good hands.

It was a pleasure to meet so many of you during the last two years at our Annual Meeting, Election Forum, and Christmas Walk.

Thank you to Scott LaFleur and the staff at Sherman Gardens for generously hosting CdMRA events, and to OASIS Senior Center for hosting our Monthly Meetings and Election Forum.

Some highlights from the last two years include:

- NBPD Lt. Keith Krallman joined our meetings monthly to provide updates on crime and outreach for homeless
- Held largest Election Forum in Newport Beach, for 2016 Election
- Introduced concepts to eliminate Toll at Bison and improve traffic circulation in Corona del Mar (keep watching!)
- Marge Sawyer retired as Treasurer after 20 years
- Long-time Board Members retired, including Bev White (Cameo Shores), Bruce Beardsley and Bill Simons (Jasmine Creek) and Val Skoro (Irvine Terrace)
- We memorialized a long-time Board Member, and advocate for Newport Beach, on his passing this year: Bob Shelton (Harbor View Hills South)
- New Board Members joined our team: Paul Blank (CdMSW), Glenn Highland (CdMSE), Tom Callister (Irvine Terrace), Amy Senk (Shore Cliffs), Irene Villalobos (Corona Highlands), Karen Mascitelli (Cameo Shores) and At Large Board Members Larry Flinn (Jasmine Creek) and Kathy Blank (The Terraces)
- Board Member, and Harbor Commissioner, Paul Blank provided Harbor updates, bringing a new perspective to our discussions.

Parking Planning

I want to highlight an example of how CdMRA represents residents and their perspectives. In Spring 2016, City of Newport Beach staff proposed installation of Parking Meters along PCH. Many issues were unclear, such as implementation, revenue expectations, use of revenue, impact on nearby streets.

We asked the City and the Business Improvement District (BID), to hold off on the plan until we could get resident input.

Over 25 residents attended subsequent meetings and voiced their concerns about implementing a skeleton plan, and the plans for Meters on PCH were cancelled.

Concurrently we engaged with the Business Improvement District, led by Scott Laidlaw and Ed Hanley, to review alternatives, such as in-town shuttles, changes to parking zoning to permit more varied types of businesses to come to CdM, and development of parking districts which could utilize commercial parking in the evenings. These concepts are being explored and will be presented in coming months.

Our City Council members continue to provide valuable updates, especially on critical issues such as airport Noise and the General Plan Update.

To learn more about issues and voice your perspective, I encourage you to join the CdMRA Meeting, each 3rd Thursday, at 7:30 AM, at OASIS Senior Center, and the CdM Business Improvement District Meeting, each 4th Thursday, at 7:30 AM at Newport Beach Civic Center.

It has been an honor to serve the community.

Thank you.

Laura Curran