



NEWS RELEASE

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NEWS MEDIA CONTACT:

Katie Casey, Communications Manager
(805) 816-4330 | katie.casey@oxnard.org

**Mayor Highlights Resiliency, Restoration of Services and Programs at
State of the City Address**

OXNARD, Calif. – Oxnard Mayor John C. Zaragoza delivered the [2021 State of the City](#) address on Thursday, June 17, hosted by the West Ventura Business Alliance Chamber of Commerce serving Oxnard and Camarillo.

The event highlighted resiliency during the pandemic and outlined the restoration of various programs and services the Oxnard community will soon see thanks to voter approval of Measure E.

The address showcased how City staff served the community throughout COVID-19. Employees provided food to more than 362,000 individuals through the weekly Food Share distribution events, delivered more than 66,000 meals to Oxnard seniors, and assisted pop-up COVID-19 testing and vaccine sites. The Mayor commended staff for their hard work before focusing on Oxnard's future.

"We are presenting to you the first positive budget in more than a decade, which we are very proud of," said Mayor Zaragoza. "I want to thank the residents for approving Measure E. This is a necessary step forward in restoring services and programs that the Oxnard community wants and deserves."

The proposed fiscal year 2021-22 budget, which begins July 1, will focus on restoring services such as street paving; landscaping and maintenance of parks, trees, and medians; restoring programs for youth and seniors that were cut over the past ten years; and restoring the neighborhood police program.

These items are part of the City Council's five-year priorities, which were determined through survey feedback from more than 2,000 community members.

The Mayor noted that aesthetic improvements throughout Oxnard are coming soon. Through Measure E, the City plans to invest:

- **\$14.6 million** a year for three years for improving Oxnard's streets and alleys,
- **\$5.6 million** for parks, medians and trees maintenance in fiscal year 2021-22 alone,
- **\$8.8 million** in fiscal year 2021-22 to support projects in the City's Capital Improvement Program (CIP), which includes street improvements.

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“There’s a lot of work to be done, and it will not happen overnight. But the City Council’s five-year priorities provide a roadmap to ensure that progress is made each year,” added Mayor Zaragoza.

Other highlights included:

- News that the Amazon Fulfillment Center is expected to start operations in Fall 2021. In mid-July, the City will work with Amazon to recruit Oxnard residents for more than 1,500 available jobs paying above minimum wage with health benefits.
- Details regarding new business developments at the Sakioka Farms Business Park.
- An announcement that 13 of the 16 selected Oxnard cannabis retailers have applied for their permits. The City anticipates operational cannabis retailers by the end of fiscal year 2021-22.
- The construction of 886 residential housing units in Oxnard, with another 2,192 residential units in the City’s permitting stages.
- The City’s plan to revitalize the Saviers corridor and create a Zócalo in South Oxnard.
- Successfully launching the Oxnard Employee Pipeline in partnership with Oxnard College and the Chamber, and
- Achieving a cooperation agreement for major improvements in the Channel Islands Harbor with the County of Ventura.

“This is an exciting time for the City of Oxnard,” said Mayor Zaragoza. “While many cities have been severely impacted by COVID-19, the trust the voters have placed in the City by passing Measure E allows us the opportunity to restore, improve and add much-needed programs and services to Oxnard. We are looking forward to the first year of our restoration budget and creating positive changes throughout the City.”

The West Ventura Business Alliance Chamber of Commerce serving Oxnard and Camarillo event was made possible by Title Sponsors Procter & Gamble Paper Products and Southern California Edison Company; Major Sponsors The Port of Hueneme, Ventura County Credit Union, American Medical Response, and New Indy, Oxnard LLC; and Supporting Sponsors St. John’s Regional Medical Center, UCLA Health, The Collection at RiverPark/CenterCal Properties, LLC, AMS Craig LLC, Regency Palms Oxnard, and AGQ Labs.

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