



**Agenda Item A.1
PRESENTATION
Meeting Date: October 21, 2008**

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Dan Singer, City Manager

CONTACT: Vyto Adomaitis, Director, RDA, Neighborhood Services, & Public Safety
Lt. Chris Pappas, Chief of Police Services
Greg Nordyke, Code Compliance Officer

SUBJECT: Isla Vista Halloween Event Preparations

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive a presentation on this year's response to the Isla Vista Halloween Event.

BACKGROUND:

Each year, the City of Goleta initiates a collaborative effort to address potential neighborhood impacts arising from the Isla Vista Halloween festivities. This effort includes working with our residents and neighborhood associations, local businesses, UCSB, Sheriff, California Highway Patrol (CHP), the Santa Barbara Airport, the City's Community Services Department and others to address impacts to the community. This year, Halloween falls on a Friday. It is anticipated that the majority of impacts to our community could occur on Friday, October 31, 2008, as well as Saturday, November 1, 2008. The purpose of this report is to apprise the City Council of efforts being taken by the City to minimize any impacts to the community from this event.

DISCUSSION:

Since the City's incorporation in 2002, residents have communicated concerns to the City about neighborhood impacts resulting from Halloween festivities in Isla Vista. These impacts have ranged from overflow and illegal parking in neighborhood areas, to late night loud noise, alcohol consumption, littering and vandalism. Similar impacts have occurred in business areas, including the Camino Real Marketplace.

In response to these concerns, City staff each year has collaboratively worked with UCSB, law enforcement, neighborhood and business groups to hear concerns and formulate appropriate responses to address the issues brought to the City's attention. Most recently, staff conducted a community meeting on October 6, 2008.

Staff is pleased to report that over time, this process has significantly improved the City's ability to address concerns from our residents about the Isla Vista Halloween event while at the same time, progressively reducing complaints to the City. The following is a summary of efforts that will be taken to address community impacts:

- There will be a significant law enforcement presence in and around the Isla Vista area for the entire Halloween weekend.
- Proactive and saturation type patrols from the City's patrol and motor traffic units will be conducted within affected neighborhoods and throughout the City. These patrols will be conducted at no additional cost.
- A DUI checkpoint will be held within the City to check for traffic coming into and leaving the Goleta area. Said checkpoint will be conducted by the CHP.
- City Code Compliance will be deployed during this event to respond to neighborhood complaints and the towing of illegally parked vehicles within neighborhoods. Said efforts will be conducted jointly with Sheriff personnel.
- In an effort to reduce unlicensed taxi cab companies operating in and around the Goleta area, this year, City Code Enforcement will be issuing City Taxi Cab decals required on any taxi operating in Goleta City limits. This includes companies picking up or dropping off customers within Goleta. The decals will help facilitate law enforcement efforts to reduce unpermitted taxi cab operators and enhance the safety of customers seeking these services.
- Free "No Isla Vista Halloween Parking" signs are available at City Hall and the Sheriff's Dept. to businesses and residents.
- Community Services Department Crews will deploy during and after the Isla Vista Halloween Event to conduct neighborhood sweeps to pick up and dispose of any litter or debris left over from this event. This will help to keep our neighborhoods clean.
- Residents who would like to report a neighborhood complaint during this event are encouraged to call 911 for prompt service from units already deployed in the field.

In conclusion, staff would like to thank all of the agencies, UCSB and residents who have worked with us to help minimize impacts from the Isla Vista Halloween event to our neighborhoods.

While it is clear that each year will pose a different challenge to the City in addressing neighborhood impacts, the collaborative approach has yielded good results for all the participants in this important process. A post event summary of this event will be provided to the City Manager for transmittal to the full City Council.

FISCAL IMPACTS

The FY 2008-09 budget includes adequate appropriations for the aforementioned efforts to address this year's Isla Vista event.

Submitted By:

Reviewed By:

Approved By:

Vyto Adomaitis
RDA, NS & Public Safety
Director

Michelle Greene
Administrative Services
Director

Daniel Singer
City Manager