



# City Manager Weekly Update



March 12, 2026



## Swallows Day Parade and Special Trolley Service

The 66th Annual Swallows Day Parade will take place on Saturday, March 21, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. As in previous years, several major streets in downtown San Juan Capistrano will be closed to vehicle traffic before and after the parade to accommodate the event and large crowds. To support residents and visitors, the City will provide special event trolley service on parade day from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Trolleys will run to and from Los Rios Park for those west of Alipaz Street from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and service will expand east of Alipaz Street to Old Mission Road and Camino Capistrano, ending at La Zanja Street, from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Trolley service will operate east of the 5 freeway with service on the Ortega Line from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. The trolley routes are shown on the attached map. Plan ahead for road closures and enjoy the festivities! For more information, please see the attached flyer.

## St. Joseph's Day & Return of the Swallows Celebration

Mission San Juan Capistrano's St. Joseph's Day and Return of the Swallows Celebration will take place on March 19 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Join the community in celebrating the return of the famous swallows to Capistrano and the arrival of spring with a day filled with history, tradition, and festive activities. For more information, please see the attached flyer.

## Take Metrolink!

If you have friends or family visiting San Juan Capistrano for Swallows Day, Metrolink offers a convenient way to get to the event. The train drops passengers off within a short walk of the parade route with plenty of time to find a great viewing spot. OCTA is offering a chance to win Metrolink tickets that runs through March 21, 2026. For more information, please visit the OCTA [website](#).





## Ortega Highway (SR-74) Project (East of San Juan Capistrano)

Caltrans is planning a weekend closure of Ortega Highway from Friday, March 13, starting at 9:00 p.m. through 4:00 a.m. on Monday, March 16, for excavation work related to the lane widening project near Lake Elsinore. During this time, the highway will be fully closed with no through access between Orange County and Lake Elsinore. Resident access will only be permitted and managed with a pilot car escort, and delays are expected. For additional information, please visit the Caltrans [website](#) or see the attached flyer.

## Skatepark Shade Structure Installation

Installation of the new shade structures at the skatepark is scheduled to begin on Tuesday, March 17. Three shade structures will be installed over the artificial turf seating area separating the playground and skatepark. To expedite construction and ensure the safety of park users, the skatepark will be closed on Tuesday, March 17, and Wednesday, March 18. Signage has been posted at the skatepark to notify users of the planned closure. We appreciate the community's cooperation as we complete this great addition to the park. For additional information, please contact the Engineering and Environmental Services Department at (949) 443-6337.

## Heating and Air Conditioning Facility Improvements

The Public Works Operations & Maintenance team has completed significant heating and air conditioning upgrades at both the Community Center and the Nydegger Building. These improvements replace aging and failing equipment that had reached the end of its service life. The newly installed systems will provide enhanced energy efficiency, greater reliability and improved comfort for all visitors and program participants. These upgrades reflect the City's ongoing commitment to maintaining safe, efficient and welcoming public facilities.





## Spring Eggstravaganza Community Event

Join us for a fun-filled day at the City's annual Spring Eggstravaganza on Saturday, March 28. With support from local organizations, this festive community event is designed especially for children ages 2–12 and will take place from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at Los Rios Park (31790 Paseo Adelanto). Families can enjoy a variety of exciting activities, including egg hunts, face painting, a puppet show, crafts, games, and bunny photos. Best of all, all activities are free! For more information, please see the attached flyer or contact the Community Services Department at (949) 493-5911.

## Retirement Celebration for Heidi Ivanoff

Join us on Wednesday, March 18, at the Community Center (25925 Camino Del Avion) as we celebrate Community Services Manager Heidi Ivanoff's remarkable 40-year legacy of service to the San Juan Capistrano community. This special evening will recognize Heidi's dedication, leadership and lasting impact while we gather to wish her all the best in retirement. The event will take place from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., with the program beginning at 6:00 p.m. For additional information please see the attached invitation.

## Orange County Fire Authority Open House

On Saturday, March 14, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., OCFA invites Orange County residents to attend an Open House at its headquarters located at 1 Fire Authority Road in Irvine. This free public event will include interactive and educational activities for all ages including fire safety and K-9 demonstrations. For more information, please see the attached flyer and visit the OCFA [website](#).

## Become a Volunteer Tour Guide

The San Juan Capistrano Historical Society and the San Juan Capistrano Friends of the Library are looking for enthusiastic community members to join their team of volunteer tour guides. If you'd like to stay active, meet new people and discover more about the rich history of San Juan Capistrano, contact Ann Ronan at [annronan@gmail.com](mailto:annronan@gmail.com) to learn how to get involved. For additional information, please see the attached flyer.

## UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEMS

### *(Tentative and Subject to Change)*

#### March 17, 2026

- Proclamation Declaring “Fiesta De Las Golondrinas”
- Recognition of Leticia Torres, Community Services Officer; Justin Montano, Chief of Police Services; and Heidi Ivanoff, Community Services Manager, on their Retirements
- Finding of Public Convenience and Necessity for Proposed Alcohol Service at Capo Cigar Lounge
- Vacation of City Right of Way for Mission Place Outdoor Seating Area

# THE BEAUTIFUL CITY OF SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO



PRESENTS

SWALLOWS & MERCADO  
DAY PARADE & STREET FAIRE

# TROLLEY

FREE  
CONVENIENT  
FUN



Trolley Service

**SAT, MAR 21, 2026**  
9AM-10PM

Downtown San Juan Capistrano

9AM-6PM | 11AM-1PM  
Mercado Street Faire | Swallows Day Parade

- LOS RIOS LINE (WEST SJC)  
9AM-3PM | 3PM-10PM
- ▲ ORTEGA LINE (EAST SJC)  
9AM-3PM | 3PM-10PM
- ★ TROLLEY CONNECTION POINT

Trolley Frequency  
**20 MINUTES**



A CELEBRATION OF  
**THE SWALLOWS RETURN**  
**FIESTA DE LAS GOLONDRINAS**



Scan the QR code to visit  
the Passio GO website or  
download the Passio GO app  
for real-time trolley tracking.

For more information, please call Community Services (949) 493-5911



# ST. JOSEPH'S DAY &



# RETURN OF THE SWALLOWS CELEBRATION

Thursday • March 19, 2026  
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.



*Join us for the world-renowned tradition celebrating the annual return of the famous swallows at historic Mission San Juan Capistrano.*

## FEATURING:

- Mariachi Performances • Flamenco Dancers •
- Journeys to the Past ~ Native American Story Telling •
- History of St. Joseph's Day and Swallows Legend • Station Tours (10AM – 2PM) •
- In-Person Lecture by Swallows Expert, Dr. Charles R. Brown •
- Performance by the Swing Dolls • WWII Fighter Pilot Flyover and More!

## ADMISSION:

**Members:** FREE for Mission Preservation Society Members with active ID card

**Non-Members:** \$20 for Adults • \$17 for Seniors • \$14 for Students and Youth (ages 5+)

**Veterans and Active Military with ID:** \$17 (with valid ID; buy onsite on the day of the event)

## VENDORS:

**Bakery 3:16 Shop** (Sweet Treats)

**"Swallows Nest" Cotton Candy** (proceeds support the Historic Mission)

**Crafty Cruiser by AR Workshop** (Bracelet and Trucker Hat Making)

Purchase tickets today at [www.missionsjc.com/swallows](http://www.missionsjc.com/swallows)

**Save the Date!**

**Swallows Parade Day • Saturday, March 21, 2026 • 11:00 a.m.**

Reserve Free Member Tickets

Renew Your Membership for This Event

26801 Old Mission Road | San Juan Capistrano  
[www.missionsjc.com](http://www.missionsjc.com) (949) 234-1300





# Commuter Alert

**Date:** March 10, 2026

**Alert #:** 26-206

**District:** 8 Riverside/San Bernardino

**Project ID:** EA-08-1K690

**Contact:** [Carolina.Rojas@dot.ca.gov](mailto:Carolina.Rojas@dot.ca.gov)

**Phone:** (909) 289-2836

**For Immediate Release**

## SR-74 Ortega Highway Lane Widening Safety Project March 2026

**RIVERSIDE, CA** – The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is alerting the public that construction contractors continue construction work for a \$96.1M safety and widening project on State Route 74 near Lake Elsinore. *Weather permitting.*



**WEEKNIGHT NIGHTLY ROAD CLOSURES CONTINUE FROM 8:00 P.M. TO 5:00 A.M. AT MONTE VISTA, WEST OF EL CARISO CAMP GRD RD (PM 6.6) TO GRAND AVE (PM 11) IN LAKE ELSINORE.**

All work is scheduled from Monday to Friday. Crews will work on excavation, wall placement and various activities. Day work may occur in shoulder areas. *Note: Work dependent on contractor receiving proper materials for each job function. These schedules can be changed, delayed or canceled at any time.*

**Flagging/piloting operations will occur from 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. in both directions.** The route will be **fully closed from 10:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m. from South Main Divide to Grand Ave in Lake Elsinore.** No access to non-residents will be provided after 10 p.m. except for emergency services for an emergency situation. Law enforcement will be on site. No access will be provided to and from Lake Elsinore, as



# Commuter Alert

crews will be performing excavation work. Residents will need to utilize a detour through Orange County if they are trying to get to and from Lake Elsinore. **These nightly closures will be needed due to the narrow two-lane configuration of Ortega Highway and limited shoulder width.** The excavation work poses a potential hazard to motorists traveling near the active work zone.

Flagging operations are scheduled to occur at various locations both day and night. This may cause delays, plan ahead, as flagging will be performed in both directions and may take up to **20 minutes of wait time per side per location.** Please reduce your speed when near work areas for the safety of crews and other drivers on the route. Signage will be placed ahead to indicate approaching roadway work.

**A 55-HOUR FULL WEEKEND CLOSURE is scheduled from March 13 through March 16. Flagging will occur on Friday, March 13 from 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. A FULL ROAD CLOSURE will start Friday, March 13 at 10:00 p.m. through March 16 at 4:00 a.m. Flagging may resume as needed from 4:00 a.m. to 5:00 a.m. on Monday morning. RESIDENT ACCESS ONLY will be permitted during full closure via PILOT CAR. Expect delays! NO THROUGH ACCESS between Orange County and Lake Elsinore. Closure work limits are South Main Divide to Grand Ave. Residents at El Cariso Village and west of S. Main Divide will be granted Orange County access only. Residents east of S. Main Divide to Grand Ave. will be granted Lake Elsinore access only.**

Use alternate routes I-5, I-15 and SR-91 as detours during closure hours. Visit [quickmap.dot.ca.gov](http://quickmap.dot.ca.gov) or download the mobile application to better plan your route.

***NOTE: Remember to follow the posted speed limit on routes near the work areas following Construction Work Zone Speed Limit Reduction provisions.***

**Please remember to slow for the cone zone, being mindful of work along the route and take precaution in flagging zones. One-way traffic zones will be directed via flagging operations. Work operations may cause significant vibrations and construction noise.**

Know before you go! To stay on top of roadwork in the Inland Empire go to [Caltrans District 8](#) and sign up for commuter alerts. Follow us for the latest information on [Facebook](#) and [X](#). To assist in planning your commute, view live traffic conditions using [QuickMap](#). To sign up for email alerts click [here!](#)

For those with sensory disabilities requiring alternate formats (i.e. Braille, large print, sign language interpreter, etc.) and those needing information in a language other than English, please contact Public Affairs at 909-383-4631 or TTY 711.

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CITY OF SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO

# Spring Eggstravaganza

Free Activities

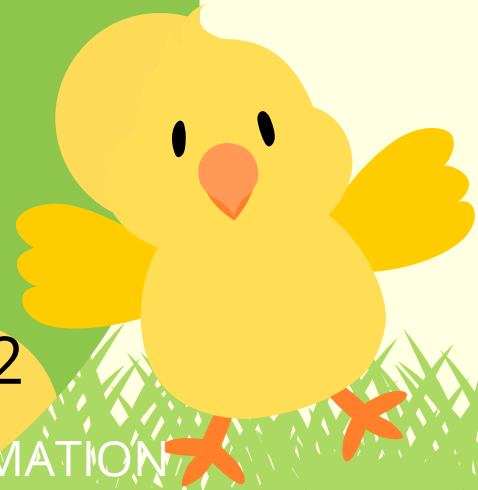
SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 2026 | 10 AM - 12 PM

Los Rios Park - 31790 Paseo Adelanto

-  BAG DECORATING & CRAFTS
-  FACE PAINTING
-  BALLOON TWISTING
-  PHOTOS WITH THE BUNNY
-  HOT DOGS
-  PUPPET SHOWS

## EGG HUNT

- 11:00 A.M. AGES: 2-3
- 11:10 A.M. AGES: 4-5
- 11:40 A.M. AGES: 6-9
- 11:50 A.M. AGES: 10-12



CALL (949) 493-5911 FOR MORE INFORMATION



YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD



Santa Margarita Water District



Mike Ahumada  
Realtor  
949 525 2927  
mike.ahumada@remax.com



CITY OF SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO

# Spring Eggstravaganza

actividades  
gratuitas

SABADO, 28 MARZO, 2026 | 10 AM - 12 PM

Parque Los Rios - 31790 Paseo Adelanto

- DECORACION DE BOLSA PARA HUEVITOS
- BALLOON TWISTING
- PERRITOS CALIENTES
- PINTA CARAS
- FOTOS CON EL CONEJITO
- TEATRO MARIONETAS

## CAZAS DE HUEVOS

- 11:00 A.M. EDADES: 2-3
- 11:10 A.M. EDADES: 4-5
- 11:40 A.M. EDADES: 6-9
- 11:50 A.M. EDADES: 10-12



LLAMAR AL (949) 493-5911 PARA MAS INFORMACION



Mike Ahumada  
Realtor  
949 525 2927  
Brea 9278523





# *Recognition of a Remarkable Career*

**Please join us in celebrating  
Heidi Ivanoff's 40-year legacy of service to  
San Juan Capistrano. Together, we will recognize her  
dedication, leadership, and lasting impact on the  
community while wishing her all the best in  
retirement.**

*Congratulations, Heidi!*

**MARCH**

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WEDNESDAY

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**18**

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5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

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SJC Community Center  
25925 Camino Del Avion

*Program begins at 6:00 p.m.  
Light Refreshments Served*





ORANGE COUNTY  
FIRE AUTHORITY

# OPEN HOUSE 2026

Saturday, March 14

10 am - 3 pm

1 Fire Authority Road  
Irvine, CA 92602

For more information,  
please visit [ocfa.org](http://ocfa.org)  
or call (714) 573-6200





# BECOME A VOLUNTEER TOUR GUIDE

**Stay Active. Meet People. Share Local History.**

Are you looking for a meaningful way to stay engaged in the community?

Do you enjoy meeting new people, learning interesting stories, and getting a little light exercise? Join our welcoming team of volunteer tour guides in beautiful San Juan Capistrano.

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## Why This Is a Great Fit for Active Adults

- ✓ Volunteer just **once every 4–5 weeks**
- ✓ Light walking on mostly flat routes
- ✓ Flexible scheduling
- ✓ Friendly, supportive group
- ✓ Ongoing learning and social gatherings

It's a wonderful way to stay connected, keep your mind sharp, and enjoy our town's rich history.

## Saturday Tour Options

### **10:00 AM Tour**

Benefits the **SJC Friends of the Library**

- About 1 hour
- Approximately 1 mile on flat ground
- Route: Train Depot to the Library

### **1:00 PM Tour**

Benefits the **SJC Historical Society**

- About 45 minutes
- Route: Los Rios Park to the Historical Society Museum

## No Experience Needed

We provide:

- Complete training
- Easy-to-follow tour scripts
- Quarterly education and social get-togethers

All you need is enthusiasm and a love of our community.

**Contact: Ann Ronan 949-702-3977 [annronan@gmail.com](mailto:annronan@gmail.com)**