



# CITY OF COSTA MESA

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FROM THE OFFICE OF THE INTERIM DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

## MEDIA RELEASE

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### **City of Costa Mesa helps save 4-decade holiday tradition**

COSTA MESA, CALIF.—There will be a Charlie Brown Christmas in Costa Mesa after all this year, thanks to a deal struck today by the City and Jim Jordan, whose family for 44 years has put up an elaborate holiday display at their Eastside home using Peanuts cartoon characters.

Jordan's residential property had been recently foreclosed on, leaving the future of the Peanuts gang in jeopardy. Jordan said the attraction draws more than 80,000 visitors each year.

The Peanuts display—including a stage for Santa—will be moved to the lawn outside of City Hall, allowing Costa Mesans and others throughout Orange County to enjoy the popular holiday tradition.

Jordan and his crew of volunteers will begin setting up the series of holiday scenes on Friday, with the display scheduled to be officially open on Tuesday, Dec. 13. City Council members will throw the ceremonial switch at 5:30 p.m. on Dec. 13 to light up the display.

"I'm so humbled and overwhelmed at the support from the community and City Hall that I can't even express it," Jordan said.

Santa will be making nightly visits from Dec. 18 through Dec. 23.

"This is a wonderful opportunity to save a beloved Costa Mesa tradition, and allow residents to come out and visit their City Hall," said Tom Hatch, the City's chief executive officer. "We were please we could help."

Jordan said he needs volunteers to help set up the display and also to work as elves each night that display is open. Financial donations from individuals, families, companies and nonprofits are also welcome. Those interested should call City staff member Sylvia Chalmers at (714) 754-5099.