



EAST SACRAMENTO IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

SUMMER / FALL 2012 NEWSLETTER

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Meeting Announcement Fall 2012 General Membership Meeting

Please join us for an exciting lineup:

7:00 PM Wednesday
September 19, 2012
David Lubin School

Sue Brown for Council
Member Cohn – McKinley
Rebuild Update

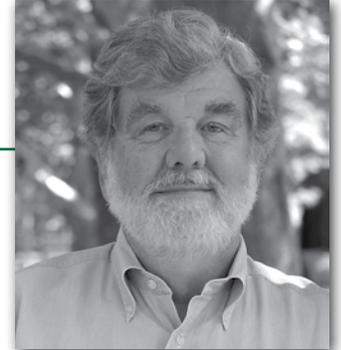
Neighborhood Public Safety
Issues - Sacramento Police
Captain Ken Barnard

Measure T – City of Sacramento
Yard Waste Program

Panelists: Phil Pluckebaum,
Support; John Deglow,
Oppose; Steve Harriman,
City Representative

Sutter Memorial Neighborhood
Plan – StoneBridge Properties

President's Message: Paul Noble



There's a lot to report on since our last newsletter. Those of you who attended our spring general meeting heard presentations by Phil Serna, our new representative on the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors; Friends of East Sacramento, discussing their efforts to save the Clunie Clubhouse; and Council Member Steve Cohn, with his state of the neighborhood report. If you were able to attend the Pops in the Park concert hosted by ESIA in June, you saw us present the Sidney Pope Memorial Orchid Award to Friends of East Sacramento and the Onion Award to the blighted alleyway between L and K Streets connecting 30th St. to Alhambra Blvd. In addition, Steve Cohn presented his Lifetime Volunteer Award to Jim and Cindy Collins, both long time members of ESIA, for the many years they have given back to the community. I'm sure you also enjoyed the salsa music of Ivan Najera and Friends.

Perhaps the most important issue for your Board of Directors has been dealing with the changes proposed by City staff to solid waste collection. (See articles and member survey elsewhere in this newsletter.) Other issues we've considered include the following:

- Continued monitoring of the proposed redevelopment of the Sutter Memorial Hospital site (see article from Stonebridge Properties).
- Investigating how the "tent ordinance" applies to new houses proposed for parcels created by the merger of two lots.
- Reviewing five demolition and/or remodeling projects, none of which had significant issues.

Most recently ESIA, like the rest of the neighborhood, was confronted with the arson attack on the McKinley Park playground. (See article by our newest ESIA Board member, Tom Griffith.) We immediately voted to donate \$1,000 toward the rebuilding of the playground, and we stand ready to provide further assistance as the needs to complete the project become clear.

Finally, I'd like to invite you to attend our fall General Membership Meeting scheduled for 7:00 PM Wednesday, September 19 at David Lubin School. As you can see, we have an interesting list of speakers, so we hope to see you there.

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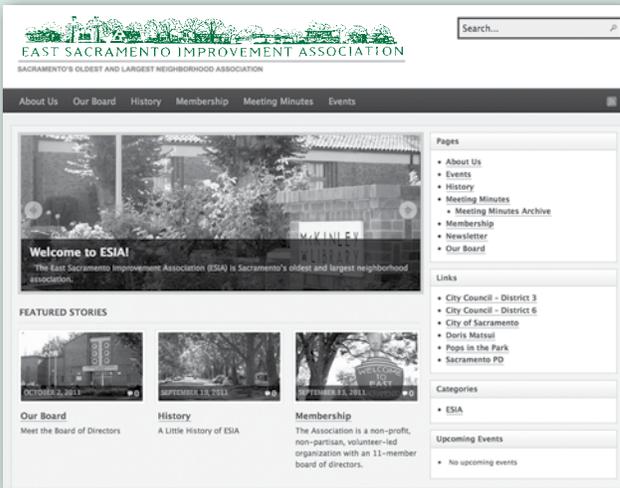
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◀ Meetings Scheduled

ESIA Website Update

Our new web site, <http://eastsacimprovement.org>, has been getting rave reviews by our members.



Thank you to all who have sent in suggestions. We have completed all the corrections and all links are fully operational. One of our new posts will be to feature new businesses that move into East Sac –so if you know of a business coming to our area let us know and we will feature them on the site. Send us your pictures: if you have a great picture of East Sac, events in East Sac or new businesses send us those photos to add to the site. We are still working on getting the PayPal set up on the site so you can pay your dues on line—this will hopefully be up soon. Please continue to send us your suggestions for the web site, news items and your comments.



Sutter Park Neighborhood

Re-connecting the Neighborhood *By StoneBridge Properties*

Sutter Hospital constructed the original Sutter Maternity Hospital in 1937 as the first separate maternity hospital west of the Mississippi. Originally situated on the “edge” of town, the 20-acre hospital has served the needs of countless families, and delivered well over 300,000 babies. Over the years, the name of the hospital has changed and its services expanded. Over the next couple of years, Sutter will be transitioning from its present location near 53rd and F St. in East Sacramento to its newly renovated and constructed Midtown campus. “We are proactively planning for the closure of Sutter Memorial. The closure presents a unique opportunity to redevelop the site in a manner which complements and reconnects the existing neighborhood” says Keri Thomas, Regional Director, Community & Government Relations for Sutter Health.

In an effort to create such a neighborhood, Sutter reached out to Stonebridge Properties, a subsidiary of Teichert Land Co. “StoneBridge continues the Teichert tradition of being engaged in the community...we believe StoneBridge’s thoughtful, community-based approach to design and development is well suited for the redevelopment of this hospital site” states Thomas.

StoneBridge performed substantial due diligence as part of a comprehensive effort to develop a reuse plan which complements the existing neighborhood. The due diligence included a thorough history of the site, as well as extensive neighborhood and community outreach. Stonebridge incorporated significant neighborhood feedback into the plan which was recently submitted to the City of Sacramento for review. According to Randy Sater, President of Stonebridge, “by submitting the application, we are now beginning the formal dialogue with City staff. As part of this effort, we will continue our outreach into the community to refine the plan – getting neighborhood feedback is critically important to us.”

The proposed plan includes 100-125 homes and provides a mixture of iconic East Sacramento housing laid out around integrated streets and open space areas. “The design really reflects feedback from the community. It focuses on reconnecting and integrating a mixed-residential and multi-generational community within the existing neighborhood”, says Sater. The innovative mixture of housing types reflects those found throughout East Sacramento. The project features multiple common recreational areas which are accessible through adjacent greenways and sidewalks. The circulation framework for the neighborhood features multiple connections to the surrounding neighborhood, establishing a logical extension of the existing street pattern. Such details, when accompanied by carefully crafted and implemented Design Guidelines will result in a neighborhood that will fit in context with an East Sacramento look and feel. “It’s all about reconnecting the neighborhood”, Sater concludes.

The plan will eventually go through environmental review by the City of Sacramento, which can take between 12-18 months. “We are still very early in the process and expect on-going feedback from the neighbors and City staff.” states Sater.

For more information, please contact Randy Sater, with StoneBridge Properties, LLC at (916) 484-3200 or visit www.sutterparkneighborhood.com.

Measure T?

By ESIA Board members

The vote on Measure T is drawing close and ESIA would like to provide our members with good information as you are contemplating your vote in November. ESIA has not yet taken a position and we would like your opinion. Measure T would repeal Measure A, and allow the City to require that yard waste be containerized. Measure T is fairly simple in itself, and the City has proposed a program that would still provide for bi-weekly loose leaf collection on the street during November – January. ESIA would like to provide you with some pro and con arguments.

Arguments for:

Use of the claw year-round is a costly, labor-intensive process that leaves our streets perpetually littered with piles of garden waste. If measure T is passed, the following benefits will be realized:

- More cost-efficient garden waste pickup will allow the City to freeze current trash collection fees at their current level at least through 2015.
- Our neighborhoods will look cleaner, without numerous trash piles that attract illegal dumping, cause safety problems for cyclists and reduce the number of available parking spaces.
- The City would still provide bi-weekly loose pickup in the peak leaf fall season of November through January.
- The City will revive its neighborhood cleanup program, which gives each household one free call per year for five cubic yards of most any type of material except hazardous waste.

- The change would be environment friendly, taking the claw and associated trucks off the road from February through October, thereby significantly reducing CO2 emissions.

The change to a modern, streamlined system will benefit our neighborhood. Vote yes on Measure T.

Arguments against:

Once again the City is cutting back on vital services that make our neighborhood a pleasant place to live. If the City were more efficient in its waste collection process (for example, requiring competitive bids), this reduction would not be necessary. If Measure T passes, there will be negative impacts:

- Do we really trust the City to provide three months of bi-weekly loose collection during prime leaf season, or will we see that eroded both in length and frequency?
- Is three months of loose collection really enough? Pruning season comes later in the spring and typically generates more volume than a container can accommodate.
- Forcing the elderly to containerize green waste will be a physical burden on them.
- Lot sizes in East Sacramento are fairly small. Do we really want to force residents to put yet another bulky container in their small yards?
- Lack of regular claw service encourages unscrupulous gardeners to blow waste into the street. Some have even been observed blowing green waste into the storm drains.

In 1988 City voters were asked to repeal Measure A, and they voted overwhelmingly against repeal. Vote no on Measure T.

Survey

Please fill out our survey. Either clip the survey below and send to ESIA, PO Box 19147, Sacramento, CA 95819, or fill out the survey on-line at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/H3JBD62>.

1. In 1977 the voters of Sacramento approved Measure A, an initiative that prohibits the City of Sacramento from requiring the containerization of green waste for pickup. In order to make it possible to implement the first recommendation above, City Council recently voted to place an initiative on the fall ballot repealing Measure A. How do you feel about repealing Measure A?

Favor repeal Not sure Oppose repeal

2. Are you concerned that, if Measure A is repealed, the loose pickup during peak leaf season will not be implemented as proposed?

Concerned Not sure Not concerned

3. What best describes how your green waste is collected now?

Can only Claw only Can, except claw in peak season

4. How do you feel about reducing the pickup frequency for recyclables from weekly to biweekly?

Support reduction Not sure Oppose reduction

McKinley Park Playground

By Tom Griffith, Board Member

So sad right now. Did you Sactown folks hear that the McKinley Park Playground was burned down last night?! I am so upset right now. My mother and sister and I helped build that... yes, with our bare hands.

This posting on my daughter Rose's Facebook page is how I learned of the McKinley Park fire the morning after. It was a different era in our family in 18 years ago. We still had two of our three daughters living at home. These two, Rose and Jane, were among the 2500 volunteers, who helped erect the playground during four days in October 1994.

McKinley Park was and continues to be a magnet. The duck pond, pool, playing fields, and rose garden draw people from way beyond local neighborhoods. The playground apparatus, however, is the main attraction. For the thousands of kids who have climbed, hung, balanced and swung at the playground, fears have been overcome and confidence has been built. Assistant Chief Niko King from the Sacramento Fire Department aptly described the effect of the playground fire: "The effects of the blaze are far-reaching. It's not a single family; it's not a single business. It impacts the entire community" (Sacramento Bee, 7/29/2012)

The response to the fire has been impressive. The Bee has thoroughly covered the fire and subsequent developments in their print and online publications. Individuals and organizations in the community have expressed interest in

supporting a rebuild of the entire playground structure. ESIA voted in our August 6 meeting to make an initial donation of \$1000. Councilman Steve Cohn has created a website to report on rebuilding developments and a central, reliable account to receive donations to support the reconstruction effort.

The latest news from Steve Cohn's monthly e-newsletters, "Cohn's Corner," available on the City Council website, includes three items I haven't seen elsewhere:

- Demolition of the damaged structure and fence will occur by the end of August.
- The source of the fire was in the center of the burned structure under a covered area.
- Donations totaling over \$11,000 have been received.

What might you do? You can learn about developments on the city's website, <http://www.cityofsacramento.org/rebuildmckinley/>. If you'd like to donate you may do so on this website or by sending a check payable to "Gifts to Share/Rebuild McKinley," addressed to Gifts to Share, 915 I Street, 5th Floor, Sacramento, CA, 95814. If you would like to discuss rebuilding costs and potential plans, come to a meeting in the Clunie Clubhouse Grand Hall in McKinley Park at 6:00 pm on September 6.

It looks like a phoenix will be rising from the ashes – and I'm counting on this one lasting longer than the first!

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