



FRIENDS OF SUNSET PARK

A California nonprofit corporation of Sunset Park residents • Box 5823, Santa Monica, California 90409-5823 • FriendsofSP@yahoo.com

APRIL 2015 NEWSLETTER

Layout by Bill Josephs

FRIENDS OF SUNSET PARK ANNUAL MEETING

Saturday, May 2, 2015

1:30 to 3:30 PM

Mt. Olive Church, 14th & Ocean Park Blvd.



Speakers

Kevin McKeown

Mayor of the City of Santa Monica

Michael Brodsky

Airport2Park.org

Erik Milosevich

Beat 2 Neighborhood Resource Officer
Santa Monica Police Department

Lauralee Asch

Lead Crime Prevention Coordinator
Santa Monica Police Department



*Refreshments, Music, and Door Prizes
Vote for the 2015–16 Board of Directors*



1) In order to vote, you will need to be an FOSP member by April 22nd, ten days before the election.

A membership form is on the last page of the newsletter.

2) Current members can renew their memberships at the meeting.

3) If you received this newsletter by mail, the mailing label will have the date when you last paid dues.

2014 Annual Meeting



General Meeting



Break-out Groups



Emmalie Award winner
Cathy McCabe



SMPD
Neighborhood
Resource Officer
Artis Williams

Zoning Ordinance Update

On April 14 and 15, the City Council reviewed the draft Zoning Ordinance Update (ZOU). The ZOU will come back to the Council for a first reading on either April 28 or May 5.

Residents can speak during Public Comment, and we also encourage you to email your comments to Council@smgov.net

The purpose of the Zoning Ordinance Update is to codify the policies in the 2010 Land Use and Circulation Element (LUCE). According to the LUCE, “The highest priority of the community was the **preservation of the existing character and scale of Santa Monica’s neighborhoods.**” (Page 3)

The LUCE describes itself as “a conservation plan that provides for an **overall reduction in building height.**” (Page 5)

Unfortunately, the Draft Zoning Ordinance **allows increased heights and densities in ALL neighborhoods, including Sunset Park.**

Residents are not afraid of growth, but we want appropriate, managed growth.

Transit-oriented development – The impact of the Expo Light Rail on Santa Monica is still unknown. City officials are currently predicting a slow roll-out, yet assumptions were made in the LUCE that it would dramatically reduce com-

muter traffic in and out of the city. The LUCE and the LUCE EIR also assumed, erroneously, that the Subway to the Sea would reach Santa Monica in the foreseeable future.

The need for additional housing – The Regional Housing Need Allocation (RHNA) is the state-mandated process to identify the total number of housing units (by affordability level) that each city in California is expected to build. According to the current Housing Element of the city’s General Plan, from 2006 to 2014 the city’s RHNA allocation was 662 units. However, 1,543 units were built (**233% of the target**).

The RHNA allocation for 2021 was set at 1,371 multifamily units. **As of January 1, 2014, that target was already within reach**, as 1,239 new units had either received building permits, were being constructed, or were ready for occupancy.

Population – According to City Data, the population of Santa Monica in 2013 was 92,471, a **10% increase since 2000**. According to 2010 census data, the population density of Santa Monica, at 10,178 residents per square mile, while a bit lower than Philadelphia, was **a bit higher than Miami.**

How fast do we want the city’s population to grow, and how many residents can the city’s infrastructure (water, utilities, roads, public

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Senior Exemption: Measure R Parcel Tax

On February 5, 2008, voters in Santa Monica and Malibu approved by 73% the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Measure R Parcel Tax.

In accordance with the Senior Exemption provision of the Measure R Parcel Tax, the 2015–16 forms are being mailed and are due to be returned/postmarked by June 30, 2015.

To qualify for the Measure R Senior Exemption in 2015–16, senior citizens:

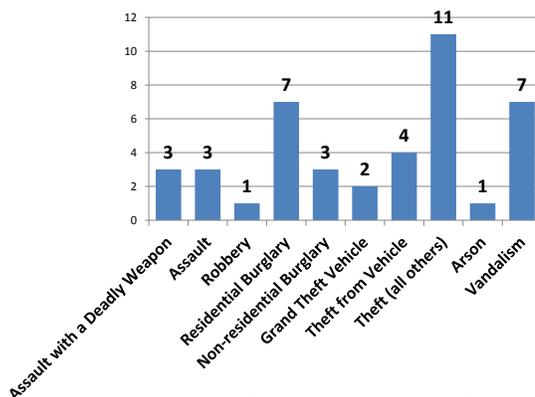
- must be age 65 by June 30th of the year the application is made;
- own and occupy the property as their principal place of residence; and,
- annually apply for the exemption by the application deadline of each year.

Renewal Forms: Those senior citizens who have previously applied and received the Senior Exemption are being sent 2015–16 renewal forms. The form must be completed, signed and returned/postmarked by June 30, 2015 with a self-addressed stamped envelope (SASE) enclosed. If you do not receive a renewal form by May 1st, call the Measure R Office at (310) 450-8338, ext. 70263.

First-time applicants who qualify may call (310) 450-8338, ext. 70263 for an application to be mailed to them. A first time application is also available on the District’s website: http://www.smmusd.org/fiscal/senior_exempt.html

This application must be completed, signed and returned/postmarked, along with two required proofs (age and property ownership), by June 30, 2015 with a self-addressed stamped envelope (SASE) enclosed.

Sunset Park Crime Mapping March 2015



<http://www.crimemapping.com/map/ca/santamonica>

City to Expand Park Space at the Santa Monica Airport

BY CATHY LARSON, FOSP AIRPORT COMMITTEE CHAIR

On March 24, after four hours of public comment from more than 120 speakers, the Santa Monica City Council made some decisions as to what will transpire on July 1, 2015, when the 1984 operating agreement with the FAA comes to an end.

The airport property will be divided into three parcels: *The Non-Aviation Parcel, the 1948 Instrument of Transfer Parcel, and the Western 1949 Quit Claim Parcel*. ALL leases on all three parcels terminate on June 30, 2015.

The *Non-Aviation Parcel* south of the runway was designated as such in 1984 but as part of the agreement the city had to maintain a minimum number of aircraft tie-downs (aircraft parking spaces). Space on the *Non-Aviation Parcel* was used to meet that requirement. That requirement will expire along with the 1984 Agreement on June 30, 2015, allowing the City to change use of that land immediately.

Following the mandate of Measure LC, which voters overwhelmingly passed in November 2014, the Council instructed staff to begin the planning process to expand the 7-acre Airport Park onto the 12 acres of land that will become available

in the *Non-Aviation Parcel* on July 1, 2015, with the goal of creating additional playing fields and recreational space within the next two to three years.

On the northern *1948 Instrument of Transfer Parcel* the Council directed staff to offer three-year leases to the two main Fixed Based Operators (aviation servicing businesses aka FBOs) and other lessees with *conditions*. The City is currently involved in ongoing litigation regarding its rights in managing and land use of airport property that directly impact its ability to transform the use of this parcel. In the City Attorney's opinion, legal proceedings will not be resolved in a time frame of less than three years.

Previously subsidized aviation leases will be raised to market rates and will include conditions that protect the city against litigation in the event that the airport is downsized or closed before the expiration of the lease.

The City will directly manage the current lucrative sub-leases (including the Volkswagen Design Studio) that they were generating huge profits for the FBOs.

Due to a minimum of contentious legal issues on the western *1949 Quit Claim Parcel*, the City anticipates the ability to exert its proprietary rights sooner than the *Instrument of Transfer Parcel*. Therefore, the Council directed staff to only offer month-to-month leases to give the City flexibility in transforming the use of this parcel.

The City will allow the negotiation of longer term leases on the *Non-Aviation Parcel* with the intent of creating stability for the non-aviation businesses (i.e., the Spitfire Grill) and cultural/art uses (the Museum of Flying, Ruskin Theater, the Santa Monica Art Studios, etc.)



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transportation, fire, police, etc.) support?

The need for commercial development

– Between 1980 and 2007, the city added 9 million square feet of commercial space (office, retail, and industrial). The city's own economic statistics for 2014 state that the city had 9,093 businesses, 82,578 employees, 90,223 residents, and 7.3 million visitors per year.

How many more businesses do we need?

In addition, the city has **no control** over expansion by state agencies such as Santa Monica College (34,000 students enrolled in Fall 2014) or the Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center. They require review/approvals only from the Division of the

State Architect, rather than from the city's Planning Department.

Commercial intrusions in residential neighborhoods – The FOSP Board opposes businesses such as hotels, Airbnb, and commercial day care centers moving into our residential neighborhoods. We support adaptive re-use and the preservation of the low-rise scale of our city, including courtyard apartments. We think 2nd floor balconies/decks should be included in lot coverage calculations to avoid overwhelming existing homes.

In conclusion, **the city exists for its residents, not the developers**. The proposed up-zoning in the ZOU will increase profits for developers. But in driving up land

values, it will incentivize demolition, make housing less affordable not more affordable, and drive out the unique locally-owned retail businesses that residents treasure. Many of our members feel that **we don't need more height and density than what is already allowed under the current Zoning Ordinance**.

You may or may not agree with the FOSP Board. Let the City Council know what you think by speaking during Public Comment at meetings and by sending email to **Council@smgov.net** before the meetings. Go to <http://www.smgov.net/departments/clerk/agendas.aspx> to see Council agendas and staff reports.

Santa Monica College Update

Executive Vice President Jeffery Shimizu has been appointed to serve as Interim President at the end of the current academic year, when President Chui Tsang plans to retire. SMC anticipates appointing a new president on or about January 1, 2016.

The Santa Monica Community College District is a single campus district governed by a seven member Board of Trustees and a student trustee. Although the district is comprised basically of the cities of Santa Monica and Malibu (SMC and SMMUSD used to share a Board), it draws a large number of its students from the greater Los Angeles area due to its open access policy.

The college, which has five satellite campuses in addition to its 38-acre main campus, also has the highest international student population of any community college in the state – approximately 3,300 students from more than 100 countries.

SMC currently has approximately 33,000 students, 1,400 faculty members (full-time and part-time), and 543 non-teaching staff. It has a total adopted budget of \$557 million.

According to SMC Fall 2014 enrollment data posted at <http://www.smc.edu/EnrollmentDevelopment/InstitutionalResearch/Documents/Fall%20Documents/LastHSAttended.pdf> – in Fall 2014,

- 4% of SMC students were graduates of Santa Monica High School.
- No Malibu High School graduates were listed.
- No Olympic High School graduates were listed.
- 50% were graduates of California high schools other than Santa Monica/Malibu Unified School District.
- 30% were graduates of out-of-state high schools.
- 17% were graduates of foreign high schools.

Calendar of Events

April 22 – Planning Commission – 7 PM – City Hall – The agenda will include an appeal of the Architectural Review Board approval of the design for a 10-unit apartment buildings at 802 Ashland/2919 Lincoln.

Santa Monica Public Library – Join staff for one of the open community forums to share your hopes for the future of the Library and to learn what other 21st century libraries are offering. For more information, visit www.smpl.org or call 310-458-8600.

April 22 – 6:30 PM – Fairview Library, 2101 Ocean Park Blvd.

April 23 – 5:30 PM – Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd.

April 24 – SMC Planetarium – View the crescent moon, Venus, and Jupiter through a variety of telescopes – 8 PM – Drescher Hall 2nd floor, 1900 Pico Blvd. – www.smc.edu/planetarium

April 25 – Arts & Literacy Festival – Pico Branch Library – Noon to 2 PM – storytellers, puppet shows, book fair, crafts, community booths

April 27 – Airport Commission – 7:30 PM – City Hall

April 28 – City Council – 6:30 PM – City Hall

April 28 through June 2 – Green Living Workshop – 7 PM – Attend one class or all six – Main Library

May 2 – Civic Auditorium Community Workshop – 9:30 AM – Civic Auditorium East Wing

May 5 – City Council – 6:30 PM – City Hall

May 9 – Santa Monica Festival – 11 AM to 6 PM – Clover Park, Ocean Park Blvd. & 25th

June 1 – Fairview Library closes for renovation.

2015 MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Zip _____ Phone _____

Email _____

Today's date _____

I will help with:

- Airport Committee
- Annual Meeting
- Crime/Safety/Graffiti
- Emergency Preparedness
- Membership Committee
- Neighborhood Mailings
- Planning and Development
- Santa Monica College
- Traffic, Parking, Pedestrian Safety
- Website/Internet

Membership Dues:

- \$30 Regular Household Dues
- \$50 or \$100 for Sponsor
- \$10 Minimum Household Dues
- Additional Donation

(Please check):

- New Renewal

*Please make check payable to
"Friends of Sunset Park,"
and mail to:*

FOSP, P.O. Box 5823, Santa Monica, CA 90409

What I like best about living in Sunset Park: _____

My greatest concerns are: _____

Membership dues and contributions to FOSP, a 501(c)(4) organization, are not tax deductible.