



FRIENDS OF SUNSET PARK

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

MAY 2017 NEWSLETTER

Layout by Bill Josephs

Downtown Community Plan

According to Santa Monica Architects for a Responsible Tomorrow (SMa.r.t.), “It would seem that the current Downtown Specific Plan (DSP), as written, is trying to get 10 lbs. of developers’ dreams (EIR’s actual weight) into a 5 oz. box....The recently proposed Downtown Community Plan (DCP) is studying two scenarios for projected commercial growth in our downtown to 2030: Plan A at 4.73 million sq. ft., and Plan B at 3.22 million sq. ft. Ironically, as of August 2016, there were already 27 downtown projects totaling 2.7 million sq. ft. in the pipeline. At this rate, the City could surpass their projected figures in a few years, perhaps a decade earlier than 2030...”

Planning Commission deliberations on the Downtown Community Plan are scheduled to continue until May 31. Please see below for meeting locations, times, and topics for discussion. The hearings will be broadcast live on CityTV Channel 16. See <http://tinyurl.com/k4kdzyj> for additional information.

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	DELIBERATION TOPIC
Wednesday, May 10, 2017	6 PM	Council Chamber, City Hall, 1685 Main Street	Arts/Culture, Open Space, Historic Preservation, and Housing Strategy
Thursday, May 11, 2017	6 PM	East Wing, Civic Auditorium, 1855 Main Street	Development Standards
Wednesday, May 17, 2017	6 PM	Council Chamber, City Hall, 1685 Main Street	Development Standards (overflow), Review Process and Project Requirements
Thursday, May 18, 2017	6 PM	Council Chamber, City Hall, 1685 Main Street	Mobility and Infrastructure
Wednesday, May 31, 2017	6 PM	Council Chamber, City Hall, 1685 Main Street	Vote on Planning Commission recommendations for amendments to the LUCE, CCSP, Zoning Ordinance, and Final Draft of DCP/ Final EIR

SM Airport (SMO) Update

CATHY LARSON

FOSP AIRPORT COMMITTEE CHAIR

SMO to Stay Open 12 More Years

On Saturday, January 28, 2017, the City of Santa Monica announced its intention to enter into a Consent Decree with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the US Department of Justice. The Decree was approved in closed session by a 4 to 3 vote (Gleam Davis, Pam O’Connor, Terry O’Day, and Ted Winterer voted in favor; Sue Himmelrich, Kevin McKeown, and Tony Vazquez voted against). The Decree was officially filed in federal court the following Tuesday.

In summary, the Decree:

- Delays potential closure of the Santa Monica Airport (SMO) until January 2029.
- Allows the City to shorten the runway from 5,000 ft to 3,500 ft (see more on that below) which will limit larger, faster aircraft.
- Allows the City to install runway safety areas.
- Settles all legal disputes between the Federal Government and the City.
- Releases the City from all deed restrictions imposed by the Instrument of Transfer (a document transferring the use of SMO back to the City after World War II).

continued on page 2

Save the Date!

Friends of Sunset Park
Annual General Membership Meeting
Saturday, June 17 – 1:30 PM
Mt. Olive Church,
14th & Ocean Park Blvd.

Airport, continued from page 1

- Requires City to offer three-year aviation leases
- Affirms the City's plans to establish its own Fixed Based Operator (FBO) to provide aviation services and fuel but requires the sale of jet fuel and leaded fuel for piston-powered aircraft.
- Does not prevent entities other than the FAA from bringing legal action against the City with regard to the airport -- and they already have done so.

The announcement took both the community and aviation interests by surprise, and there were immediate cries of lack of transparency in the approval process.

City's Plans to Shorten SMO's Runway Move Forward

In keeping with the recently signed Consent Decree, the City signed a feasibility/design-build agreement with AECOM/Aeroplex in February to shorten the SMO runway from 5,000 to 3,500 feet. AECOM is a well-known aviation architectural and engineering firm. The City held a stakeholder meeting on April 25 at the Museum of Flying, and the Powerpoint presentation is posted at <http://tinyurl.com/kkxcrhv>. The meeting was attended by about 150 community members and aviation interests. Two runway reduction options were presented. Option A had a larger Runway Safety Area (RSA) on the western end. Option B had equal RSAs on both western and eastern ends. Public comment was taken. Community members overwhelmingly supported Option B but had concerns that both options only planned on "restriping" the runway reduction, but not actually removing the excess asphalt.

A similar presentation was made at a special Airport Commission Meeting on May 2. After public comment and discussion, the Airport Commission approved two recommendations to the City Council.

Recommendation #1: Phase 1 implements Option B (centered runway) and prevents aircraft incursion into the decommissioned runway, and Phase 2 replaces the excess concrete/asphalt at the runway ends (which requires CEQA review).

Recommendation #2: Urges the City Council to direct staff to initiate the CEQA environmental review process as soon as possible and that it be completed with requisite haste.

The City Council will meet on May 24 at 4:30 PM, take public testimony regarding the runway shortening project design options, and make a final decision.

The award contract for the project is planned in August, with September-December set for implementation and final approval by the FAA for new flight operation procedures.

FOSP Endorses a Two-Phase Runway Reduction Project

The FOSP Board supports a two-phase plan, endorsing option B with a centered runway and equal runway safety areas (RSAs) on each end of the runway, with restriping to be implemented as soon as soon possible. While Phase 1 is being implemented, the City should move forward on the environmental review process for Phase 2, in order to permanently remove excess asphalt and replace it with natural environment compliant with any FAA height restrictions for Runway Protection Zones .

The FOSP Board also supports improving access to the expanded Airport Park by adding pedestrian walk-ways and bike lanes, and by making improvements to the Airport-Walgrove-23rd Street-Dewey intersection.

American Flyers, Gunnell Aviation, and Justice Aviation

National flight training chain **American Flyers** voluntarily decided to vacate its leased premises effective April 15. In addition to its flight school, American Flyers operated a self-service fuel station. The fuel facility (tanks, pipes, etc.) is owned by the City. Under terms of the Consent Decree, the City must either provide the fuel itself or permit a private vendor to do so on reasonable commercial terms. The City signed a licensing agreement with Aeroplex/Aerolease Group for the management and operation of the self-service fuel business as of April 16 at the former

American Flyers' premises. Meanwhile, Atlantic Aviation continues to sell Jet-A and 100LL aviation fuels. The Atlantic Aviation FBO is generally used by jet aircraft, which account for about 22 percent of SMO operations.

The departure of American Flyers has positive financial implications for the City and taxpayers. Under the terms of its 2006 lease, American Flyers was able to sub-lease City property, e.g., hangars, office space, and tie-down spaces. With its departure, all leasing revenue will be retained by the City. This is important because the Airport owes the City more than \$10 million. As of April 16, the Airport retains those earnings, thus allowing it to repay the City's general fund.

Gunnell Aviation, one of the two largest Airport tenants, left SMO in February 2016. Gunnell had been leasing about 628,000 square feet of land, hangar, and office space at SMO since 1986 and had been profiting millions of dollars each year. While the company began its lease as an FBO that provided aviation services, it later became Gunnell Properties, primarily in the business of leasing aviation property at SMO. It had been paying the City below market rents of about \$220,000 per year, and then subleasing its space to third party subtenants.

Justice Aviation, which advertised itself as "The Largest Flight School & Rental Aircraft fleet in Los Angeles," closed in May 2016, after more than twenty years at SMO. As part of an agreement with the City to settle several legal disputes, Justice received \$450,000 from the City as compensation. The settlement called for Justice Aviation to withdraw a federal lawsuit against the City challenging the attempted eviction from the airport property, to withdraw two Part 16 Complaints with the FAA against the City, and to end its participation in a class action lawsuit that challenged the City's landing fees as "excessive and unreasonable."

Operations at SMO (landings and takeoffs) increased from 83,324 in 2015 to 90,319 in 2016. On one day alone (January 27, 2017), there were 74 jet landings and takeoffs at SMO.

Door-to-Door Solicitations

Every year, the Santa Monica Police Department responds to numerous calls regarding door-to-door solicitors. There are many legitimate organizations that solicit door-to-door, either to sell products and services or to promote a religious, political or charitable cause. However, there are also a growing number of individuals who illegally solicit with the purpose of committing fraud or burglary.

Fraud Warning Signs

A person might be a fraudulent solicitor if he/she:

- Is out of compliance with the municipal code. A license is required to solicit in the City of Santa Monica.
- Behaves aggressively, acts threateningly or tries to make you feel guilty for not wanting to buy what he/she is selling
- Pressures you for an immediate decision and demands cash only
- Refuses to supply paperwork to substantiate what he/she claims to be selling or to give a contact phone number and address for whom they claim to work.
- Asks for bank account or Social Security numbers
- Attempts to make entry into your home (for example, by jiggling the door knob if no one answers)
- Tries to peer into your home through an open door or window to look for valuables in plain sight.

If you suspect that a solicitor is not legitimate, please contact the Santa Monica Police Department at 310-458-8491 for non-emergencies, or dial 911 for emergencies if the situation escalates.

SMPD Staff Assigned to Sunset Park & Ocean Park

Neighborhood Resource Officer

Officer Erik Milosevich
erik.milosevich@smgov.net
Phone: (424) 200-0687

Crime Prevention Coordinator

Myesha Morrison
myesha.morrison@smgov.net
Phone: (310) 458-8421

Earthquake

A 3.1 magnitude earthquake struck two kilometers WNW of Santa Monica on May 1, 2017 at 10:28 PM. You can track earthquakes on this web site: <http://earthquaketrack.com/recent>

Below is some information from the City of Santa Monica's Office of Emergency Management. <https://www.smgov.net/departments/oem/>

- **Get a Kit** – Be prepared to be on your own for up to 7 days. An emergency preparedness kit should include food, water, bedding, medications, pet preparedness materials, and other items you rely on.
- **Make a Plan** – Every individual, family, business and organization should have an emergency plan, including important contact information, including out of state contacts and meeting place locations.
- **Be Informed** – Sign up for SM Alerts at <https://cityofsantamonica.bbc-portal.com/>

Should an Earthquake Occur

Indoors: Drop, cover, and hold on.

Drop to the floor take cover under a sturdy desk or table, and hold on to it firmly. Be prepared to move with it until the shaking stops. If you are not near a desk or table, drop to the floor against the interior wall, and protect your head and neck with your arms. Avoid exterior walls, windows, hanging objects, mirrors, tall furniture, large appliances, and kitchen cabinets with heavy objects or glass. Do not go outside!

In bed: If you are in bed, hold on and stay there, protecting your head with a pillow. You are less likely to be injured staying where you are.

Near the beach: Drop, cover, and hold on until the shaking stops. Estimate how long the shaking lasts. If severe shaking lasts 20 seconds or more, immediately evacuate to high ground as a tsunami might have been generated by the earthquake. Move inland 3 kilometers (2 miles) or to land that is at least 30 meters (100 feet) above sea level immediately. Walk quickly, rather than drive, to avoid traffic, debris and other hazards.

For more information regarding actions to take during an earthquake go to www.dropcoverholdon.org

After an Earthquake... Check for Injuries

- If a person is bleeding, put direct pressure on the wound. Use clean gauze or cloth, if available.
- Administer rescue breathing if necessary.
- Carefully check children or others needing special assistance.
- Do not move seriously injured persons unless they are in immediate danger of further injury.
- Get medical help for serious injuries.

Check for Damage

- If possible, put out small fires immediately.
- Shut off the main gas valve only if you suspect a leak. Wait for the gas company to turn it back on.
- Shut off power at the main breaker switch if there is any damage to your house wiring. Unplug broken lights or appliances as they could start fires.
- Hazardous materials such as bleach, chemicals, and gasoline should be covered with dirt or cat litter.
- Stay away from chimneys or brick walls with visible cracks. Don't use a fireplace with a damaged chimney.
- Stay away from downed power lines and objects in contact with them.

SMMUSD Senior Exemption - Measure R Parcel Tax

[HTTP://WWW.SMMUSD.ORG/FISCAL/SENIOR_EXEMPT.HTML](http://www.smmusd.org/fiscal/senior_exempt.html)
UPDATED MARCH 2017

On February 5, 2008, the voters of Santa Monica and Malibu approved by 73.03% the Measure R parcel tax, which combines and replaces the previous Measures Y and S parcel taxes, contains a CPI-U adjustment, and allows those senior citizens who qualify to be exempted from the tax if they:

- Are 65 years old by June 30, 2017
- Own and occupy their property as their primary residence
- Annually apply for exemption

Seniors who applied for and received the exemption were to be sent a 2017-18 Renewal Form in April, which needs to be completed, signed and returned by June 30, 2017.

First-time applicants may:

- Call (310) 450-8338, ext. 70263 to request an application or
- Print the application from our website: Visit <http://www.smmusd.org/fiscal/pdf/MeasureRApplication.pdf> for a copy of the form.

Completed signed applications must be returned, along with required proofs of age and property ownership, to:

Measure R Senior Exemption
Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District
1651 16th Street
Santa Monica, CA 90404-3891

Applications must be received and/or postmarked by June 30, 2017.

FOSP Board of Directors

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Lincoln Neighborhood Corridor Plan Update

On April 25, the City Council approved that final streetscape design and transportation concept for the Lincoln Neighborhood Corridor Plan (LiNC) for Lincoln Blvd. from the I-10 freeway to the south city limit.

Staff report: <https://tinyurl.com/lpl3ryt>

The Planning Department's objectives of the LiNC streetscape are to guide the transition of Lincoln Boulevard into a pedestrian-friendly environment and to improve transportation conditions for vehicles, transit and bicycles. None of the streetscape elements results in the loss of a travel lane for vehicles.

- New peak commute-hour 12-foot wide dedicated Bus Lanes (in the parking lanes – northbound from 7 AM to 10 AM, southbound from 4 PM to 7 PM)
- New landscaped center medians, 10 feet average width, various lengths 5 of 19
- 3 new crosswalks with pedestrian-actuated safety signals across Lincoln Boulevard located at Grant, Pine, and Wilson/Pier Streets
- Enhanced crosswalks that integrate new pedestrian refuges at Olympic, Pearl, Hill and Ashland
- New crosswalk striping at 20 locations on side streets
- ADA compliant dual-directional curb ramps at 90 locations along the boulevard
- 125 new pedestrian lights spaced at 75 foot average intervals
- 13 new curb-extensions and bulb-outs at strategically located side streets and in certain areas on Lincoln Blvd. north of Pico Blvd.
- 2 new bicycle connection improvements at Ashland and Pearl
- 48 new street trees in existing and/or future parkways and potentially in medians
- 32 bioswales for stormwater runoff
- New bike racks, benches and trash receptacles
- Eliminated unused curb-cuts and revised curb ramps
- Wayfinding signage and markers

Vehicle Registration and Insurance Card Theft

SANTA MONICA POLICE DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY AFFAIRS UNIT

Thieves are not only breaking into vehicles to steal valuables such as electronics or expensive items unwittingly left in plain sight, they are also looking into the glove compartment for your vehicle registration and insurance cards. Both your vehicle registration and insurance card contain a great deal of personal information. SMPD would like to remind you that photographs on your phone of your registration and insurance are accepted in the event of a traffic stop.

Removing all identifying information from your vehicle can help protect your identity in the event someone breaks into your car. If you are uncomfortable with creating a digital copy of these documents, keep printed copies of your originals in the trunk underneath the spare tire, or underneath the floor mats. For more information and crime prevention tips, please follow us on Facebook.

<https://www.facebook.com/santamoniacpd/>