
FRIENDS

OF SUNSET PARK

A California nonprofit corporation of Sunset Park residents • 1122 Oak Street, Santa Monica, California 90405 • (310) 358-7117

FALL 2001 NEWSLETTER

Layout by Bill Josephs

Annual Meeting

The Friends of Sunset Park Annual Meeting was held on June 9th in the Fellowship Hall at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church. The program began with a delightful mini-concert presented by the Madrigal Singers from John Adams Middle School. Their director, Cecile Blanchard, grew up in Sunset Park, attended John Adams and Santa Monica High School, majored in music at UCLA, and then returned to live and work in our neighborhood. Thank you to Cecile for bringing her students to perform for us.

Another John Adams Middle School teacher, Cathy Warick, set up a colorful display of student artwork. It was a feast for the eyes. Thank you to Cathy for sharing with us the work of her talented students.

The program also included a series of brief presentations and discussions on the problem of increasing jet traffic and noise violations at Santa Monica Airport, the LAX Master Plan, developments at Santa Monica College that may affect the neighborhood, the proposed light rail system on the Exposition right-of-way, the possible proliferation of "mini-mansions" in Sunset Park, and the planning process for the Civic Center. Mayor Michael Feinstein and Councilmembers Richard Bloom and Kevin McKeown joined in discussions on the topics.

Display tables were manned by the Red Cross, the Santa Monica Police and Fire Departments, proponents of the Exposition light rail system, and various FRIENDS committees. FRIENDS Secretary Suzanne Shellaby brought a 1934 topographical map of West Los Angeles and Santa Monica. During the meeting, new members joined and current members renewed their memberships and voted on our new Board of Directors. Neighbors had a chance to meet old friends and make new ones.

The "Emmalie" was presented to Caroline Denyer and Cathy Larson, Co-Chairs of the FRIENDS Airport Committee. The "Emmalie" is a perpetual award, named after longtime member Emmalie Hodgkin, and is given each year to a member of Friends of Sunset Park who has worked to improve the quality of life in Sunset Park.

The new Board of Directors is as follows: President Kathy Knight, Vice President Emmalie Hodgkin, Secretary Suzanne Shellaby, Treasurer Jane Dempsey, and Directors Karen Comegys, Caroline Denyer, Zina Josephs, Cathy Larson, and Colin Maduzia.

Thank you to everyone who attended the annual meeting, and a special thank you to those who helped with the organizational aspects (i.e., mailing out the flyers, setting up the banners, tables, folding chairs, decorations, and refreshments, and then helping put everything away after the meeting).



The JAMS Madrigal Singers directed by Cecile Blanchard.

City Council to Consider Revision of the Santa Monica Airport Noise Ordinance

On Tuesday, September 11th at 6:45 PM, the Santa Monica City Council will meet in its Council Chambers in City Hall, 1685 Main Street. The agenda will include revising the Santa Monica Airport Noise Ordinance. All residents affected by airport noise need to attend this meeting. The City Council must realize the impact this issue has on our neighborhoods. If you cannot attend, you can watch the meeting in its entirety on City TV Channel 16 or listen to KCRW at 89.9 FM.

Prior to this meeting, it is very important that you contact members of the City Council to express your opinions, frustration, and anger. The City Council needs to know how our community feels about this issue. If you have already contacted the City Council, send another reminder or leave a phone message to reiterate your feelings. Remind the City Council of the following facts:

- Jet traffic at Santa Monica Airport has doubled in the last three years.
- Noise violations increased 20% from 1999 to 2000.
- One large fleet operator (Executive Jet) racked up 114 violations before being issued their one and only fine. Their current total of violations is 135.

For the last year and a half, residents around Santa Monica Airport have been working toward the revision of the Noise Ordinance. The City Council placed Proposition MM on the ballot in November 2000 so that fines could be raised above \$500. Many residents donated money and volunteered their time and effort during the "Yes on MM" campaign. Community members attended Airport Commission meetings throughout the winter to give public comment on Airport Staff Reports and studies by consultants.

We are on the cusp of reaching our goal set many months ago: to have a more effective Airport Noise Ordinance.

The major points to make to the City Council are the following:

- Airport staff recommends that their current policy of not issuing a fine until the fourth violation per aircraft be maintained. This is unacceptable. **THE COMMUNITY DEMANDS A FINE AFTER THE SECOND VIOLATION.**
- Airport staff recommends that fleet operators be culpable for violations by aircraft type only. **THE COMMUNITY DEMANDS THAT FLEET OPERATORS BE CULPABLE FOR VIOLATIONS BY ALL AIRCRAFT IN THEIR FLEET.**

President's Message

Here we are—it is almost Fall again! It was wonderful to see so many of our neighbors at our Annual Meeting in June. And thank you to all who have renewed their membership this year. We hope many of you can help our neighbors under the Santa Monica Airport flight path by attending the Santa Monica City Council hearing on Sept. 11th to get jet noise violation fines given after the second violation. There is no buffer zone at Santa Monica Airport and these families are suffering from the increased jet traffic. If there is a change on the City Agenda, we will leave it on our voice mail message (310-358-7117). Also, since about 85% of the members at our Annual Meeting felt that development standards should be looked at in our neighborhood, we have set Sept. 19th as our first meeting to begin the proactive process of education and dialogue on standards we want the City to adopt to keep our community a pleasant place to live.

See you soon.

Kathy Knight, President

Stay informed through www.friendsofsunsetpark.org

FRIENDS OF SUNSET PARK

What Do We Want Sunset Park to Look like in the Future?

Fall Community Meeting
 Wednesday, September 19th, 7-9 PM,
 Fairview Library Community Room, 2101 Ocean Park Blvd.
 (Northeast corner of 21st and Ocean Park Blvd.)

Here is your chance to give input into what we want future development to look like in our neighborhood. Many people are worried about a repeat of the "Monster Mansion" mania that North of Montana (NOM) residents faced in the past, before they got a new ordinance passed. Let's talk now and decide what standards we want in Sunset Park. Colin Maduzia, Chair of our Planning Committee, will bring examples of redevelopment he has collected. Ralph Mechur, local architect who helped write the NOM regulations, will explain what they are. Tom Cleys, Chair of our Historic Preservation Committee, will talk about some of the advantages of historic preservation of both single family homes and historic districts.

Hope to see you on September 19th.

Airport Committee to Sponsor Community Meeting

Come to a Community Meeting sponsored by the Friends of Sunset Park Airport Committee on Thursday, September 6th at 7:30 PM. The meeting will be held in the Fellowship Hall at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, NW corner of 14th Street and Ocean Park Blvd. The parking lot entrance is on 14th Street

Topics for discussion will include revision of the Santa Monica Airport Noise Ordinance and the LAX Master Plan.

Visit www.friendsofsunsetpark.org, the Friends of Sunset Park web site, for more information. Postings include the Airport Staff Report and the Friends of Sunset Park position and recommendations for a Noise Ordinance Revision.

LAX Master Plan

The deadline for public input on the LAX Master Plan expansion options has been extended to September 24th. We don't want more business jet traffic diverted to Santa Monica Airport. For more information and a sample letter, see our web site at www.friendsofsunsetpark.org. If you have questions or want to be added to the email/mailling list, contact the FRIENDS Airport Committee at (310) 392-1907 or email rbreez@lainet.com. We also need volunteers to help flyer the neighborhood and to do phone reminders.

Calendar

September 6th, 7:30 PM — Community Meeting at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, sponsored by the FRIENDS Airport Committee, to discuss airport issues.

September 11th, 6:45 PM — City Council meets at City Hall, 1685 Main Street. The agenda includes the revision of the Santa Monica Airport Noise Ordinance. To speak during public comment, fill out a request card and hand it to the City Clerk, Maria Stewart.

September 19th, 7:00 PM — Community Meeting at Fairview Library, sponsored by FRIENDS, to begin dialogue on future development in Sunset Park.

Correspondence to City Council Members

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Phone: (310) 458-8201

Fax: (310) 458-1621 (A fax sent to this number will be distributed to all members)

E-mail: council@santa-monica.org (E-mails sent to this address will be distributed to all Council members.)

Michael Feinstein, Mayor	1685 Main St., #200 Santa Monica, 90401	Home (310) 392-6450 Office (310) 458-8201 Fax (310) 664-6750 (home) Fax (310) 458-1621 (office) mfeinstein@feinstein.org
Richard Bloom, Mayor Pro Tempore	1685 Main St. #200 Santa Monica, 90401	Office (310) 458-8201 Fax (310) 458-1621 (office) richard@bloomlaw.net
Ken Genser, Councilmember	1685 Main St. #200 Santa Monica, 90401	Home (310) 395-0223 Fax (310) 395-0223 (home) Fax (310) 458-1621 (office) city@genser.org
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Pamela O'Connor, Councilmember	906 9 th St.#2 Santa Monica, 90403	Home (310)458-2749 Fax (310)458-6686 (home) Fax (310)458-1621 (office) pam-oconnor@santa-monica.org
Susan McCarthy, City Manager	1685 Main St. Santa Monica, 90401	Office (310) 458-8301 susan-mccarthy@santa-monica.org

JOIN FRIENDS OF SUNSET PARK

2001 MEMBERSHIP

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Zip _____ Phone _____

email _____

I will help with:

- Airport Committee
- Annual Meeting Committee
- College Committee
- Crime & Safety Committee
- Historic Preservation Committee
- Planning Committee
- Traffic/Parking Committee

Membership Dues:

- \$25 Regular Household Dues
- \$50 or \$100 for Sponsor
- \$10 Minimum Household Dues

Membership Status (Please check):

- New Renewal

Please make check payable to *Friends of Sunset Park*.

Please tell us your thoughts about development standards for Sunset Park? _____

Please forward to 1122 Oak Street, Santa Monica, CA 90405 as soon as possible so that we can continue our efforts.

(Contact our Membership Committee at (310) 358-7117 for senior/fixed income membership dues.)