



FRIENDS OF SUNSET PARK

A California nonprofit corporation of Sunset Park residents • Box 5823, Santa Monica, California 90409-5823 • (310) 358-7117 • FriendsofSP@yahoo.com

MAY 2010 NEWSLETTER

Layout by Bill Josephs

FRIENDS  OF
SUNSET PARK

ANNUAL MEETING

Saturday, May 22, 2010

1:30 to 4:00 PM

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



Speakers:

Chief of Police Timothy J. Jackman

Fire Chief Scott Ferguson

Transportation Planning Manager

Lucy Dyke



*Bluegrass Combo, Refreshments,
and Door Prizes*

Vote for the 2010–11 Board of Directors

In order to vote, you will need to become an FOSP member by May 12th, ten days before the election. A membership form is on the last page of the newsletter. Current members can renew their memberships at the meeting. If you received this newsletter by mail, the mailing label will have the date when you last paid dues.

Save the Date!

Celebrate your neighborhood with Friends of Sunset Park! The FOSP Annual General Membership Meeting arrives on May 22nd—your chance to renew your membership, elect FOSP Board members, and talk to city officials. Plus, you can hear a bluegrass combo, the Statmen, enjoy refreshments, and have a chance to win free door prizes donated by neighborhood businesses!

This year marks the 21st anniversary of Friends of Sunset Park.

So bring your friends, neighbors, and your curiosity to the Annual Meeting! Find out how you are represented by FOSP, discover ways you can support the neighborhood, and hear the latest about what's happening in your home town!

FAA Changes Flight Path

BY CATHY LARSON

Have you noticed more prop planes flying over your neighborhood in the last few months?

Are the noise impacts disrupting your life? Are you concerned about the low altitude of these aircraft?

Friends of Sunset Park and the Santa Monica Airport Noise Management Office are seeking public comments on recent flight path changes.

In December 2009, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) altered the departure flight path of propeller planes flying under Instrument Flight Rules (IFR) aircraft (as opposed to Visual Flight Rules). This flight path change was implemented to facilitate

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“On the Beat”

BY ARTIS WILLIAMS, MARCH 6, 2010

Question: I have lived in the Sunset Park area of Santa Monica for 20 years and I am the captain of our Neighborhood Watch group on our block. In order to prevent crime, I have instructed our neighbors to call the police when they witness suspicious activity in our neighborhood. I'm often asked what would be considered suspicious and what number should a person call when this activity is observed. Can you help me with some suggestions?

Answer: Suspicious activity is anything that seems “out of place” for your area. Some things to look out for are (but not limited to):

- A person walking down the street peering into parked vehicles;
- A stranger entering your neighbor's property/house when they are away;
- Any vehicle driving slowly or repeatedly through your area, with or without lights on;
- A person selling expensive merchandise, such as speakers, at an extremely low price;
- Door to door salesmen/solicitors who do not have identification, refuse to show you identification, or turn the doorknob to see if the door is locked;
- Someone sitting in a parked car for an extended period of time.

These behaviors are some of the many

signs that an individual is either committing a crime or looking for the opportunity to commit a crime. If you suspect unusual activity in your area, please call the Santa Monica Police Department's non-emergency line at (310) 458-8491 and provide as much information to the dispatcher as possible. If you believe an actual crime is occurring, call 911 immediately. Our department is most effective when we receive the help of concerned, responsible citizens. So please don't hesitate to call us, even if you think someone else already has or will.

Question: Cars are always speeding down my street. Is there anything that can be done about them?

Answer: Any time you witness a reckless driver whose behavior you believe will likely cause a collision, such as an impaired driver, please call our Communications Center at (310) 458-8491 and provide as much information about the vehicle as possible.

In other cases, if you notice that speeding vehicles are becoming a constant problem on your street, you have several options. First, you can call your neighborhood resource officer and/or the police department's Traffic Enforcement Section at (310) 458-8993. NROs work with the Traffic Enforcement Section to track and implement traffic safety programs in the

city, which include both education and enforcement measures.

Another option would be to contact the Transportation Management Division at City Hall and see what types of traffic calming measures are available for your neighborhood. Traffic calming measures include speed bumps, traffic circles and additional signs (including speed limit signs that display a vehicle's speed using radar). For more information on these measures, contact Transportation Management at (310) 458-8291.

Crime Alert

The increase in auto burglaries is part of a nationwide trend. The SMPD reminds everyone to remove all valuables from your vehicle, place them in the trunk before arriving at your destination, or store them away so they are not easily visible. This includes laptops, cell phones, GPS devices, purses, backpacks, money, etc. Take these precautions at all times, whether parking on a public street or in a parking garage. These types of crimes are crimes of opportunity, so making it difficult for criminals to strike will help the effort significantly. Visit our Web site at www.santamonicapd.org to watch a great video with tips to prevent you from becoming a victim.

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AND WAS PREPARED BY SMPD NEIGHBORHOOD RESOURCE OFFICER ARTIS WILLIAMS, BEAT 7, SUNSET PARK NEIGHBORHOOD.

HE CAN BE REACHED BY PHONE AT (424) 200-0687 OR BY E-MAIL AT ARTIS.WILLIAMS@SMGOV.NET.

SMC to Demolish Corsair Stadium

The Santa Monica Community College District announced in the *Santa Monica Daily Press* on April 22 (<http://www.smdp.com/pdf/042210.pdf> – p.7) that it has completed an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the SMC Facilities Master Plan 2010 Update. The Draft EIR is available for review and comment as to the adequacy and completeness of the document during a 45-day public review period.

The proposed project would involve demolition of approximately 225,000 sq ft and development of approximately 1.4 million sq ft at the Main Campus at 1900 Pico, the Academy of Entertainment & Technology at 1660 Stewart, the Performing Arts Campus at 1310 11th St., and the Olympic Shuttle Lot at Stewart and Exposition. Construction activities, which include demolishing and replacing Corsair Stadium, would occur between July 2011 and September 2016.

The Draft EIR is available online at www.smc.edu/facilities_masterplan and hard copies are available at the Admin Building at 2714 Pico Blvd. M-F from 8 AM to 5 PM. For further information, contact Greg Brown, Director of Facilities Planning, at Brown_Gregory@smc.edu or at 310-434-4203- x4203.

All comments should be submitted in writing no later than 5 PM on June 4, 2010 to: Randal Lawson, Executive Vice-President, Santa Monica College, 1900 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica, CA 90405

Preparing for, Riding Out, And Surviving the “Big One”

BY JOHN PACHECO
APRIL 21, 2010

REPRINTED FROM THE *SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS*

BROADWAY — The recent earthquakes in Mexico, Chile, and Haiti have given Southern Californians a reason to consider their own level of preparedness.

While government agencies as well as other response agencies like the Red Cross are updating their own plans, we know from experience that preparedness starts at home and now is the time for residents to get shake ready.

One of the more obvious lessons from recent disasters around the world is that a large disaster can mean disruption of services from a few days to several weeks. Planners now advise us that we should be prepared to care for ourselves for at least seven days. Here's how.

Step 1 — Prepare yourself

First think about keeping safe in an earthquake. Know where you can take cover at home and at work. Since you might be driving during an earthquake, keep an earthquake kit, old shoes, and a good coat in the trunk in case you have to walk home.

Have a personal plan for what you'll do after an earthquake. Be ready to check for injuries and other life-threatening emergencies like fires or gas leaks. Have a gas shut off wrench handy and find out where gas, electrical and water shut off valves are located. Have a radio handy for emergency updates.

Be careful while inspecting your home for damage. Expect aftershocks and be ready for them. Let your children know that after a large quake you expect aftershocks so they are prepared and don't become overly frightened.

At work, review your disaster plan and evacuation route. Note where fire extinguishers and first aid kits are kept. Find out who has first aid training or better yet, sign up for a basic class yourself and encourage co-workers and your family to do the same. Keep a small emergency kit with water, snacks, flashlight, radio and other essentials.

If you have a business and don't have a business recovery plan, call the Red Cross for information. It will help ensure you have business to return to after a disaster.

Step 2 — Prepare your family and loved ones

Develop a disaster plan that includes evacuation routes and meeting places if disaster strikes. Keep a phone number of someone outside the area that all family members can use to contact each other when not at home. If you have a cell phone buy a “cell phone boost” available at drug stores. They can give you up to an hour talk time in an emergency. Remember: even when phone calls don't connect, many times text messaging will.

Don't forget friends and family who may be disabled or need special assistance. Use the same steps I've outlined here to get

them prepared since you may not be able to reach them immediately. Make arrangements with a neighbor to check on them if you can't. Consider medical needs. Keep a minimum seven days supply of medicines and don't forget other medical needs like extra oxygen tanks and a back-up power supply.

Step 3— Prepare your home or business

Hazard-proof your homes. Take a few minutes this weekend to look for hazards. Kids are great helpers here. Secure furniture and bookcases or at the very least move the heavy stuff lower down. Put latches on cabinets that have breakables. Consider an earthquake insurance policy.

Make sure your water heater straps are tight. If you haven't installed them yet, do it now. A good strapping kit costs under \$25 and takes less than an hour to install.

Put together a disaster kit that includes:

A seven day supply of food and water, preferably non-perishable high energy foods and foods that require no refrigeration, preparation or cooking and little or no water.

Don't forget to put away at least one gallon of water per person per day as well. Remember, a seven day supply includes the supplies you already have in your car kit.

Keep a battery-operated radio and a flashlight with extra batteries for seven days on hand.

Have a Red Cross first aid kit with instructions on its use handy. Make sure it's stocked, especially with bandages and disinfectants.

Keep some money on hand for emergencies. Remember, ATMs and credit cards won't work if power is out.

Provide for a change of clothing for everyone, including sturdy shoes and gloves.

Make provisions for those with special needs including special medications, eyeglasses, contact lenses and solutions; identification cards, birth certificate, passports, sanitary supplies, etc.

Don't forget pet supplies (leash, plastic bags, vaccination information) and if you haven't already done so, get your pet chipped in case they are separated from you in a disaster.

The local Red Cross has a variety of disaster kits and planning materials, including our “Earthquake Safety Checklist.” Visit us at www.redcrossofsantamonica.org or call us at (310) 394-3773.

To learn more about seismic hazards check out the Southern California Earthquake Center Web site at www.scec.org or visit the U.S Geological Survey site at www.usgs.org.

JOHN PACHECO IS THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE
SANTA MONICA CHAPTER OF THE RED CROSS.

Flight Path, continued from page 1

departures of jet and turbo-prop aircraft from both SM Airport and LAX. It is being conducted on a trial basis for six months.

The new departure flight path toward Santa Monica Pier brings IFR propeller airplanes over homes in Sunset Park, whereas in the past they flew over PenMar Golf Course after taking off.

Public Input Needed

FOSP and the SM Airport Noise Office are encouraging residents to submit complaints about noise impacts and safety concerns caused by these low-flying aircraft. This data is being collected to measure the impacts of the flight path change. Data collected before June 8th will determine whether the FAA has to conduct an Environmental Impact Review (EIR) before making the new flight path permanent.

Residents can file a complaint by either calling the Airport Noise Hotline at (310) 458-8692 or sending email to noise@smgov.net

Your complaint must include **the date and time when you heard and/or saw the airplane, your name, and your address.**

For more information, the staff report from the November 2009 Airport Commission meeting is posted at:

http://www.smgov.net/Departments/Airport/Commission_Meetings/2009/20091123/FAA_Test_of_Piston-powered_IFR_Procedure.aspx

If you have questions, you can contact Stelios Makrides, SM Airport Noise Management Supervisor, at (310) 434-2693, or Cathy Larson, FOSP Airport Committee Chair, at (310) 358-7117.

Resolution on SM Airport

Environmental and Health Risks

Assemblymember Ted W. Lieu, who represents the 53rd Assembly District, introduced a Joint Resolution on April 22 urging the federal government to end the toxic emissions and excessive noise problems at Santa Monica Municipal Airport (SMO). Assembly Joint Resolution 41 (AJR 41) urges the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the United States Department of Transportation (DOT) to work together and review unhealthy aircraft noise levels and pollution at SMO.

A recent UCLA study found that airport operations, particularly jet take-offs and landings, are contributing to elevated levels of black carbon and ultra-fine particles in the surrounding areas. With both ends of the airport's runways less than 300 feet from densely populated residential communities, SMO is one of the most residentially encroached airports in the entire nation. The number of jet landings and take-offs at SMO increased from a total of 1,000 in 1984 to over 15,000 in 2008.

Public Hearings on Land Use

The Planning Commission will hold a series of public hearings on the Draft Land Use and Circulation Element (LUCE) and its ancillary Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR). The purpose of these meetings is to take public input and discuss the LUCE in order to formulate recommendations to the City Council, which is scheduled to consider adoption of the LUCE and FEIR in June, 2010. The dates are May 6, May 12, May 17, and May 19. All meetings begin at 7 PM and will be held in the City Council Chambers, 2nd Floor of Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street. More info at <http://www.shapethefuture2025.org/>

"Green Living" Workshops

Save money making your ecological footprint more sustainable! The Sustainable Works Green Living Workshop covers the following topics: Water, Energy, Waste, Chemicals, Transportation, and Shopping & Food. Learn about the problems related to each of these topics and then review ten related solutions. Participants can also earn a special Completion Bag filled with eco-goodies.

Upcoming 6-week evening workshops begin on June 8 (Coloft), June 9 (Main Library), and June 19 (Mt. Olive Church in Sunset Park). Sign up at www.sustainableworks.org, 310.458.8716, ext 1, or info@sustainableworks.org

2010 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 P.O.Box 5823, Santa Monica, CA 90409

My greatest concerns are _____

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