



FRIENDS OF SUNSET PARK

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

DECEMBER 2017 NEWSLETTER

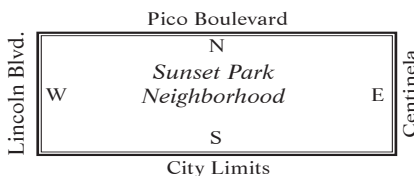
Layout by Bill Josephs

Emergency Preparedness

Lindsay Barker, the city's new Chief Resilience Officer, will speak at the FOSP meeting on **January 18**. As head of the Office of Emergency Management – www.smgov.net/OEM/ – she oversees the city's emergency services, disaster preparedness activities including 911 dispatch, and is building the city's resilience program.

The OEM provides Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) courses. CERT is a three-day training that provides those that live or work in Santa Monica with skills to use during an emergency or disaster, such as how to use a fire extinguisher, basic search and rescue, and basic first aid. Thirty-eight people in Sunset Park have taken the CERT course and are actively engaged in OEM programs. More information about the CERT program can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/ydceeuf5>

The Sunset Park neighborhood is bounded by Lincoln Blvd. on the west, Pico Blvd. on the north, and the city limits on the east (Centinela) and south (Airport, Dewey, Ozone).



A list of all the City-recognized neighborhood organizations and a map of their boundaries are posted at www.smgov.net/content.aspx?id=4241

Airport Update

Suja Lowenthal has replaced Nelson Hernandez as Special Adviser to the City Manager on Airport Affairs.

Tufts University has been awarded a \$54,342 contract to conduct an air quality study at Santa Monica Airport (SMO) during a unique window of opportunity created by the runway shortening work. It will update the air quality study conducted by the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) in 2010 and 2011.

The study will establish a baseline immediately before the runway shortening project begins, during the full airport closure, and after the project is completed, when landings and takeoffs resume. The temporary full closure of the Airport is occurring December 13 to 23.

Starting December 24, there will be a reduction in jet aircraft operations resulting from the shortened runway, which will reduce the overall noise exposure to the residents near the airport. In addition, the new runway safety areas will protect residents from jet aircraft going beyond the runway ends and into residential neighborhoods.

Closure time was minimized with the 24-hour-a-day work schedule. Once complete, the new runway will meet all FAA

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FOSP Board of Directors

- Zina Josephs, President
- Clare Thomas, Vice President
- Charles R. Donaldson, Secretary
- Vivien Flitton, Treasurer
- Nikki Kolhoff, Land Use Cmte. Chair
- Cathy Larson, Airport Cmte. Chair
- Peter Donald
- Ofer Grossman

Sunset Park Traffic Study

The City Council has approved funding to plan and implement a traffic management study and implementation plan for the Sunset Park neighborhood. It will be administered by Henry Servin, the city's Traffic and Parking Manager. Mr. Servin spoke at the FOSP Annual Meeting in June and used a PowerPoint to describe the process – this is posted on the FOSP website on the Land Use & Circulation link – look for “Sunset Park Neighborhood Traffic Management Program Presentation — 6-17-17.”

The neighborhood is bounded by Lincoln Blvd. on the west, Pico Blvd. on the north, and Centinela Avenue on the east. These arterial roadways carry significant volumes of local and regional traffic on a daily basis. Sunset Park has experienced an increase in traffic within its local streets as a result of the arterial street volumes exceeding their existing capacity.

Recent advances in community-based traffic and navigation software applications, available to most consumers that own smart telephones, have caused a further redirection of this traffic onto neighborhood streets. Observations by residents and city staff indicate that spillover traffic from the main arterials is pervasive and floods collector and residential streets, as well as alleyways, for several hours each commute morning and evening.

This project will analyze existing conditions and develop possible modifications to the Sunset Park roadway network to discourage, divert, and/or prevent spillover traffic onto the local streets. The timeline includes nine months to

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Volunteers Needed For the Homeless Count

The annual Santa Monica homeless count will be conducted on Wednesday, January 24, 2018.

What Is the Homeless Count?

The nation-wide Point-in-Time Homeless Count and Survey occurs annually, the last week of January. The Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count is the largest in the United States. The Count collects information on the number of individuals and families who are living in shelters or on the streets.

For the Santa Monica Count, each team
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Library Survey

Patty Wong, Director of Library Services, would like to know more about how the library can help residents, so she's posted an online survey at <https://tinyurl.com/yd5z3cjoe>

Your participation and suggestions will help library staff evaluate current services and determine the future of the library. It should take less than ten minutes to complete the survey. Please respond by December 23.

All information that you provide will remain confidential, and a summary of the survey findings will be posted on the Library website at www.smpl.org.

Can You See Me Now?

www.smgov.net/GoSaMo

The daylight hours are shorter and it is now dark when we go out in the evening. Follow these tips at night to stay safe.

- Slow down. If you're driving, slow to give yourself more time to react.
- See and be seen. Wear light colors or reflective clothing and accessories. You can wear black-on-black all day, but throw on brighter colors at night.
- Light your way. California requires bike riders to have a white front light and a red rear reflector. And carry a light with you when walking at night. A small light can come in handy when you cross the street or hail a bus driver.
- Check your route. Find routes that are well-lit and active.
- Be alert. Look around and enjoy your surroundings instead of wearing headphones or using your phone.
- Make eye contact. Do not assume that drivers see you. Make eye contact with the driver to ensure he or she sees you before you make your move.

Big Blue Bus

Big Blue Bus has introduced fare changes to speed travel time and provide convenient ways to pay bus fares. The one-way fare price for TAP Card users has been reduced from \$1.25 to \$1.10.

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Airport Park Expansion

Santa Monica is moving forward with the 12-acre Airport Park Expansion being planned by noted park designer Mark Rios. The park will include full-size playing fields, ball courts, community gardens, playgrounds, and walking paths, and will provide new recreational resources for our community.

Six acres of "Interim Open Space" adjacent to the Dog Park is now available to all while the expansion is being planned. This is a place to walk, jog, bike, skateboard, or push a scooter. It's perfect for kids learning to ride a bike and is open from sunrise to sunset. Enter from the parking lot behind the playing fields.

This is the first step toward creation of a greater park that will replace Santa Monica Airport when it closes at the end of 2028. For more information, go to <http://airport2Park.org>

Airport Update, continued from page 1

safety standards.

The City conducted outreach to the aviation community to ensure that all aircraft that cannot operate on a runway of 3,500 feet were removed prior to the closure. For more information, visit www.smgov.net/airport.

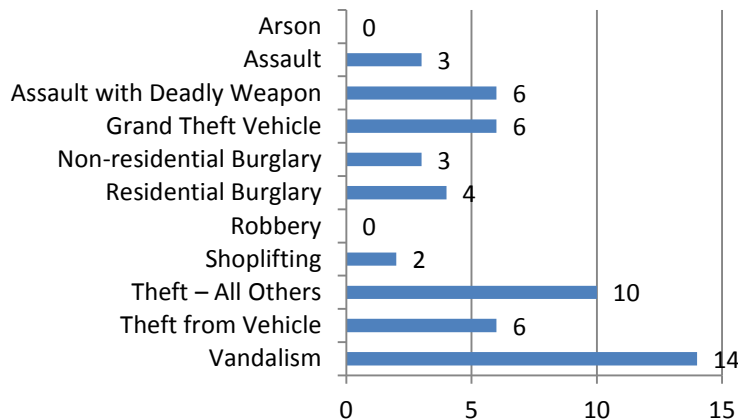
SMO and Emergency Management

The FAA Air Traffic Control Tower at SMO provided support to aircraft assisting with the Skirball fire by keeping the fire area clear of all non-emergency air traffic, which all ATC centers in the area were doing. CalFire has its own Air Traffic Control (ATC), and all local ATCs simply advise air traffic to steer clear of the fire area.

There were no requests to use SMO for take-offs or landings related to fire suppression efforts. FAA's Air Traffic Control Tower has maintained operations during the closure at SMO.

The City will be revising existing emergency management plans before 2028 and the airport's closure to ensure all public safety needs are met in the event of a disaster.

Sunset Park Crime Mapping: November 2017



Child Care in Single Family Neighborhoods

The city has long allowed “small family daycare” (up to 8 children) and “large family daycare” (up to 14 children) in single family (R1) neighborhoods. When the Zoning Ordinance was updated in 2015, the City Council also decided to allow commercial daycare for up to 20 children in R1 neighborhoods, with a Conditional Use Permit (CUP).

Now comes the first application, at 2953 Delaware Avenue (north of the freeway, between Stewart and Centinela). The Planning Commission approved a CUP for a preschool with 20 pupils, 6 staff, and extended daycare (7:30 AM to 6 PM) to be called “Untitled No. 1” in a little 1,400 sq ft house which has other houses on either side.

The Planning Commission also approved variances to allow the owner to demolish the garage for drop-off parking on the narrow alley, and to allow a 5-foot-high fence around the front yard.

Nearby neighbors (“Gandara Park Neighborhood”) filed an appeal, which was scheduled for the December 5 City Council meeting, but then postponed to January 23.

The staff report states, “The sound of children playing in their yards is a typical occurrence in a residential neighborhood, and the sound of children playing in a childcare setting is a similar type of normal, usual noise.” One wonders how similar the sound of 20 children playing in the yard next door is to the sound of 2 or 3 children. **Additional information is posted at <http://www.Support.PreserveGandara.org/>**

Traffic Study, continued from page 1

engage the community and then develop and adopt a plan, three months to prepare bid documents and award construction contracts, four months to complete devices and measures, and completion by Spring 2019.

Annual Meeting Recap

The 2017 FOSP Annual General Membership Meeting was held on June 17 at Mt. Olive Church.

The guest speakers were Erik Milosevich and Myesha Morrison from the Santa Monica Police Department; Nelson Hernandez, Special Adviser to the City Manager on Airport Affairs; and Henry Servin, City Parking and Traffic Manager.

The “Emmalie” award was presented to Roger C. Swanson, Chair of the Lincoln Boulevard Task Force since its forming in 2012.

Candidates elected to the FOSP Board of Directors for 2017–18 included Peter Donald, Charles R. Donaldson, Vivien Flitton, Ofer Grossman, Zina Josephs, Nikki Kolhoff, Cathy Larson, and Clare Thomas.

The meeting ended with door prize drawings.

Thank You to Sunset Park Businesses!

Thank you to these local businesses which donated door prizes for the Annual Meeting in June:

- Artful Handcrafted Gifts
- Baskin Robbins
- Bob’s Market
- Bubble Boba
- Classic Pizza
- Computer Business Center
- Edelweiss Flower Boutique
- Engler Bros Auto Parts
- Gilbert’s El Indio Restaurant
- Goods
- Il Forno Trattoria
- Lares Restaurant
- Laura’s Nail Salon
- Lunetta All Day
- Make Believe Costumes
- Maya Shoe Repair
- Mia Maven Spa
- Miyako Japanese Restaurant
- Paws & Effect Pet Spa
- Quinnie & B Tiny Toy Shoppe
- Santa Monica Lock & Safe Co.
- Santa Monica Yoga
- Superfast Copying & Binding
- Tandoor-India
- Tel’s Barber Shop
- Trader Joe’s
- UnUrban Coffee House

Housing Update

Eighteen single family homes were sold in Sunset Park between July 1 and September 30. Both the median and the average sales prices were about \$2 million.

The city’s Building & Safety Demo Plan Check list includes demolition permit applications for 19 single family homes in Sunset Park. These are located on 11th, 16th, 17th, 20th, 26th, 32nd, 33rd, Ashland, Bay, Grant, Hill, Maple, Oak, Pearl, Pier, and Pine.

The Active Building & Safety Permit list includes three demolitions (on 21st, 25th, and Marine) and 16 new single family homes (on 18th, 24th, 26th, 29th, 30th, 31st, 32nd, Ashland, Bryn Mawr, Cedar, Hill, and Pier).

Identity Theft

Victims of identity theft must act quickly to minimize damage. It’s important to keep good notes of all conversations and all correspondence with your financial institutions and police. Log the names, dates, and phone number of persons you contacted. You should also confirm the information in writing. Sending your letters by certified mail, return receipt requested, will provide you with a record of your correspondence. Contact the SMPD Office of Criminal Investigations at 310-458-8451 for more information. Additional information is posted at <https://tinyurl.com/ycjbsqk>

Our Neighborhood Resource Officer, Richard Verbeck, and our Crime Prevention Coordinator, Myesha Morrison, have suggested **removing vehicle registration and insurance information from your cars to help prevent identity theft.**

Santa Monica College

November 7 Board of Trustees meeting:

The permit application for the SMC Early Childhood Lab School was approved by the California Coastal Commission on October 13 but the permit has not yet been issued. The Lab School will be located on 4th Street, in the Civic Auditorium parking lot. The city is leasing the property to SMC for 55 years at zero cost per year. Employees of the city, the RAND Corporation, and SMC will have priority in enrolling their children with 15% set aside for low income families. Groundbreaking is anticipated in March 2018.

The new Center for Media and Design on Stewart Street is now open. The adjacent KCRW building will open in spring 2018. The new Student Services Building on Pico Blvd. is projected to be completed in late 2019.

On October 30, NASA Astronauts Commander Randy Bresnik and Joe Acaba took time out from space walks and science missions to talk to elementary, middle school, high school and college students live from space. Students from SMMUSD and SMC were invited to ask questions of the astronauts. During a flyover, Randy Bresnik tweeted a photo of Santa Monica from space, pointing out his two alma maters: Samohi and SMC.

The Board adopted a resolution to implement an early retirement incentive plan. Seventy-eight staff members with an average salary of \$106,428 will retire by December 31, saving the college approximately \$8,497,497.

SMC has been awarded a 4-year grant of \$1,138,248 from the U.S. Department of Education to provide child care services to qualified Pell eligible student parents, thereby making it easier for them to finish college. The funding will support up to 20 low income families each year.

July 19 Citizens Bond Oversight Committee meeting:

Measure U Budget:	\$160,000,000
Measure S Budget:	\$143,500,000
Measure AA Budget:	\$295,000,000
Measure V Budget:	\$345,000,000
Interest:	\$21,495,870
Other Funding Received:	\$26,228,381
Other Funding Pending:	\$52,594,548
Total Budget:	\$1,043,818,799
Bond Funds Remaining:	\$462,892,008

Homeless Count, continued from page 2

is assigned an area of the City and will either walk or drive every street, alley, and park in that area.

Why Do We Count?

The count measures progress towards ending homelessness. The count and demographic survey give a snapshot of who is experiencing homelessness and where they are located. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) tracks the results in each community to determine the amount of federal funds allocated to homeless programs.

For more information and/or to volunteer, go to www.SantaMonicaHomelessCount.com

Safe Routes to School

Kyle Kozar, the city's Bike Share Coordinator, is managing a Safe Routes to School project called "The Pedestrian Improvements at Four Project." It is a 5-year priority project in the City's Pedestrian Action Plan and emphasizes improving safety for students, parents, and faculty who walk and bike to **John Adams** and **Lincoln Middle Schools, Roosevelt Elementary**, and **Will Rogers Learning Community**.

The project will add curb extensions at select crossings near schools, update school zone markings and signage to new state standards (including reduced speed limit zones while children are present), recommend/implement curbside regulations around schools to ease peak pick-up/drop-off congestion, and improve pavement markings and crossings to increase visibility of pedestrians. This project follows an engagement process in 2013 where city staff worked with parents and faculty to identify specific improvements. In the last year, city staff was granted Capital Improvement Funds for the implementation of those specific projects.

Phase I: Includes reduced speed limit zones while children are present, new/or updated crosswalks, and new school zone signs and street markings. The specific improvements at Will Rogers Learning Community and John Adams Middle School are:

- School zone crosswalks on Maple Street at 16th Street, and both sides of 14th Street.
- School zone crosswalks on Maple Street at 17th Street.
- School zone crosswalks on Pine Street at 17th Street.
- School zone crosswalks on Cedar Street at 17th Street.
- School zone crosswalks on the northwestern leg of Pearl Street at 16th Street.
- School zone crosswalks on Maple Street at 16th Street, and both sides of 14th Street.
- School zone crosswalk on Cedar Street at 14th Street.
- Reduced speed limit zones while children are present on streets adjacent to the schools.

Phase II: The City has hired a design consultant who will complete a study of pick-up/drop-off behavior on streets adjacent to all four schools to determine possible changes to peak period pick-up/drop-off regulations that will improve safety and reduce peak time congestion. The consultant also will complete design ready construction drawings for curb extensions at select crossings. This work will begin after the New Year.

Big Blue Bus, continued from page 2

The new Regular Big Blue Bus Annual Pass costs \$500.

Beginning January 2018, the Low Income Fare is Easy (LIFE) program will provide monthly fare subsidy coupons to eligible riders for transit pass purchases. Eligible riders include adult Regular riders, Senior/Disabled/Medicare, K-12 students, and College/Vocational students who are pre-qualified by a participating community-based agency. Additional information is posted at <https://tinyurl.com/yczzlfxj>