



FRIENDS OF SUNSET PARK

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

JUNE 2019 NEWSLETTER

Layout by Bill Josephs

Development Standards for Single Family Homes (R1) – June 19 at the Planning Commission

The City of Santa Monica is currently updating its R1 zone district development standards. This process is addressing the growing concern about the size of new home construction in relation to the existing neighborhood context and scale, as well as identifying options on how to revise current development standards, to incentivize the retention of existing homes, and to make the development standards more user-friendly.

At the June 19th Planning Commission meeting, staff will present their recommendations, and residents will have an opportunity to comment on parcel coverage, maximum height, setbacks, stepbacks, rooftop projections, upper-story outdoor space, basements/lightwells/excavation, parking requirements, hillside development, and design review.

For example, one-story homes are allowed 50% parcel coverage (the square footage of the home compared to the square footage of the lot). Before the Interim Zoning Ordinance (IZO), 2-story homes were allowed 61% lot coverage (the total of first and second story square footage compared to the lot).

Although the IZO reduced the allowable coverage for 2-story homes from 61% to 50%, the City Council excluded ADUs (granny flats) from the lot coverage calculation. So if homeowners add a 650 sq ft or 800 sq ft granny flat to 50% lot coverage, in reality they could possibly end up back at 61% lot coverage.

Residents have asked the city to incentivize retention of existing homes (making permits for remodeling less expensive and the process less onerous than just demolishing and building a new home). Residents have also been concerned about solar access (i.e., protecting existing rooftop solar panels from being shaded by new construction).

If you are concerned about the size of new homes, plan to attend the meeting on June 19. Additional information is posted at <http://tinyurl.com/y8taltd5>

Pico Blvd. – Presentation of Proposed Changes – June 13 at FOSP

Planning staff will be making a presentation about the proposed changes for Pico Blvd. and inviting input at the June 13 FOSP meeting – 7 PM – at Mt. Olive Church. We encourage all residents concerned about the future of Pico Blvd. to attend. Additional information is posted at <https://tinyurl.com/y4wdpxdx>.

In September 2018, Pico neighborhood residents, as part of the “Pico Wellbeing Project,” were invited to “Please join your friends and neighbors for a series of interactive workshops this fall on displacement and gentrification. Learn about ways to preserve and empower your neighborhood! This series will allow you to share your thoughts with City staff, hear from experts about available tools to address gentrification, and give you the knowledge to advocate for your future.”

However, by May 2019, unbeknownst to the FOSP Board, preventing “displacement and gentrification” in the Pico residential neighborhood had apparently been set aside by Planning staff as a goal, in favor of upzoning both sides of Pico Blvd. between Euclid and Centinela. The northern border of the Sunset Park Neighborhood is the center line of Pico Blvd.

Between June 2018 and February 2019, twelve presentations were made to various “community-based organizations” in the Pico neighborhood and later to Santa Monica College. No presentation was offered to FOSP, the city-recognized neighborhood organization for Sunset Park.

Sunset Park Neighborhood Traffic Plan – June 13 at FOSP

Phase 1 Implementation Measures

May 2019 draft for public discussion: please email your comments by June 15 to Traffic.Engineering@smgov.net.

- Pearl & 17th – Add yellow crosswalks
- Pico & 21st – No left turn from westbound Pico
- Ocean Park & 21st – No right turn from eastbound OPB: 4 PM – 7 PM; Signal timing modifications
- Ocean Park & Euclid – Install delineators to restrict all left turns
- Navy & 21st – Convert to 4-way stop
- Dewey & 21st – No left turn from southbound 21st: 4 PM – 7 PM
- 23rd Street – Add green paint to bike lane from Ashland or Hill to Dewey
- Ashland & 23rd – Convert to 4-way stop; remove rapid flash beacon
- Dewey & 23rd – Right turn only from eastbound Dewey
- Lincoln & Ozone – No right turn from northbound Lincoln: 7 AM – 9 AM; Right turn only from westbound Ozone

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City Boards and Commissions – Apply Now!

The City of Santa Monica has 31 openings on one of 14 Boards and Commissions, including the Airport Commission, Architectural Review Board, Arts Commission, Audit Subcommittee, Commission for the Senior Community, Commission on the Status of Women, Disabilities Commission, Housing Commission, Personnel Board, Planning Commission, Recreation and Parks Commission, Santa Monica Library Board, Social Services Commission, and the Urban Forest Task Force. Most of the Boards, Commissions, and Task Forces meet monthly. The deadline to apply is **June 18**. Visit www.smgov.net/boards for more information.

Resource Recovery and Recycling

Recycling event calendar:

<https://tinyurl.com/y6hdtmvj>

June 15 – Compost Giveaway

July 17 – Paper Shredding

August 17 – Smart Gardening Workshop

September 21 – Citywide Yard Sale

October 19 – Paper Shredding

SMMUSD — Senior Exemption for Measure “R” Parcel Tax – June 30 Deadline

[HTTP://WWW.SMMUSD.ORG/FISCAL/PDF/MEASURER-APPLICATION2019-20.PDF](http://www.smmusd.org/fiscal/pdf/MEASURER-APPLICATION2019-20.PDF)

In 2008, the voters of Santa Monica and Malibu approved by 73% 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 meet the following criteria to be exempted from the tax:

- Senior property owner must be at least 65 years of age by June 30th for the year the exemption application is submitted
- Senior must own and be residing in their property as their primary residence

How to Apply

Attention: Only use this application form for NEW applications. Parcels that received an exemption in 2018–2019 and continue to meet the eligibility criteria will be automatically exempted for 2019–2020. If you wish to check your status, please email MeasureR@smmusd.org with your name and address or parcel number.

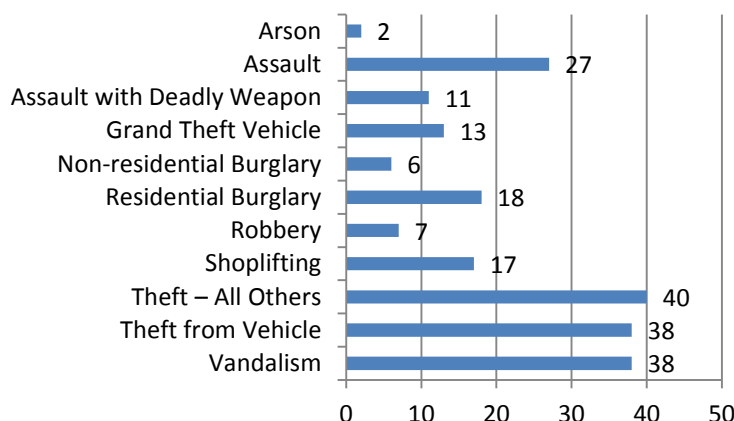
- Download the Senior Citizen Exemption Application form – <https://tinyurl.com/y6zon25r>
- This is a fillable form. Save to desktop, then fill out and print. Sign and return by mail with required documentation.
- Printed applications are also available in the District Office at 1651 16th Street between the hours of 8 AM to 4 PM.

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

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

Deadline: Applications must be received or postmarked by June 30 for the 2019–2020 tax year.

Sunset Park Crime Mapping: January 1 through April 30, 2019



Community Policing

Neighborhood Resource Officer

Michael Ortiz. 310-459-2201 x 4135

Michael.Ortiz@smgov.net

Crime Prevention Coordinator

Myesha Morrison – 310-458-8421

Myesha.Morrison@smgov.net



Santa Monica Airport – Removal of Excess Pavement to Commence June 16

The City of Santa Monica shortened the airport runway to an operational length of 3,500 feet through markings and signage in December 2017. The excess pavement at both ends of the runway is no longer used for aviation purposes. Sully-Miller Construction will remove and pulverize the excess pavement from areas of the Airport that are no longer needed for aviation purposes and hydroseed certain parts of those areas.

The removal of the excess pavement will commence on June 16 and is anticipated to be completed by September 6.

Sully-Miller Construction, the City’s contractor, will perform the work in five phases:

- Phase 1: Construction will take place from 9 PM to 7 AM daily, Sunday through Friday, from June 16 through July 5 (excludes July 4 holiday).
- Phase 2: Construction is anticipated to take place 24 hours per day from midnight July 8 through 11:59 PM on July 11 (four consecutive days).
- Phase 3: Construction will take place from 9 PM to 7 AM daily on Sunday through Friday from July 14 through August 2.
- Phase 4: Construction is anticipated to take place 24 hours per day from midnight August 5 through 11:59 PM on August 8 (four consecutive days).
- Phase 5: Construction will take place from 9 PM to 7 AM daily, Sunday through Friday, from August 11 through Sep-

tember 6 (excludes September 2 Labor Day holiday).

The Airport will be closed to all aircraft operations during the days and hours that construction will take place. During construction, community members should expect noise that will be generated from the construction site.

The City will do all it can to minimize the impacts of the construction to residents. This will include working with Sully-Miller Construction to conduct daily noise monitoring to ensure that the construction complies with the local ordinance.

The City’s Civil Engineering and Airport staff are available to discuss any questions or concerns you have about the project. Contact Civil Engineering Associate Brian Ochoa at brian.ochoa@smgov.net for construction-related questions or comments. For all other inquiries, contact the Airport at airport@smgov.net.

Santa Monica College – June 14 Deadline

Santa Monica College (SMC) is seeking applications for the Citizens Bond Oversight Committee, which oversees the implementation of the bond measures that are funding capital improvement projects at the college:

- Measure U (2002 — \$160 million)
- Measure S (2004 — \$135 million)
- Measure AA (2008 — \$295 million)
- Measure V (2016 — \$345 million)

The application deadline is Friday, June 14. The vacancies are specifically for representatives of local business communities of Santa Monica and Malibu. Applications are available at www.smc.edu/CBOCApp. To qualify for appointment, an applicant must be at least 18 years old; must not be a college employee or official; and must not be a vendor, contractor or consultant to the college.

It will apparently cost property owners in Santa Monica and Malibu approximately \$2 billion to pay off the \$935 million in bonds, including interest. And, it seems from recent telephone surveys, that SMC is considering putting another bond measure on the November 2020 ballot – this time for \$300 million.

Proposed City Budget – June 5 at City Council

<https://tinyurl.com/y28vmqpn>

The overall budget for the City of Santa Monica is \$712.1 million in Fiscal Year (FY) 2019–20 and \$755.9 million in FY 2020–21. It reflects the operating and capital activities of 30 funds across 15 departments and approximately 2,300 permanent and temporary full-time-equivalent positions that provide the City’s public safety, quality of life, infrastructure construction and maintenance, transportation and development-related services, and the internal governance services that support them.

The largest component of the budget is the General Fund — \$418.9 million in FY 2019–20 and \$503.3 million in FY 2020-21. The Citywide budget also includes a number of enterprise and special revenue funds. Among the larger funds, the Resource Recovery and Recycling (RRR), Water, Wastewater, Big Blue Bus (BBB), Beach, Airport, and Cemetery funds have sufficient revenue to cover operational and capital needs. Two funds are projected to require subsidies: the Housing Authority Fund and the Pier Fund.

On June 5, beginning at 6 pm, the City Council will discuss the budget. Public Comment is limited to 2 minutes each. The agenda will be posted at least 72 hours before the meeting at www.smgov.net/departments/clerk/agendas.aspx — Email comments about agenda items to Council members at CouncilMtgItems@smgov.net

Santa Monica Reads

2019 marks the seventeenth anniversary of Santa Monica Public Library’s annual community reading program “Santa Monica Reads.” The program, which runs from June 15 through July 30 this year, invites everyone to read and talk about the same book at special events and book discussions held throughout the city.

The book selected for 2019 is *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas. The book is about a 16-year-old who witnesses the fatal shooting of her friend by a white police officer. For more information, call 310-458-8600 or visit www.smpl.org/SMReads.aspx

Pico Blvd., continued from page 1

Meanwhile, the Pico Neighborhood Association (PNA), the city-recognized neighborhood organization for the Pico neighborhood, dropped out of the process when it became apparent that PNA's major concern since 2015, displacement and gentrification, was not going to be addressed.

On May 15, Planning staff recommended to the Planning Commission a series of changes to the Zoning Ordinance and Official Districting Map to modify land use regulations on commercial properties on Pico Blvd., including the south side of Pico, which is part of the Sunset Park neighborhood.

The land use proposal includes changes to existing regulations that would make it easier for dance studios, gyms, small restaurants, and cultural facilities to locate on Pico Blvd. Certain businesses, such as childcare, personal services, and small retail would be allowed to expand from 40 feet of storefront width to 50 feet.

Restaurants would no longer have a 50-seat limit. And, businesses that have long been prohibited from certain portions of Pico Blvd., such as new bars or nightclubs, medium-scale retail, and health clinics would be allowed to apply for space through a conditional use permit (CUP).

Some Sunset Park residents are concerned that these changes, if adopted, could lead to landlords increasing rents, and thus driving out some of the local family-owned businesses that we treasure.

FOSP requested that the Commission delay voting on the Planning Department recommendations until the FOSP Board had a chance to discuss the 50-page staff report. <https://tinyurl.com/yy785m9l>

FOSP Board of Directors

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

City Council Districts

On May 6, the California Court of Appeal granted the City of Santa Monica's request for an expedited briefing and argument schedule in **Pico Neighborhood Association, et al. v. City of Santa Monica**. By granting this request, the Court of Appeal agreed to a briefing schedule to allow a decision in the case to be issued on or before July 10, 2020, giving the City time to plan for a November 2020 election. While the appeal is pending, the current Council members will remain in place, and the City will not be required to conduct district-based elections. For more information, visit www.santamonica.gov/cvra

Annual Meeting Recap

At the FOSP Annual General Membership Meeting on May 11, the following members were elected to the Board of Directors for 2019-20: Peter Donald, Charles R. Donaldson, Vivien Flitton, Ofer Grossman, Zina Josephs, Nikki Kolhoff, Cathy Larson, and Clare Thomas.

The annual "Emmalie" Award was given to Captain Jerry Parker, retired, Santa Monica Fire Department. We honored him for his 46 years of service to the Sunset Park neighborhood and the city. Robb Brown, Adrian Crook, and Zina Josephs presented the award.

Speakers included our new SMPD Neighborhood Resource Officer Michael Ortiz, SMPD Crime Prevention Coordinator Myesha Morris, FOSP Airport Committee Chair Cathy Larson, and Airport 2 Park Foundation Board member Michael Brodsky.

4th of July Parade

Join the FOSP Beach Towel Drill Team!
After not marching for a few years, FOSP will once again wow attendees of the annual parade on Main Street with a newly organized "Beach Towel Drill Team." Inspired by Pasadena's "Doo-Dah Parade," team leader Alex Novakovich will whip us into shape with a simple yet stellar routine.

Learn the routine on the morning of July 4th at 8:30 AM in front of City Hall while waiting for the parade to begin at 9:30 AM. All ages welcome!

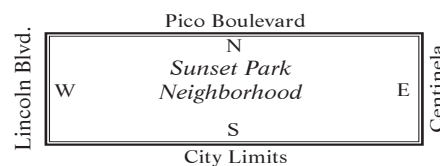
Requirements: The ability to walk from Pico Blvd. to Marine Street (about 1 mile), a desire to have fun, and a willingness to follow the leader. To be included, send an email to FriendsofSP@yahoo.com with "Beach Towel" in the subject line, and your name and phone number in the text.

City Communication

The city website — www.smgov.net — has a link on the left side menu entitled "Getting Informed." Click on that and you'll find the following:

- Service Request page
- Santa Monica Talks (a city staff blog)
- Newsroom (city press releases)
- Newsletter (subscribe to the city e-newsletter)
- Emergency Alerts (sign up for SMalerts.net)
- Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter accounts
- Videos on YouTube

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