



FRIENDS OF SUNSET PARK

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

AUGUST 2019 NEWSLETTER

Layout by Bill Josephs

Design Standards for Single Family Homes (R1)

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. It is also identifying options for revising current development standards to incentivize the retention of existing homes.

August 7 – Staff will present a proposed ordinance update to the Planning Commission, and residents will have an opportunity to comment on maximum parcel coverage, maximum height, setbacks, stepbacks, upper-story decks and balconies, parking requirements (garages or carports), and hillside development. The meeting will begin at 6 PM at City Hall and will be broadcast live on CityTV Channel 16.

For example, one-story homes are currently 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 1st and 2nd story square footage compared to the lot).

Although the IZO reduced the allowable lot 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 remodeling less expensive and less onerous than demolishing and building a new home). Residents have also been concerned about protecting existing rooftop solar panels from being shaded by new construction.

September 24 is when the proposed update is tentatively scheduled to be presented to the City Council. Additional information is posted at <http://tinyurl.com/y2wjn8u7>. Email comments to Ross.Fehrman@smgov.net and/or speak at the meetings.

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 (SMO)

Airport Commission

The Santa Monica Airport Commission meets on the fourth Monday of the month at City Hall. Meetings are open to the public, and the agendas and reports are posted at <https://tinyurl.com/y2q9fkp8>

The five Commissioners are appointed to four-year terms by the City Council. On June 25th, Geoffrey Neri was newly appointed, and retired Air Force pilot Dr. Joseph Schmitz was re-appointed. The other Commissioners are Lael R. Rubin, Chris Waller, and Andrew J. Wilder.

Removal of Excess Pavement at SMO

Sully-Miller Construction, the City's contractor, is removing pavement in five phases. SMO will be closed to all aircraft operations during construction hours. Residents should expect noise from the site, but the City will monitor noise levels each day to ensure compliance with the local law on construction noise. The excess pavement will be replaced with dirt and mulch that has been sprayed with plant seeds and fertilizer. The seeds will grow drought-tolerant plants and grasses native to Southern California to comply with FAA guidelines that require them to be low-growing and to not attract wildlife. The remaining construction schedule is as follows:

Phase 4: 24 hours per day from August 5 to 8

Phase 5: 9 PM to 7 AM from August 11 to Sept. 6

"Is the Airport Really Needed?" was discussed by Zina Josephs, Peter Donald, Ofer Grossman in the 7/1/19 issue of the *Santa Monica Mirror*.

<https://smmirror.com/2019/06/is-the-airport-really-needed/>
"High-Flyers Must Save Planet, Says Jet Boss" – 7/20/19 – *Daily Mail* – <https://tinyurl.com/yyrxh9ap>

Clive Jackson, chief executive of Victor jet charters, has revealed that the company is now charging the rich and famous more for their private flights that are costing the planet—in order to carbon neutralize their business. The company, which flies 7,000 passengers a year for an average of £25,000 a flight—including celebrities such as Irina Shayk, Rita Ora, and Victoria Beckham, has said that their private planes emit 20 times more carbon per mile per passenger than commercial flights.

Homelessness in the United States

“Homelessness in America: Overview of Data and Causes” – National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty – October 2018 – <https://tinyurl.com/yycplfh> includes this information:

Overall population – Before the 2008 recession, 2.5 to 3 million men, women and children were homeless each year. This included 1.35 million children, and more than a million people working full or part-time, but unable to afford to pay for housing. The safety net has failed to provide adequate resources. Only one in four of those poor enough to qualify for low-income housing assistance receives it.

Children, youth and families – In 2012, families made up 37% of the homeless population. The majority of homeless families consisted of single mothers with young children. About 2.5 million children were homeless in 2013. During the 2012-13 school year, 1.25 million students were homeless.

Veterans – In January 2014, 11% of homeless adults were veterans.

Domestic violence survivors – In a 2014 survey of 25 cities, 15% of homeless adults were survivors of domestic violence.

Causes of homelessness – Annual survey by the U.S. Conference of Mayors:

Families

- 1) lack of affordable housing,
- 2) unemployment,
- 3) poverty,
- 4) low wages.

Unaccompanied individuals

- 1) lack of affordable housing,
- 2) unemployment,
- 3) poverty,
- 4) mental illness and the lack of needed service,
- 5) substance abuse and the lack of needed services.

Additional information can be found at “The History of Homelessness in the United States” – National Institutes of Health – <https://tinyurl.com/y53ucfl3>

Ocean Park Blvd. Art Walk

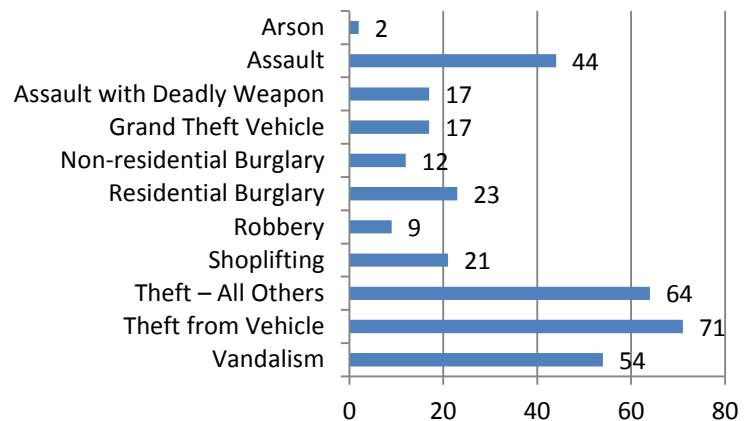
The first “Ocean Park Blvd. Art Walk” was held on August 3 from 11 AM to 4 PM. It stretched from 16th to 31st Street and featured local art, music, vendors, and food trucks. For information about similar events in the future, email Office@DNJ-gallery.net

Door Prizes Donors – FOSP Annual Meeting

Our sincere thanks to the following local businesses for donating amazing door prizes for the FOSP Annual Meeting:

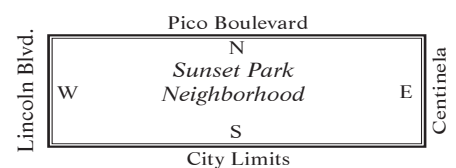
- Artful Handcrafted Gifts – 1726 Ocean Park Blvd.
- Baskin Robbins – 2614 Pico Blvd.
- Bicycle Workshop – 1638 Ocean Park Blvd
- Computer Business Center – 2227 Pico Blvd., #101
- dnj Gallery – 3015 Ocean Park Blvd.
- Edelweiss Flower Boutique – 1722 Ocean Park Blvd.
- Gilbert’s El Indio Restaurant – 2526 Pico Blvd.
- Goods – handmade, fair-trade, artisan goods – 1748 Ocean Park Blvd.
- Lares Restaurant – 2909 Pico Blvd.
- Lunetta All Day – 2420 Pico Blvd.
- Maya Shoe Repair – 1708 Ocean Park Blvd.
- Mindfulnest – 2204½ Pico Blvd.
- Miyako Japanese Restaurant – 2829 Ocean Park Blvd.
- MK Cleaners – 3007 Ocean Park Blvd.
- Paws & Effect Pet Spa – 3030 Pico Blvd
- Rocco’s Cheesecake – 1701 Pico Blvd.
- Santa Monica Lock & Safe Co. – 2208 Pico Blvd.
- Santa Monica Yoga – 1640 Ocean Park Blvd.
- Superfast Copying & Binding Systems – 2358 Pico Blvd.
- Tandoor-India Restaurant – 2622 Pico Blvd.
- Treats Frozen Yogurt – 1700 Ocean Park Blvd.
- Z Garden Santa Monica – 2350 Pico Blvd.
- Zabie’s Neighborhood Café – 3003 Ocean Park Blvd.

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



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



Pico Blvd. Zoning Changes – Planning Commission on Sept. 4

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.”

However, by May 2019, preventing “displacement and gentrification” in the Pico residential neighborhood was set aside by Planning staff in favor of upzoning both sides of Pico Blvd. between Euclid and Centinela.

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, even though the south side of Pico Blvd. is part of Sunset Park.

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 both sides of Pico Blvd.

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

FOSP – Subsequently Planning staff did a presentation at the June 13 FOSP meeting. The proposals included allowing commercial kitchens, large restaurants, and bars and nightclubs, as well as allowing some storefronts to expand to 50 feet, in order to enliven “blighted” Pico Blvd.

FOSP members suggested that the obstacles to opening or maintaining a business on Pico Blvd. are a) increasing rents, and b) the lack of parking for employees and customers, neither of which would be solved by the proposed changes. Some worried that allowing larger businesses would result in rent increases that could drive away smaller family-owned businesses that we cherish. And, by show of hands, attendees voted against allowing more bars and nightclubs on Pico Blvd.

The staff proposals will be discussed by the Planning Commission on September 4th at City Hall. You can speak during Public Comment and/or email Amy.Williams@smgov.net

Emergency Preparedness

The City of Santa Monica Office of Emergency Management will be providing Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) classes on August 8, 15, and 22 from 8:30 AM to 2:30 PM.

CERT is a community based group of volunteers that have completed a federally recognized training course taught by local Public Safety Personnel and First Responders. The training includes ways to assist family, friends, neighbors, and your community in small or large scale disasters. It is free and open to anyone over the age of 18 who lives or works in Santa Monica. Participants need to file an application and pass the background fingerprinting. For more information, email OEM@smgov.net or visit <https://tinyurl.com/y2lorrum>

Fairview Branch Library 2101 Ocean Park Blvd.

August 6, 13, 20, 27 – “Write Away” Workshop – Noon – Encouragement and support for all writers

August 6 and 20 – Gentle Yoga – 6:30 PM – Bring a mat or towel.

August 8, 15, 22 – Current Events Discussion – 1 PM

August 10 – Classics Book Group: *The Death of Artemis Cruz* by Carlos Fuentes – 11 AM

August 14 – Movie: *At Eternity’s Gate* (2018) – 6:30 PM – Biopic about Vincent Van Gogh, starring William Dafoe

August 31 – Santa Monica Rep presents *The Revolutionist* – A reading of Lauren Gunderson’s caustic farce involving Marie Antoinette – 2 PM – Due to limited seating, free tickets will be released at 1:30 PM.

Sunset Park Neighborhood Traffic Study

Phase 1 Implementation Measures are scheduled to be installed by the time SMMUSD classes resume on August 22nd. These will be reviewed after six months and include the following:

- Pearl & 17th – Add yellow crosswalks
- Pico & 21st – No left turn from westbound Pico
- Ocean Park & 21st – No right turn from eastbound OPB - 4 PM to 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 to 7 PM
- 23rd Street – Add green paint to bike lane from Ashland or Hill to Dewey
- Dewey & 23rd – Right turn only from eastbound Dewey
- Lincoln & Ozone – No right turn from northbound Lincoln - 7 AM to 9 AM; Right turn only from westbound Ozone

Comments and questions can be emailed to Traffic.Engineering@smgov.net

Trash & Recycling – What Goes Where?

Not sure what to do with batteries, cardboard, furniture, light bulbs, paint, soft plastics, styrofoam, or yard waste? To find the answers, go to <https://tinyurl.com/yxnh34km>

2019 “Emmalie” Award Goes to Captain Jerry Parker, retired, Santa Monica Fire Department

Jerry Parker, retired Santa Monica Fire Department (SMFD) Captain, has won the 2019 “Emmalie” Award from Friends of Sunset Park. The City-recognized neighborhood organization cited him for 46 years of service to the Sunset Park neighborhood and to the City of Santa Monica.

Serving from 1972 to 2018, Captain Parker was the first Engineer Paramedic in the SMFD and one of the first certified Fire Investigators.

From 1980 to 2004, he served as Company Commander at Fire Station 5 in Sunset Park. That station also provides fire protection at the Santa Monica Airport (SMO). He was the major driving force behind vastly improved aircraft fire protection for SMO, for the pilots, and for nearby residents.

In 2004, Captain Parker was appointed the Fleet Manager/Vehicle Maintenance Coordinator for the SMFD. He was also the support services captain at Fire Station 5 from 2007 to 2018. He was responsible for specifying new apparatus, seeing the purchase through the bidding process and working with the successful bidder to ensure that the department received exactly what had been specified, and ensuring that the SMFD fire suppression and rescue personnel had the best equipment available.

Throughout his career, Captain Parker mentored and served as a role model for his fellow firefighters. He also helped deliver a baby on Valentine’s Day in 1999, during an unexpected at-home birth in the Sunset Park neighborhood. The now 20-year-old Emma’s father, Robb Brown, helped present the “Emmalie” Award to Captain Parker. Other presenters were retired SMFD Engineer Adrian Crook and FOSP President Zina Josephs.



Zina Josephs, Becky Parker, Jerry Parker, Robb Brown, and Adrian Crook

4th of July Parade – FOSP Beach Towel Drill Team

A huge “thank you” to our fearless leader, Alex Novakovich, who thought up the idea of the FOSP Beach Towel Drill Team, found the striped beach towels online, rounded up the volunteers, came up with the routine, trained the marchers, and led us in the parade! Drill team members included Marianne Borgardt, Cheryl Clark, Cheryl Downey, Janis Flax, Zina Josephs, Jeanne Laurie, Karen Melick, Steve Naftali, Sue Nelson, Jennifer Polhemus, Rebecca Sprigg, Gizelle Strokindl, Clare Thomas, and Shirley Weinraub. Bill Josephs and Harlow Sharp carried the FOSP banner.



Santa Monica College

SMC has been conducting telephone polling, apparently in preparation for placing a \$300 million facilities bond measure on the November 2020 ballot. The SMC bond program information is posted here — <http://www.smcbondprogram.com/> – and includes the following:

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

The total is \$935 million, and it will probably cost property owners in Malibu and Santa Monica about \$2 billion to pay off. Add another \$300 million in 2020, and the bonds will cost about \$2.5 billion to pay off.

Meanwhile, only 4% of SMC students list Santa Monica High School as the last high school they attended, 50% list California high schools outside SMMUSD, 30% list out-of-state high schools, and about 17% list international high schools.

The SMC Citizens Bond Oversight Committee meets quarterly. It oversees the implementation of the bond measures that fund capital improvement projects at the college. Meetings are open to the public, and the agendas are posted online at <https://tinyurl.com/y3ujn5oh>