



Dear member,

Here's the August 2015 edition of our monthly newsletter. We hope your summer is coasting nicely toward fall.

Upcoming Events

Historic Resource Design Guidelines meeting

Wednesday, August 26, 2015, 1:30 pm

Location: 630 Garden Street, David Gebhard Meeting Room

The Historic Landmarks Commission (HLC) will review the proposed Historic Resource Design Guidelines document at its August 26th meeting. As we reported in the mid-month update, the Design Guidelines describe the criteria by which the HLC and City staff evaluate proposed exterior alterations to historic resources or landscapes. The goal of the Guidelines is to protect the historical and architectural integrity of significant historic structures and landscapes in Santa Barbara

UEA Board members Steve Forsell and Milt Hess attended the August 4th public workshop on the proposed guidelines. At that meeting Steve recommended that replacement of original materials with substitute materials should be allowed. City staff agreed to insert this phrase into the "Preservation Principles" on page 31, so that it applies to all sections:

"If replacement with original materials is not technically or economically feasible, a substitute material may be used if it duplicates the color, texture, and visual appearance of the original."

City Urban Historian Nicole Hernandez also decided to remove the proposed new historic districts, such as *Mission Gardens*, from the proposed guidelines. The HLC will consider new historic districts at a later date.

The updated Historic Resource Design Guidelines are available for review on the City of Santa Barbara website. Click [here](#) to view the document. It's quite large so tends to load rather slowly.

The HLC will meet on Wednesday August 26th at 1:30pm to consider making a recommendation to City Council to adopt the Historic Resource Design Guidelines. The meeting will be held at 630 Garden Street in the David Gebhard Meeting Room. It will be broadcast on TVSB channel 19.

Learning About Zoning Information Reports (ZIRs)

Thursday, October 29, 2015, 6-8 pm

Location: Schott Center, Room 20, 310 West Padre Street, Santa Barbara

SBCC Center for Lifelong Learning offers a free program titled *Santa Barbara Conflicts – Zoning Information Reports*. Both sides of the current ZIR controversy will be presented by four panelists representing the City of Santa Barbara, the Board of Realtors, other community organizations, and homeowners. Decide for yourselves whether high-fee ZIRs really do provide important information to sellers and buyers in our community.

For more information contact www.theCLL.org SBCC Center for Lifelong Learning.

Out and About in Upper East

Upper East History – The Alameda Bandstand

This month we explore a beloved landmark in the southeast corner of the Upper East area. Constructed at the request of Santa Barbara citizens who petitioned the City Council to build it for an amount not less than \$250, the Alameda Bandstand has served the city since 1888 as a venue for band concerts, civic gatherings, and as the speakers' stage for Fourth of July rallies.

The bandstand is typically Victorian, with decorative brackets above each of the posts that support the octagonal roof. The ornamental lattice railings are not original, but the weather vane is in its original place.

Alameda Plaza, in which the bandstand is located, originally consisted of six city blocks designated for public use in 1855. Thirteen years later four of the blocks were conveyed to private citizens. One of the four was returned to the public by Alice Keck Park in 1976 and is now known as Alice Keck Park Memorial Garden.

Reprinted from *Santa Barbara Landmarks* by Jane P. Ellison

Walking with Mo

In walking our beautiful neighborhood, Mo and I prefer to look up, but due to various ground-level issues, we often have to look down.

The first issue is that all over our neighborhood our sidewalks, many of which were put in years ago, are in pretty bad shape. Often the sidewalks are accompanied by beautiful parkways and majestic trees, but those trees are now causing damage to the walks. One example is the sidewalk just as you reach the crown of the hill at Constance Avenue where it turns into Garden Street. Other walks have been damaged by street repairs or water main breaks like the one that happened a few weeks ago near the intersection of Los Olivos and Anacapa Streets.

Los Angeles is now faced with a billion-dollar challenge of fixing hundreds of miles of city sidewalks. Santa Barbara has a similar challenge but might have an opportunity to get some of its walkways fixed. There is discussion of putting an infrastructure bond measure on the ballot sometime in the

near future. One of the big-ticket items will be replacing our dilapidated police station, but there may also be money to fix sidewalks with something better than asphalt fill, which seems to be the current approach. Mo and I will keep an eye on this, let you know when some movement might happen on this bond, and perhaps ask you to go down to city hall with us to make our case for fixing sidewalks.

Another ground-level issue is those folks who walk their dogs and carry along a plastic bag for their dog's duties, but don't take the bag home and deposit in a proper place. Instead they leave it on somebody's stone wall or fence or, worse yet, on the sidewalk. (And don't get me started on those owners who don't even bother to take a bag along.) In addition, there are dog owners who walk their dogs off-leash creating dangerous situations for the dog(s), vehicle drivers, and other walkers. Keeping your dogs leashed and picking up after them are simple ways to keep our neighborhood safe and beautiful.

Enough grouchiness and on to another important matter. I am looking for a few good persons to step forward and serve on our board. We may have at least three openings this coming year as some of our long-time board members step down to pursue other interests. Being a board member takes about three to four hours a month, including an approximately two-hour monthly board meeting. Currently we meet on the second Wednesday of each month, but we are flexible if members need to adjust that schedule. Our board is very active, and, along with Upper East Association members, we are working to make a positive contribution to our way of life here on the Upper East. If you are interested in joining the board, please give me a call or send me an e-mail. I would be happy to talk with you.



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Mark your calendars for the UEA garden party and annual meeting

When: November 8th, 3-5 pm

Where: Junipero Serra Hall (corner of Garden and Los Olivos Streets)

Who: Guest speaker, City Administrator Paul Casey

What: Refreshments and the opportunity to socialize with your neighbors

Hope to see you there!