



# UPPER EAST ASSOCIATION SANTA BARBARA

Upper East News  
Fall 2016  
[www.sbuppereast.org](http://www.sbuppereast.org)

## A Message from the Board President

Thanks to our very active Board of Directors, every year the Association continues to work to ensure that our neighborhood reflects all those attributes we have come to enjoy and cherish. I believe that all of us who have chosen to live in this wonderful and historic area of Santa Barbara embrace the quiet neighborhood, the beautiful landscaping and gracious homes. We also take a great interest in preserving our history and our way of life.

In order to be effective, we believe that having a neighborhood association allows us to speak collectively in a more definitive and effective voice. This is especially true when issues arrive at City Council that are important to us. To be effective it takes all of us keeping our eyes and ears open and to be willing to share information to keep the Board of Directors apprised of issues that affect us. And, it takes a number of Board members who are willing to devote the time and interest to help make that happen.

Our Board has nine positions and currently we are seeking an individual interested in filling that ninth position. Also, we continue to seek others to step up and volunteer when we have special projects, special events, or simply need some additional voices at City Council. So, if you are so inclined or would like further details about these positions, please give me a call at 805-448-4392 or send me an e-mail at [fredlsweeney@gmail.com](mailto:fredlsweeney@gmail.com).



**WE NEED YOU**

This year we have kept up the presence of our voice on the RV parking issue in the neighborhood and look forward in the next few months to see what the City Council's Ordinance Committee will propose to address this concern. We are also aware that the city is actively recruiting additional inspectors to enforce the vacation rental ordinance and we wait to see their progress. We will continue to support our "legacy project" to assure that all of us who love to walk up into Mission Canyon can do that safely, and work to preserve all the historic and natural resources of that area.

I am sure the upcoming year of 2017 will bring us more issues and challenges that we will need to address to ensure that we meet our mission as an association. We do know as we now enter the City's district elections that we are going to be interested in which candidates will step forward to become our District 4 representative. Our board has been reaching out to our fellow neighborhood associations to discuss how we might promote the election dialogue.

We hope that this fall and holiday season are special for you and our neighborhood and we all look forward to a successful 2017. I look forward to seeing you all at our annual meeting November 6<sup>th</sup> at our new venue, the First Presbyterian Church's "Christian Fellowship Center," 21 East Constance Avenue.

Fred Sweeney  
President, Upper East Association  
Board of Directors

## Santa Barbara's Historic Upper East Neighborhoods

The centerpiece of the Upper East neighborhood is the Old Mission Santa Barbara, National Historic Landmark. Since 1960, the City of Santa Barbara has had in place a landmark district called El Pueblo Viejo. That was later supplemented by designating an area around Old Mission Santa Barbara and referring to it as El Pueblo Viejo II (EPVII). In addition to preservation of landmarks, the cohesiveness of the area is achieved by design review of exterior alterations only. Any alteration must be compatible with the California Adobe, Monterey Revival and Spanish Colonial Revival styles. The City is now considering revising the Historic Structures Ordinance (SBMC Chapter 22.22) language that might be of interest to many of our membership. It is also considering adding ordinance provisions to facilitate designations for historic and special design districts within the city.

### Special Design District Definition

A "Special Design District" is a geographically defined area of the City selected for the purposes of maintaining design standards for neighborhoods, visual corridors, cultural landscapes, and/or major hillsides to promote architectural compatibility of buildings and structures, neighborhood preservation goals, sensitive grading design and/or appropriate levels of landscaping."

The Community Development Department's Planning Division is recommending two additional Historic Districts that would impose a design review process to protect the historic resources of the area.

The "Mission Gardens Potential District" includes the residences in the 300 Block of E. Padre Street and 300 E. Mission Street that were recommended as a Historic District in the Lower Riviera Historic Resources Survey. The 33 additional properties are located on either side of Roosevelt Elementary School, as shown in yellow on the map.

The "Plaza Bonita Potential District" is located on the Lower Riviera. The ten parcels proposed to be considered a historic district center on the cul-de-sac of Plaza Bonita, based on the recommendations of the Lower Riviera Historic Resource Survey. It is shown in green.

In addition the City has an existing Mission Area Special Design District that extends an additional 1000' around the existing EPVII boundary from the Old Mission (outlined in blue). The City is considering clarifications and clear design criteria for this Mission area that will be part of the Ordinance Committee discussion. This area is shown as a blue line extending 1000' beyond the EPVII.

The City is also recommending additional individual designations or other protection mechanisms due to the presence of many structures that have been determined to have historic significance, shown in red on the figure.

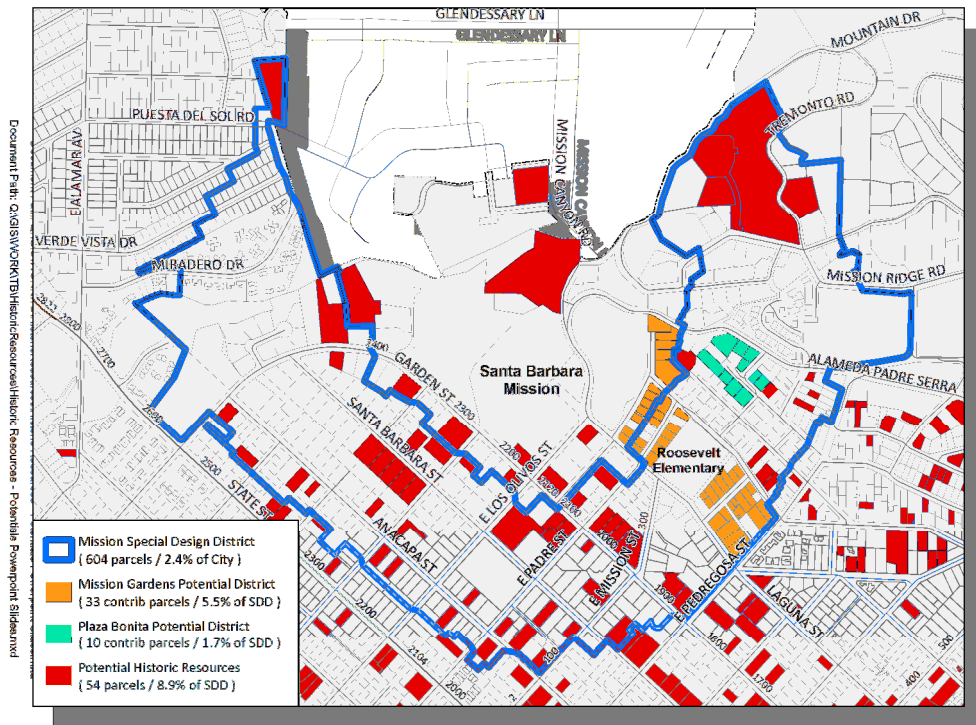
The UEA will continue to attend each of the Ordinance Committee sessions that will address these proposed changes and additions. We will also continue to keep our membership informed of this issue. For further information, and to receive Ordinance Committee agendas and staff reports as they become posted, email [NHernandez@SantaBarbaraCA.gov](mailto:NHernandez@SantaBarbaraCA.gov).



### Garden Street —The Path Extending from the Presidio's Huerta (food garden) to the Old Mission's Huerta

When Santa Barbara was a Spanish town, before the Americans laid out the street grid system, paths linked it together. Officially named in Haley's 1851 survey, Garden Street is one of Santa Barbara's oldest streets. It was also called *Jardines* (Spanish for "gardens") on early maps. This reflects the fact that it passed through the area around Cota and Ortega Street known as the Presidio's *La Huerta*. Tourists can visit a demonstration '*huerta*' located behind the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation's Presidio kitchen.

If you would like to see *La Huerta* Historic Gardens at the Old Mission, they are open to the public each Wednesday, 9am to noon. Entry is from the Old Mission's public parking lot at the end of Laguna Street, through a path lined by the Stations of the Cross. Volunteers meet on Wednesday mornings to do a variety of light gardening chores. Contact [ProfessorSortomme@hotmail.com](mailto:ProfessorSortomme@hotmail.com).



## Oversized Vehicle Parking Issue

The Upper East Association Board has closely monitored the current RV parking situation in our neighborhood. At the June 7, Special Ordinance Committee Meeting, which Fred Sweeney and Steve Forsell attended, the committee voted 2-1 to choose Option Two, as presented by City staff. Much of the discussion centered on safety issues as well as citizen complaints regarding RV parking on their streets. This option is scheduled for City Council consideration on October 18, 2016.

Option Two creates a citywide ban on all oversized vehicle parking, subject to a series of special circumstance exemptions. In general, oversized vehicle means any vehicle which exceeds 25 feet in length, or 80 inches in width or 82 inches in height. Staff believes that this prohibition would encompass many RVs. Posting signs would be required. There would be several exceptions for the ordinance to be workable and practical. These exemptions include oversized vehicles engaged in loading and unloading, or any government vehicles, or public utility vehicles, or oversized vehicles displaying a valid disabled placard or license plate. Any portion of the proposed ordinance may be changed by the full City Council. Your Upper East Association Board will continue to monitor the situation and update our membership.



## Annual Garden Party

### New Location

Sunday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, 3-5pm

First Presbyterian Church

21 East Constance Avenue

"Christian Fellowship Center"

Guest speaker, Santa Barbara City Attorney

Mr. Ariel Calonne

All members are invited to the Upper East Association Annual Garden Party, which is an opportunity to meet your neighbors, review the Association's activities during the past year and share goals for the next. Light appetizers, wine and other refreshments will be served. If you are not yet a member, please consider joining today so we can include you on the invitation list.

Our guest speaker this year will be the City Attorney of Santa Barbara, Mr. Ariel Calonne, who prior to joining the City in 2014, had been City Attorney of Ventura, Palo Alto, and Boulder, Colorado. He will address topics such as District Elections and other issues affecting the Upper East.

## Become a Member for 2017

It's time to renew your membership in the Upper East Association for 2017, or to join if you're not yet a member.

The UEA serves three key roles:

- Monitor local government initiatives affecting the Upper East and keep our members informed.
- Share the Upper East perspective with local government officials.
- Promote activities to beautify the neighborhood and enhance the quality of life of our residents.

We send out email newsletters alerting our members to coming events and neighborhood news. We invite members to let us know about quality-of-life issues, and in a number of cases we've been able to do something

about them. We maintain a website with up-to-date information about the community and association. We provide opportunities to interact with other neighborhood associations on mutual interests and help disseminate information on local resources available in case of emergency. Finally, each fall we distribute this printed newsletter to every property owner in the neighborhood.

The UEA has grown to 270 member households. If you're currently a member we hope you'll rejoin for 2017. If you are not a member, please join us.

Annual dues for 2017 are \$20 per household. New this year you may pay by credit card or PayPal (if you have an account) by going to the *Membership* page of our website [sbuppereast.org](http://sbuppereast.org). You may also pay by check using the envelope provided. See the enclosed form for instructions on both options.



## Upper East Association Board

The UEA Board of Directors consists of nine members:

### Term ending Dec 2016

Fred Sweeney – President  
Steve Forsell – Secretary  
Joan Livingston – Treasurer  
Tony Fischer  
Vacancy

### Term ending Dec 2017

Lisa Burns – VP, Membership  
Don Olson  
Rod Hersberger  
Greg Brown

Board members serve two-year terms, with five of the Directors elected in even-numbered years and four in odd-numbered years. The Board meets monthly.

The election of Board members for the 2017-18 term will be conducted in December 2016. Prospective candidates for the Board are invited to contact us at [ueacomm@gmail.com](mailto:ueacomm@gmail.com) to express interest and to schedule a meeting to discuss what the role entails.

