

UPPER EAST ASSOCIATION SANTA BARBARA

Upper East News
Fall 2017
www.sbuppereast.org

A Message from the Board President

As we near the close of another year of the Upper East Association(UEA), we would like to thank all our members who participated, shared their views, and allowed us to assist them. The association's board spent many hours working to address issues of concern that had potential impacts on our neighborhood.

One of our major efforts was to work with city leadership to assure that an "Oversized Vehicles" ordinance be enacted and implemented. This ordinance that went into effect September 5, 2017 should make our streets safer for vehicular, pedestrian and bicycle traffic. The UEA website at sbuppereast.org has a link to report incidents of RVs parked on public streets in our area. The board also continued to monitor the effects of the vacation rental enforcement on our neighborhood.

As for the future, we know that issues of housing and density within our neighborhood will continue to be a challenge. The Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) law is discussed elsewhere in this newsletter. Average Unit Density (AUD) projects such as those on State Street and Hitchcock, and State and La Cumbre are somewhat close to our Upper East neighborhood. The city's approach to housing density will continue to require our close attention, along with other issues of crime in the neighborhood, the downtown retail situation, and homelessness.

Next year will present new challenges with the city council transitioning to full district representation with the vote by-mail election

ending November 7. The State's imposition of ADUs has the potential to provide more rental opportunities, but also presents challenges for our neighborhood. As a member of the UEA, you will be kept informed of ways to deal with these changes. We seek your input through dialogue with board members, so that our leadership can better direct our energy and resources.

In December, the UEA will elect four board members for 2018-2019 and we welcome your interest. Please email ueacomm@gmail.com for more information about becoming a board member.

Finally, this newsletter is our annual membership drive, so please sign up and support the UEA. We look forward to continuing to be of service in this wonderful neighborhood we call home.

Fred Sweeney, 2016-2018 Board President.



Become a Member for 2018

It's time to renew your membership in the Upper East Association (UEA) for 2018, or to join if you're not yet a member. Annual dues for next year will again be \$20 payable to the Upper East Association. You may pay by check using the enclosed envelope, or credit card on the sbuppereast.org website using PayPal on our Membership page. See the instructions on the renewal form provided on both options.

If you live or own property in the Upper East you know what a lovely and historic neighborhood it is. The Association's goal is to keep it that way. 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 that beautify the neighborhood and enhance the quality of life for our residents.

We send out electronic newsletters bimonthly and alerts or surveys, as needed, to our members about city issues, upcoming events and neighborhood news. We invite members to let us know about quality-of-life issues, and strive to provide helpful information to address them.

We maintain the sbuppereast.org website where information about the organization, past newsletters, and information on membership and governance can be found. We provide opportunities to interact with other neighborhood associations on mutual interests and help disseminate information on local resources. As a member you are invited to our annual meeting where you mingle with neighbors in a relaxed atmosphere with appetizers & wine while hearing a presentation from a highly qualified speaker. Finally, each fall we distribute this printed newsletter to every property in the neighborhood.

The Association has over 240 member households. If you're currently a member, we hope you'll rejoin for 2018. If you're not yet a member, please join us because together our voices make a difference.

Joan Livingston, Treasurer
Upper East Association
PO Box 91329, Santa Barbara, CA 93190-1329

Annual Meeting

The Upper East Association annual meeting will be held on

Sunday, November 5, 2017, 3-5pm
Fellowship Center of the First Presbyterian Church
21 East Constance Avenue

Refreshments and good conversation will be provided. Our featured speaker will be Nina Johnson, assistant city administrator.



Neighborhood Watch

We are happy to report that the UEA neighborhood watch program has recruited 24 new block watch captains, with over 70 people contacting us about the program. We will continue to work to ensure that every block on the Upper East is represented.

Natural and man-made disasters pose a significant threat to any community, but an effective neighborhood watch program can prepare its members to cope with disrupted services and environmental threats. Over the coming year, we will help to supply the Upper East with the information and tools that each household would need to survive three days on its own. More material on this topic, including example survival kits, will be on display at the UEA annual meeting in November.

In news from another neighborhood, the Santa Barbara Police Department (SBPD) has partnered with Santa Barbara City College on an innovative approach to limit noise-disturbance issues in Mesa neighborhoods from student parties. Named the Student Neighborhood Assistance Program, or SNAP, this program employs students who will serve as initial responders to noise-disturbance calls to the SBPD. We applaud the police department's efforts, and look forward to partnering with SBPD on issues unique to the Upper East.

November's City Council District Elections Will Determine Who Represents the Upper East

The City Council's District Four seat will represent the following areas: Upper East; Riviera; Eucalyptus Hill which is the area around Cleveland school to the city line of Montecito, including the area of Coast Village Road; the area from the Upper East to Alamar Street and all the city areas above Foothill Road out to the city/county line and to the foothills.

District Four Candidates

Jay Higgins, James Scafide and Kristen Sneddon.

The Upper East Association along with both the Riviera and Eucalyptus Hill Associations joined together to sponsor:

City Council District Four Candidates Forum
Tuesday, October 10th from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
First United Methodist Church
305 E. Anapamu Street (corner of Garden and Anapamu)
Parking: enter from Garden Street

The League of Women Voters televised in-studio interviews with candidates for Districts 4, 5 & 6, which are available for viewing at their website, lwvsantabarbara.org and TV Santa Barbara at tvSB.tv and Cox channel 17 from October 10-November 7.

Registered voters in the city should receive their vote-by-mail ballots on October 9th. Follow instructions on the ballot, sign the outside of the envelope and apply standard postage stamp, or ballots may be dropped off at Santa Barbara City Hall lobby (735 Anacapa St.) or the First Presbyterian Church, Fellowship Room (21 E. Constance) by November 7th. There will not be any runoffs in this election; the candidate with the most votes will become the elected official.



Secondary or Accessory Dwelling Units

In 2017 the State Legislature passed a new statewide law requiring all municipal and county jurisdictions to drastically reduce the oversight and permitting of a secondary dwelling unit on single-family zoned properties. The city has already issued several dozen permits; several hundred more requests are waiting for city approval. City staff indicated there are over 14,000 such properties within the city eligible to utilize this new law.

Earlier this year the city council directed planning and legal staff to begin the process to develop a local comprehensive ordinance to supplement those areas allowed for local control. Those areas are very limited, but will cover such things as the use of ADU's as vacation rentals. The adoption of the ordinance is expected to be in place by the end of this year.

The law essentially requires only the issuance of a building permit by staff for each application. While the goal of improving the stock of affordable housing is admirable, the challenge for neighborhoods like the Upper East will be to try to minimize the negative impacts of additional density particularly as it relates to the neighborhood's historic character, parking and noise. (Please note that ADU's are not the same as the city's other housing effort called AUD which stands for Average Unit Density projects.)



Upper East Association Board

The UEA Board of Directors consists of nine members:

Term ending Dec 2017


Rod Hersberger - Secretary
Lisa Burns - Membership
Greg Brown
Tim Townsend

Term ending Dec 2018

Steve Forsell – Vice President
Kathryn Hinsch – Neighborhood Watch
Jerry Jacobs
Joan Livingston - Treasurer
Fred Sweeney – President

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 2018-19 term will be conducted in December 2017. Prospective candidates for the board are invited to contact us at ueacomm@gmail.com to express interest and to schedule a meeting to discuss what the role entails.



Old Mission Santa Barbara
Become a Docent or Ambassador!

Orientation: October 10 - November 17
Classes are every Tuesday from 9:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M.
at historic Old Mission Santa Barbara

- Learn about the California Mission era, the Indigenous people of Santa Barbara, and our own *Queen of the Missions*.
- Bring history alive as you guide visitors through the Sacred Garden, Cemetery, Museum, and Church.
- Meet new people and participate in field trips and special events.

Contact Laura Foss at (805) 682-4713 ext.166 or at museumtours@sboldmission.org for more information
Application available at: www.santabarbaramission.org/docents

