



A Message from Board Co-Presidents Rod Hersberger & Steve Forsell

As our community continues to battle the Covid-19 epidemic, your Upper East Association Board is still busy working on issues that face our neighborhood. There have been challenges and your Board has worked hard to overcome these and address the issues that face us. The Association's membership and finances remain strong. We hope all our neighbors and friends are safe and following protocols regarding the coronavirus.

Recently we have had some changes to membership on your Board, including the addition of four new members. This demonstrates the willingness and enthusiasm of our neighbors to participate and help to protect your Upper East. Deb Trauntvein, Pat Saley, Jim Morouse and Ryan Newell have all joined the Board and have already made contributions. We are fortunate to have our neighbors step up to participate on the Board. Their bios can be found later in this newsletter as well as on our website sbuppereast.org.

The Board continues to monitor and deal with issues which affect the Upper East. Some of these issues include Average Unit Density and Accessory Dwelling Units, traffic and speeding on our streets, the transformation of State Street and various historical status proposals including the State Street Parkway, the Community Wildfire Protection Plan and emergency preparedness among other issues. See articles in this newsletter for additional information on several of these concerns.

Thanks to all our Board members for their work in these difficult times.

Fred Sweeney, Secretary

Deb Trauntvein, Safety and Disaster Preparedness
Greg Brown

Rod Hersberger, Interim Treasurer

Barbara Harley, Membership

Pat Saley

Beth Perry, Newsletter

Jim Morouse

Ryan Newell

And a special thanks to Eric Torbet who is our database consultant

If you have input or questions, please email us at board@sbuppereast.org.

Mission Canyon Bridge Project

To solve access and safety problems in the historically and environmentally sensitive Mission Canyon corridor, the City of Santa Barbara hired the Wallace Group of San Luis Obispo to study the Mission Canyon bridge from various aspects. The city's project team compared the bridge's structure to today's flood, earthquake, and access standards. Accordingly, they developed several possible ways to address deficiencies while retaining the area's historic integrity and aesthetic sense and also improving vehicular, bicycle, and pedestrian safety. Those studies may be seen on the city's website: missioncanyonbridge.com.

The study's initial findings and options, which are based on preliminary information and intended to gather public feedback, include three options for the bridge and three options for the roadway. The Mission Heritage Trail Association (MHTA)/Safe Passage (missionheritagetrailassociation.org), which has had support from the UEA for the last several years, has endorsed the options identified as Bridge Plan 3 and Roadway Plan A, with possible features



that would:

- retain the single-arch bridge design
- eliminate the unsightly view of the sewer line
- solve potential flood problems with little effect on the creek
- provide walking pathways on both sides of road, which with additional architectural elements, would allow safe pedestrian movement through the corridor
- eliminate the unsightly and hazardous above ground utility lines and poles
- qualify for federal funding

MHTA/Safe Passage in their published letter of support reiterated “...it is important to understand that this is neither a frivolous effort nor one of vanity. Rather, it is essential to make this corridor safe and to preserve the historic bridge insofar as possible before Caltrans ceases to certify it. In addition to traffic danger, nature’s force can also be deadly, as we have recently and tragically experienced in Montecito.”

You may email any input to the UEA board at board@sbuppereast.org. We will keep you informed of further developments in this project.

State Street Historical Landscape

A sub-committee of the Upper East Association is exploring the possibility of requesting the City of Santa Barbara designate the six-block landscape median strip on State Street between Mission Street and Constance Avenue as an "Historic Cultural Landscape." The historic designation would protect this valuable public asset from future major alterations or removal. This median strip is a character-defining feature of this six-block corridor and provides a welcoming transition from commercial to residential use. It enhances the ambiance of the neighborhood for pedestrians and drivers alike by providing a buffer of green space which is visually pleasing and helps mitigate traffic noise.

Our neighborhood and many of the homes along this section were built in the early 1920s, and we are currently researching the data on when the median



State Street at Quinto Street Looking Downtown

was constructed. The streets during those years that ran perpendicular to State Street from Mission Street to Constance Avenue were numbered, with Quinto Street being the fifth street up the hill from Mission Street. Until the post-war era State Street ended at Constance Avenue. De La Vina Street was Highway 101 until it met Hollister Avenue, which today is where De La Vina Street connects to State Street.

While there are no known plans to alter or remove this median, its future removal we believe would negatively impact the feel and ambiance of this six-block span, and a connection to our past would be lost. The proposed designation would not introduce any special fees or tax assessments.

The sub-committee of the board is in the process of surveying the property owners and residents on both sides of this six-block section of State Street to ascertain whether or not they would support such an effort.

Oversized Vehicle Parking

Santa Barbara Municipal Code section 10.44.220 prohibits parking on city streets of vehicles measuring “25 feet in length or 80 inches in width or 82 inches in height.” This restriction is not meant to prohibit contractors and tradespeople from temporarily parking at a job site to access their tools and equipment. To report a violation, call Parking Enforcement at (805) 882-8900.

Welcome Four New Board Members

Jim Morouse

Jim Morouse, his wife Mary, their three teenage kids and their two dogs recently moved to the Upper East after 20 years of living in Montecito. Jim has enjoyed his time in Santa Barbara through teaching at UCSB, Westmont College and local nonprofit Leading from Within. Prior to his teaching career, Jim's executive experience includes managing marketing and e-commerce for ESPN.com, NFL.com, and NBA.com as well as launching ABCNEWS.com. Locally, Jim has served on the board of the Lobero Theatre and has served as chairman of the Santa Barbara Foundation and the Westmont Board of Advisors. He has also served on the board of local technology startups HG Insights and BioIQ. Jim and his family are delighted to be new residents of the Upper East and are enjoying the beauty and history of the area as well as walking the dogs to all the local hipster coffee shops!

Ryan Newell

Ryan Newell moved from New York to Santa Barbara in 2003 to attend Westmont College. After graduating, Ryan launched CITIG, a local technology consulting and support business. For over 15 years Ryan and his team at CITIG have been helping business and residential clients better utilize technology by steering them towards reliable solutions and providing a great customer experience. In 2017, Ryan and his wife, Amber, had their first child, Olivia, and moved to the Upper East with their ferocious Maltipoo, Ted. Their second child, Navy, was born in 2019. You will frequently see them walking, running, and riding around with their kids and enjoying everything this wonderful neighborhood has to offer. One of their kids will probably be barefoot, shirtless, covered in paint, and/or mud – they live life to the fullest. Ryan and Amber are excited for Ryan's active membership on the board helping to maintain the legacy and history of the Upper East.

Pat Saley

Pat Saley came to the US from Canada when she was seven years old. She moved to Santa Barbara to attend UCSB and has been here ever since. Since graduating, she's lived on the Mesa, in Montecito and now in the Upper East. Her two children are

SBHS and Cal Poly grads and work in health care. Pat worked for the US Forest Service (where she met her husband), California Coastal Commission and then the City of Santa Barbara as a land use planner for nine years. She started her own land use planning and facilitation business in 1988 when her younger child was born. She has done contract planning and facilitation work for most jurisdictions on the South Coast and has also worked for many non-profits in the county. Pat serves on two countywide committees (Measure A Oversight and Library Advisory Committees) and is very involved in public libraries, golf, pickleball and, hopefully someday, travel.

Deb Trauntvein

Deb Trauntvein was born and raised in Santa Barbara, still living in the same house she grew up in that her father built in 1955. She went to Roosevelt Elementary, La Cumbre Junior High and graduated from SBHS in 1972. She moved to the North Shore of Oahu, Hawaii, to further her love of surfing in bigger waves. This is where she became a lifelong certified professional lifeguard. On returning to Santa Barbara in 1978 she furthered her career and was hired as Instructor/Director of Santa Barbara Parks and Recreation Department's Junior Lifeguard Program, as well as swim coach/lifeguard at many private membership clubs in Santa Barbara and Montecito. During this time, she and Tom, her husband now of 40 years, raised their three sons who are now adults! Deb is currently a caregiver for Senior Helpers of Santa Barbara. She first became involved with UEA as a greeter at the annual meetings. She loves our neighborhood and is happy to still call the upper eastside "home."

RENEW NOW!

If you have not renewed your membership in the Upper East Association, this will be your last eNewsletter and you will not receive an invitation to the Association's annual meeting and other events. Dues are only \$25 per household and renewal information is at:

sbuppereast.org/membership

Stay involved in the Upper East and renew now. Thank you!