



- ELMHURST NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS -

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE ELMHURST NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION • SACRAMENTO, CA • FOUNDED IN 1908

President's Corner

By Amreet Sandhu

Dear Neighbors,

Happy Spring! I'm sure you'll agree that nothing beats our neighborhood this time of year! I am looking forward to seeing you all walking, jogging, cycling, playing with your children outdoors again, sitting in your lawn chairs enjoying our scenic view, and appreciating the beauty Elmhurst's tree canopy, vibrant gardens, and darling homes provide us.

Our Elmhurst Neighborhood Association (ENA) Board of Directors has been quite busy ensuring that Elmhurst remains one of the strongest and most active neighborhood groups in town. At our last general meeting, we heard from Assembly McCarty's office, the Sacramento Police Department, Councilmember Guerra's office, and Sacramento City Unified School District's Area 2 Trustee Ellen Cochran. Linking neighbors to their resources is what we do, and will continue doing at upcoming meetings and events. If you've not yet participated in an ENA activity, I hope that you will this year!

Our Spring newsletter focuses on planning, sustainability, transportation, and livability. With an upcoming mayoral race, our residents will have some important decisions to make. In this issue, you'll see more information on what the ENA Board, elected offices, community groups, and service providers are doing to ensure Elmhurst and surrounding areas are conducive to healthy and happy lifestyles. During May is Bike Month, consider joining our bicycle team: Elmhurst Neighborhood Association Cycles, and remember to log your miles daily!

For updates throughout the year, please connect with us online:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ElmhurstSacto>

Website: <http://www.elmhurstna.com>

My best regards,

Amreet Sandhu, J.D.

President, Elmhurst Neighborhood Association

Note from the Editor

It has been a sincere pleasure editing *Elmhurst News*. But it's time to hang up my hat and give someone else the opportunity to write, design, and manage delivery of the newsletter. Special thanks to everyone who contributed, delivered and gave feedback, and to Bonnie Hansen and Al Eno for their support. If you are interested in helping with the newsletter, please email elmhurstnews@gmail.com.

—Susan C. Carlson

Spring 2016

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



April 6, May 4, June 1

ENA Board Meetings

6:30 p.m., locations to be determined

Held the 1st Wednesday of every month

If you'd like to attend or host a meeting, please email elmhurstnews@gmail.com

Wednesday, April 6

Mayoral Debate

6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., KCRA (Channel 3)

Elmhurst representatives will be attending, so be sure to watch!

Saturday, April 16

Bike Tour of Elmhurst

See page 4 for details

Tuesday, June 7

Election Day

Saturday, June 25

Elmhurst Summer Picnic

Details to come; check our Facebook page or NextDoor in June for details

Saturday, June 4

Pops in the Park begins

Continues on June 11, June 18, & June 25

See eastsacpopsinthepark.com for details



The ENA
now has a
website!

Visit us at

www.elmhurstna.com

UPDATES FROM YOUR REPRESENTATIVES



By Assemblymember
Kevin McCarty

Greetings Elmhurst Neighbors!

This year, I am proud to be working with Supervisor Serna and Councilmember Harris to create the Lower American River Conservancy. With approximately eight million visitors each year, the American River Parkway is an example of how an urban river can be utilized for public good, while still maintaining its environmental integrity. My bill would create a new state conservancy to manage resources and help drive state dollars to protect our river.

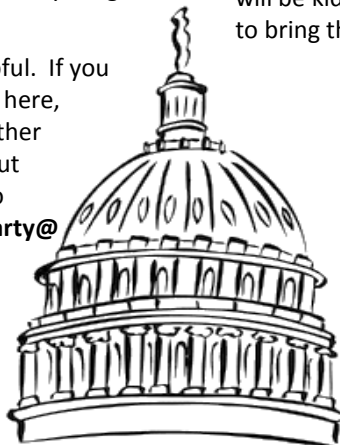
In addition to the conservancy bill, transportation remains a high priority this year. We've all heard about the need for improvements to our transportation infrastructure, and in order to understand the local perspective, I held a roundtable over the winter with many local transportation leaders. Among the many issues discussed were findings of my office's transportation survey, which had over 400 responses from constituents. Results showed that 51% would like to see a focus on investing in mass transit for the city, in addition to repairing our crumbling freeways and bridges. I agree with this perspective. We must continue to develop sustainable communities with strong public transportation systems.

And on the subject of alternative modes of transportation: May is Bike Month! Not only is cycling good for the body, it's good for the planet too, reducing greenhouse gas emissions. My family and I enjoy cycling around our Elmhurst neighborhood (and on the Bike Trail) and a number of my staff commute to work daily by bicycle. I am encouraging all AD7 residents to join us in making the commitment to ride more – to work, school, your local market – everything makes a difference!

I hope you have found this information helpful. If you have any questions on the issues I've raised here, or have any questions or concerns on any other state issue, please don't hesitate to reach out to my office at **(916) 324-4676**. You can also visit my website at **Assemblymember.McCarty@assembly.ca.gov**.

Sincerely,

Kevin McCarty



DISTRICT 6 NEWS

By City Councilmember
Eric Guerra

Dear Neighbors,

As we make our way into spring, I am excited to continue to accomplish a great deal for the community and the City of Sacramento. These past few months have held some fantastic events and some exciting developments in the Elmhurst neighborhood, including our last Mobile District Office event in January, where I had the chance to speak with the local firefighters and some community members. I also had the opportunity to attend the Elmhurst Neighborhood Association Meeting on January 27th and meet with many of you. Additionally, we were able to secure an additional \$600,000 for St. John's at the February 16th council meeting to continue to help homeless women and children by providing 90 additional housing units with intensive support services.

We have some exciting events coming up in the neighborhood, such as the Elmhurst Composting Seminar on April 9th, where residents can learn how to properly compost and pick up some seasonal gardening tips as well. My team and I are also planning a bike tour of the Elmhurst neighborhood with the Sacramento Area Bicycle Advocates (SABA.) All are invited to ride along and we hope that you will come out and join us. The SactoMoFo Food Truck Mania season begins on Friday, March 25th, and will take place the fourth Friday of every month in the Tahoe Park neighborhood. Come out for a great time with your neighbors, great food, drinks, and entertainment. There will be kid-friendly activities as well, so feel free to bring the whole family to join in on the fun!

I look forward to a great spring season with you all.

Best Wishes,
Eric Guerra

City Services Updates

Spring/Summer Watering Rules Are Now in Effect

As of March 13, Sacramento residents are required to follow the Stage 2 Water Shortage Contingency Plan. This plan, which will be in effect until November 6, 2016, is based on your house number.

- Addresses ending in ODD numbers can water Tuesdays and/or Saturdays
- Addresses ending in EVEN numbers can water Wednesdays and/or Sundays.

Watering is to occur before 10 a.m. or after 7 p.m., and no watering or car washing will be permitted on Mondays, Thursdays or Fridays. Residents are asked not to use sprinklers when rain is in the forecast. For more information about free water-wise services and rebates, or to report water misuse, please call 311 or use the 311 app.

Elmhurst Representatives to Attend Mayoral Debate on April 6

June 7 is the Primary Election, and many positions, including City Council representatives and the mayor of Sacramento, will be on the ballot. Mayoral candidates will take part in a debate at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, **April 6** on KCRA, Channel 3. Elmhurst representatives will attend the debate, so we encourage you to watch—and don't forget to vote on June 7.

Tree Ordinance Meeting to be Held April 12

As reported in the past few issues of *Elmhurst News*, the City of Sacramento is considering changing the tree ordinance, which establishes policies that regulate and manage the tree canopy in the city. Many people and organizations disagree with the proposed changes, including the ENA Board and other neighborhood associations. Please see **page 5** for the ENA Board's letter to city leaders communicating disapproval of the ordinance changes.

On **April 12**, the City Council's Law and Legislative Committee will hold a meeting which may result in changes to the ordinance. If you are interested in protecting the urban forest of our "City of Trees," you are encouraged to attend the meeting, which will be held at 3 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chamber, 915 I Street.

Elmhurst Bike Audit to Be Held April 16

Join your neighbors, local and state representatives, and bicycle advocates on **April 16** for the Elmhurst Bike Audit. From 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., the group will ride around Elmhurst to assess its "bikeability," among other things. For more information, please see **page 4**.

Petition to Save 4th "R" and START Child Care Programs

Two City programs, START and 4th "R", are important child care programs that help parents with child care after school and during summer breaks. In the past, these programs have been at risk of closing due to lack of funding. A petition to save these programs is currently circulating. You can sign the petition at <http://www.cityofsacramento.org/Mayor-Council/Districts/District6>.

UC DAVIS MED CENTER UPDATE

UC Davis Health System Construction updates

Selective demolition on the interior of the North/South hospital wing has begun. Large excavators and debris hauling is scheduled to start in mid-April. In addition, utility work will take place near the North/South wing. All projects will adhere to the strict guidelines the University has set forth to reduce noise and dust impact to the neighbors in Elmhurst.

Construction is still underway on Betty Irene Moore Hall, located near 48th and Y Streets. Once complete in fall 2017, the 70,000-square-foot building will feature collaborative learning spaces rather than traditional classrooms for students of the School of Nursing.

Farmers Market Returns

The UC Davis Health System Farmers Market will return Thursday, April 21 at the corner of 45th and Y Streets.

The market will run from 3 p.m. – 7 p.m. and feature local vendors selling fruits, vegetables, specialty items, and prepared foods. For more up to date information, visit the UC Davis Health System Farmers Market Facebook page.



Elmhurst Bicycle Audit

By Amreet Sandhu

On Saturday April 16th, Elmhurst will participate in a bicycle audit with some very important community members committed to safe transportation options. Sacramento Area Bicycle Advocates (SABA) Executive Director Jim Brown will lead a bicycle tour of Elmhurst. The ENA Board of Directors, Assemblymember Kevin McCarty, and Councilmember Eric Guerra—and their bicycles—will participate in the tour. Neighborhood streets and intersections will be surveyed for convenient and safe cycling access.



The group will inspect a number of roads, intersections, crosswalks, bicycle lanes, and sidewalks in and around Elmhurst to evaluate how safely residents can travel throughout the area by cycle. We will also be checking for bike rack

availability, the presence of speed bumps to reduce car traffic speed, the frequency of traffic lights and stop signs in signalized intersections to discourage speeding, and any rolled "valley" curbs that make it easy for drivers to illegally pass left-turning traffic on the right.

According to Brown, while about half of all trips made in the U.S. are three miles or fewer, 95% of them are made by car. These short trips are ideal for travel by bicycle. Opting to walk or cycle rather than drive is great for health, air quality, traffic congestion, and community livability.

Consider riding a bicycle on your next trip for groceries and errands, commuting to work, dropping your children off at school, or as recreation. During May Is Bike Month, remember to log your miles under Elmhurst Neighborhood Association Cycles team on the May Is Bike Month website. Please remember to use bicycle lights, turn signals, and your bicycle bell to communicate with fellow cyclists, just as a car would.

Our neighborhood deeply appreciates the work of Assemblymember McCarty, Councilmember Guerra, and Jim Brown to ensure that Elmhurst is a bicycle-friendly community!

ONLY 140 CALORIES FOR A WHOLE JAR!

DELICIOUSLY HEALTHY
NACHEEZ
DAIRY-FREE NACHO SAUCE
WWW.NACHEEZ.COM



DELICIOUS ON VEGGIES AND
IN MAC 'N' NACHEEZ



photo by marcoshernandez.photo

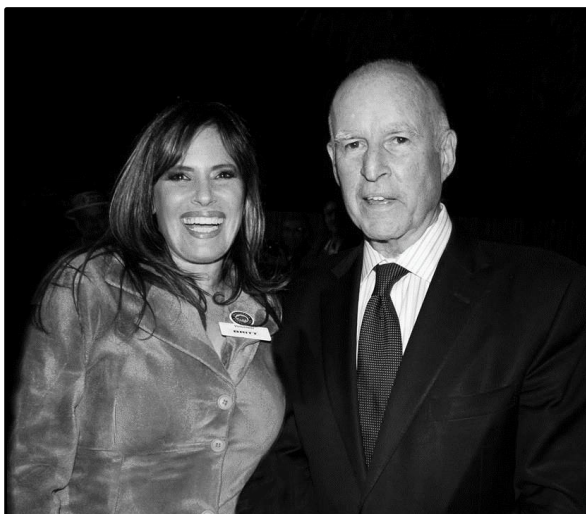
COME BY AND SAY
"HI!" TO DAISY,
OUR VINTAGE TRAVEL
TRAILER

NACHEEZ
IS SOLD AT
COTTAGE MART

Local Realtor Proposes Opening Office in Elmhurst

Rich Cazneaux, a local real estate agent, is proposing a change to the duplex across the street from Cottage Mart on 51st St. He would like to establish an office in the building.

The ENA Board is now considering whether to approve the change. If you would like to learn more, or you'd like to support or oppose the change, please write the Board at elmhurstnews@gmail.com.



Elmhurst resident Britt Moise poses with Governor Jerry Brown. Congratulations, Britt!

Britt Moise, Elmhurst Resident, Award-Winning Photographer

Congratulations to Britt Moise, who recently won the prestigious California State Parks Poppy Award for her gorgeous photography of the Governor's Mansion State Historic Park.

ENA Board Vice President Bonnie Hansen, who presented Britt with the award last month, praised Britt's work in creating a virtual tour of the mansion as it appeared from 1967 to 2014, when it was a State Historic Park. "She spent hundreds of hours working on this, and it's spectacular," said Bonnie.

Check out Britt's work at the ENA Facebook page: facebook.com/ElmhurstSacto



- ELMHURST NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION -

ELMHURST NEIGHBORHOOD, SACRAMENTO, CA • FOUNDED IN 1908

March 21, 2016

To: District 6 Councilmember Eric Guerra
District 5 Councilmember Jay Schenirer
District 3 Councilmember Jeff Harris
District 7 Councilmember Richard Jennings III
Sacramento City Hall
915 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear City of Sacramento's Law & Legislation Committee Members:

It was Charles Dickens who once described old elm trees as bent into one another, "like giants who were whispering secrets." [i] This is what comes to mind when picturing Elmhurst's magnificently grand tree canopy.

The historic Elmhurst Neighborhood of Sacramento is defined by US Highway 50 to the north, Stockton Boulevard to the west, 57th Street to the east, and V Street and Second Avenue to the south. The main thoroughfare through Elmhurst is T Street, a charming, beautiful, and functional tree-lined corridor that provides car, bicycle, and pedestrian access. Our neighborhood newsletter is circulated quarterly to approximately 1,300 households. Our neighborhood is known for its large elm, ash, and oak trees that provide a shady canopy for its residents, businesses, and visitors.

Our stunning, leafy neighborhood is home to one of the largest urban elm groves in the U.S. In fact, our historic tree canopy was featured on the recent cover of *Inside Magazine*, which highlights Sacramento's best features. Given the drought, and the last round of revisions presented to the City of Sacramento amending Sacramento City Code sections 2.62.030, 8.04.100, repealing and adding chapter 12.54, and repealing chapters 12.60, 12.64 relating to trees (hereinafter "tree ordinances"), our neighborhood is very concerned about the future of Elmhurst as we know it. It is for that reason our Elmhurst Neighborhood Association (hereinafter "ENA") Board of Directors has voted to oppose the current set of revisions to the tree ordinance, and has committed to working with other neighborhood associations to advocate on behalf of Sacramento's tree canopy. For your reference, attached is a January 13, 2016 piece from *The Sacramento Bee* titled "Don't mess around with trees."

Regarding the revisions, ENA is most concerned about any proposed elimination for protection against Dutch elm disease. Our trees simply cannot withstand such a shift and must be treated, not only for the benefit of any at-risk tree, but for the health of all trees around it. Rather than eliminating protection, we ask that the City consider increasing protection for living trees, and investing in their preservation so that our urban forest is healthy and vibrant.

Regarding the tree removal process, ENA has concerns about the possible use of biased factors such as age and ground space available in favor of tree removal; the absence of any factor that would consider a tree's benefit such as the larger tree canopy, streetscape, scenic view, aesthetics, air quality, and energy reduction; and the absence of an arborist's report showing that structural damage.

[i] Charles Dickens, *David Copperfield* (1850).

Letter continues on next page

Continued from previous page

Regarding mitigation, ENA is worried that the revisions eliminate the requirement for replacement trees. Furthermore, even if new trees were used to replace historic ones, Elmhurst fear the adverse impact this would have in the short-term, given that new trees would need several decades to grow as large as historic ones to provide the same level of sun protection during scorching hot summers, reduced temperatures, habitat to native and migratory birds along the Pacific Flyway, and scenic view.

Lastly, in terms of fairness, our neighborhood association is alarmed by the fact that there is no requirement that a Hearing Officer be independent, rather than city staff, and a certified arborist. Similarly, we worry that the revisions create neither a clear process nor a meaningful appeals process for residents who disagree with any determination that a tree shall be demolished. Our City of Trees deserves much better.

We share the City of Sacramento's goal to promote a safe, sustainable and healthy urban forest for Sacramento communities, and commend the City's impressive work to maintain an urban forest that provides multiple environmental, economic and aesthetic benefits for residents, businesses and visitors. They improve air and water quality, provide habitat value, attract tourists, businesses and customers, and impart a distinct character to our city. Sacramento is designated as a Sterling Tree City USA and is rated one of the top ten urban forests in the country, and Elmhurst is certainly part of that effort.

For the above reasons, we respectfully request that any decision to remove trees or alter the tree ordinances be made in the context of evaluating the tree canopy in its entirety. For the health of our city and county, impacts must be considered regionally, rather than in isolation. We ask that the Law & Legislation Committee reject any tree ordinance revisions that do not address these concerns. The Elmhurst Neighborhood Association will be meeting with fellow neighborhood associations in the upcoming weeks to discuss this issue, and hope that members of the Law & Legislation Committee will do the same. For questions or concerns, please contact Elmhurst Neighborhood Association Vice President Bonnie Hansen via email at: vintagenouveau@sbcglobal.net.

Sincerely,

Amreet Sandhu, J.D.
President
Elmhurst Neighborhood Association

WANTED: ELMHURST RESIDENTS WHO CARE ABOUT THEIR NEIGHBORHOOD!

Consider joining the ENA Board. We would really value your input on how to keep our neighborhood great! You will make new friends, learn more about our beautiful area, and meet the movers and shakers who make important decisions that affect all of us.

To contact the Board, or to submit news or photos for the newsletter, please email us at elmhurstnews@gmail.com.

Or visit us online: www.elmhurstna.com or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ElmhurstSacto.

President: Amreet Sandhu

Newsletter Editor:

Members:

Vice President: Bonnie Hansen

Susan C. Carlson (TBD)

Al Eno

Secretary: Pending

Parents Group: Open

Diana Lamotta

Treasurer: Gordon Olson

Events Coordinator: Open

George Godfrey

Tom Cregger