



S.N.A.I.L. News

Sunnyvale Neighbors of Arbor, Including LaLinda
 PO Box 62072
 Sunnyvale, CA 94088
www.snail.org

Representing over 1200 households Established in 1995

December 2013

SNAIL General Meeting Thursday – December 5th

*Location: Columbia School • Time: 7:00 p.m.
 The meeting will be held in the Staff Lounge.
 Look for the SNAIL Sign.*

Partial List of General Meeting Agenda Items:

- Discussion on how to deal with lack of officers for 2014

SNAIL always meets on the first Thursday of the month. The rare exceptions are when the first Thursday is also the same date as a big holiday. **Mark your calendar now for the rest of the year!** All SNAIL area homeowners, residents and guests are invited. Children are welcome. Membership in SNAIL is always free.

Peery Park Development Update

Sunnyvale Residents for Preserving and Enhancing Quality Neighborhoods (SRPEQN) has received a proposal from LinkedIn on how to mitigate the impact of the buildings. It is obvious they want to be good neighbors. We have replied back to their proposal. If you are interested in the details, please contact me.

On Oct 23rd, Jim Quaderer and I met with City Manager Gary Luebbers, Assistant City Manager Robert Walker, and City Councilman Dave Whittum. The city wants to be informed of our interactions with LinkedIn. They have the resources, access to experts, and employees to mitigate the effects of the LinkedIn buildings on SNAIL. They want to coordinate efforts with LinkedIn.

On Oct 28th, I attended a planning commission meeting. A developer, Christensen Holdings, is proposing two buildings between Trinity Church and Kal's BBQ. The buildings will be between 60 and 70 feet tall. I requested a line of sight study to determine the impact on SNAIL.

There are many office buildings and high density residential buildings being proposed along Mathilda and Fair Oaks. Mathilda is currently rated an "F" for traffic. It does not appear city planning is considering the overall impact of all the buildings on traffic and how it will affect our end of town. One of my biggest concerns is traffic bleeding through our neighborhood.

*Dwight Davis, Pine Ave.
 DwightADavis @ earthlink . net*

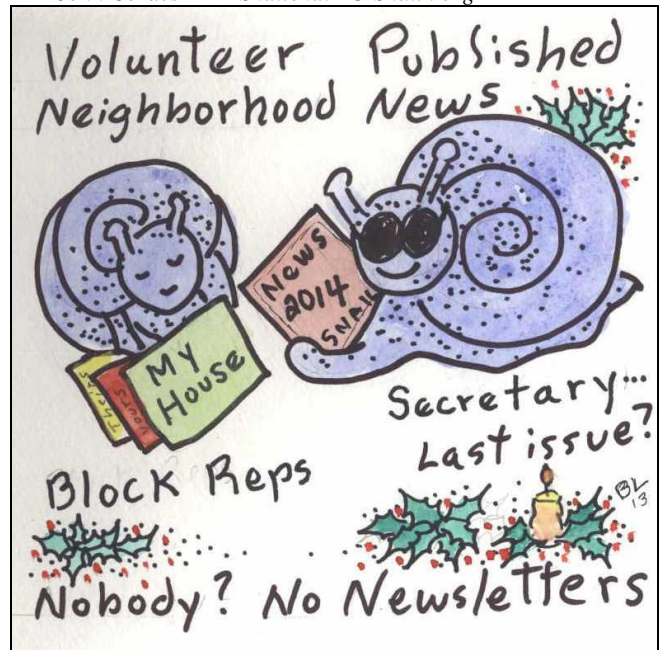
SNAIL 2013 Event Calendar

Date	Event Name	Organizer
Dec. 7 6:30 p.m.	Pot Luck Supper Party Please bring a dish to share!	Georgina Aubin 408-745-7693
Dec ~ Jan	SNAIL Tree Decorating	Connie Cook-Turner

Message from the Chair

I wish everyone a Happy Holidays, BUT at the December SNAIL meeting, we have important decisions to make. It is important for anyone interested in the future of our organization to attend the December meeting so we can make the best decisions. So far, we have been unsuccessful in finding a volunteer to be our secretary for 2014. SNAIL cannot function as required by our bylaws without a Secretary. There are many important responsibilities that the Secretary fulfills. Two primary ones are being the recorder for our monthly meetings and being in charge of the monthly SNAIL newsletter process. We have over 50 volunteers who help get our newsletter out each month and we depend on the Secretary to be in charge of making that process work smoothly each month. We will be discussing how SNAIL can function in 2014 if we don't have a Secretary. The best outcome at this meeting would be for someone to agree to be Secretary. Our other choices are worse. Do we stop publishing a monthly newsletter? Do we ask for volunteers to record the minutes each meeting? There are many changes we have to make and responsibilities we need someone to own if we don't have a Secretary in 2014. Please come to help us discuss this challenging topic. We won't have a speaker. Brief descriptions of Secretary duties are in the SNAIL Bylaws on www.snail.org. As a reminder, you have to attend 2 SNAIL meetings or be a block rep to be a member of SNAIL and vote on our decisions. Only members can run for our 4 elected positions; Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer and Secretary. If you are interesting in keeping SNAIL a dynamic and active neighborhood association, please come to the December meeting.

Looking for a bright tomorrow,
 John Cordes *Snailchair @ Snail . org*



The publication of our newsletter and SNAIL Neighborhood Association sponsored activities are supported through our annual yard sale, newsletter sponsors, and donations.

Neighborhood Holiday Potluck Party – December 7th

Come one! Come all! The SNAIL Holiday party is THIS SATURDAY. There is space for adults and children alike to enjoy some time together celebrating the season.

SNAIL HOLIDAY POTLUCK PARTY

Saturday, December 7th

6:30-9:00 p.m.

763 San Diego Avenue

Potluck dinner - please bring a dish to share.

RSVP to snailholidayparty@snail.org

or Georgina Aubin 408-745-7693.

Dinner Night Out

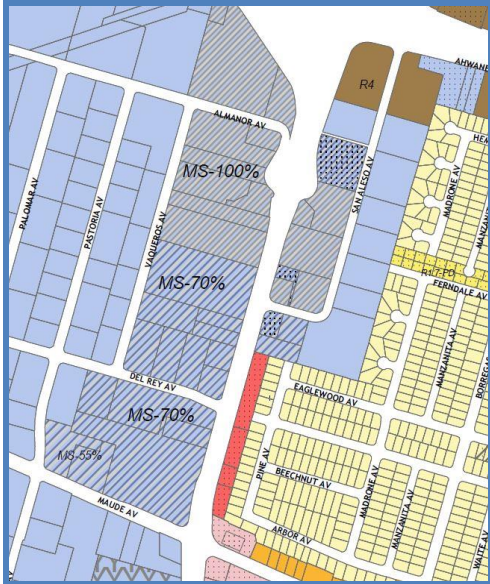
There were nine of us eating at THAI BASIL on Monday night. We had four people unable to make it at the last minute. We had a great table and service; and the food was especially good. This was my first time there and I am sure I'll be going again! We need an organizer for DINNER NIGHT OUT in January. Let's keep our social calendar up to date!

Bonnie Lloyd, Social Secretary 408-747-1949.

Why Are The LinkedIn Buildings Adjacent To Mathilda?

This question has come up time and time again. After all, the site for the new R&D campus now being constructed at the corner of Mathilda and Maude occupies almost an entire city block. Why couldn't the taller buildings have been placed deeper in on the property, further from the residential areas?

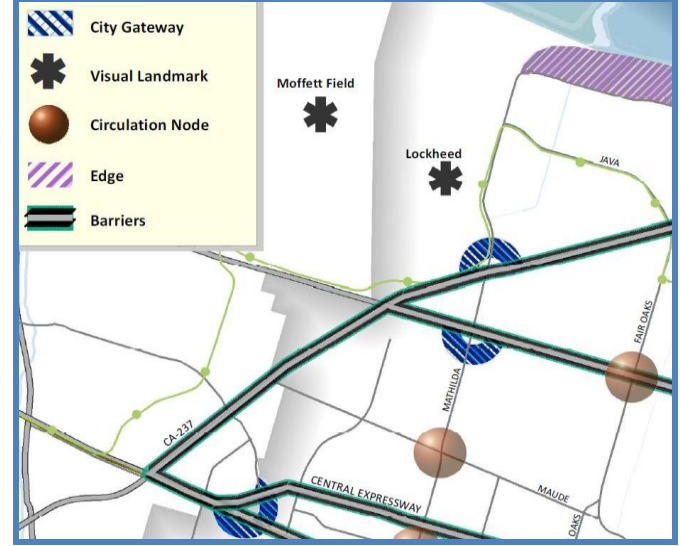
Well, as it turns out, this was actually the original plan. When JP DiNapoli Company started working with the Sunnyvale Planning Department in late 2011 and early 2012, their original intention was to work within the MS-55% and MS-70% zoning in place at the time (see the zoning map illustration). JP DiNapoli was going to place the parking areas closer to Mathilda with the taller office buildings further back. Planning staff recommended that the zoning be increased to MS-100% and that the taller buildings be placed directly on Mathilda, creating the "Great Wall" we see today. Why would Staff make such a recommendation?



Zoning map of the northern Mathilda area in early 2012.

The Sunnyvale 2011 General Plan describes "City Gateway" areas, shown in the next illustration, at the main entrance roadways of the City. These City Gateways are designated by semicircular shapes on this illustration. The semicircular area nearest to the LinkedIn buildings is at the intersection of Hwy. 101 and Mathilda. The 2012 zoning map supports the intention of the City

Gateway in the General Plan, with MS-100% zoning at the Hwy. 101 off ramp and decreased density zoning further south closer to the residential areas. (About three years ago when I looked at the zoning near Beechnut Ave. I thought, "It probably isn't that bad" and thought little of it because there were already three nice office buildings at the northwest corner of Mathilda and Maude. I thought, "Those buildings are nice; there's no reason anything would change at that corner.")



2011 General Plan "City Form Map" in the area between Central Expy. and Hwy. 237. "City Gateways" are described by semicircles.

Back to 2012. Planning Staff interpreted the General Plan to mean that the City Gateway is to extend at least all the way down to Maude Ave. In order to achieve this effect, they recommended to City Council that the zoning be changed from MS-55% and MS-70% to MS-100%. This allowed for the two 100-foot, 6-story buildings to be placed right on Mathilda. The developer did not do "outreach" to SNAIL. Perplexed by Staff's interpretation of the General Plan, I asked our Planning Officer how the General Plan and preexisting zoning could have been interpreted this way. She said it was because the General Plan is by its nature more general than the zoning and that staff found that the project was consistent with City policy.

So, there you have it. *Lessons learned:* Don't assume that your interpretation of the General Plan is shared by the Planning Department. Don't assume that our Planning Commission and City Council deeply analyze the issues they vote on. Don't assume that zoning cannot be quickly changed. Don't assume that buildings in excellent condition won't be demolished. And don't assume that you will hear about potential redevelopment in the early stages (when it is still early enough for your voice to have an effect) because developer "outreach" is not required. Sadly, if you want to be aware of planned development around your neighborhood in Sunnyvale, you will need to constantly be checking the internet or other sources.

Jim Quaderer, Beechnut Ave.

Neighborhood December Street Sweeping Schedule

Our streets are generally swept every two weeks on the day following your trash pickup. This month, the street sweeping schedule is:

East SNAIL Neighborhood	Tues., Dec. 10 th and Fri., Dec. 27 th
West SNAIL Neighborhood	Wed., Dec. 11 th and Fri., Dec. 27 th

If possible, please move your car off the street on street sweeping days.

Next Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for submitting articles and photos for the SNAIL January monthly newsletter is Saturday, December 14th. Simply email to SNAILeditor@snail.org

Brief Summary of November Meeting Minutes

- Bylaws Committee: Still looking for a Chair.
- There was a discussion about the increased notification distance approved by the City Council – it was just for Peery Park.
- Red Bows Day at Connie's house, Dec. 7th at 9 a.m. Check your bows in advance. There will be breakfast goodies. Pick up your bows. Please call Connie if you have bows stored at home. 408-739-8490.
- There will be bicycle lanes on both sides of Mathilda from downtown up to Maude. Also from Sunnyvale Ave. to Maude.
- Treasurer's report: 2 advertisers did not renew. 2 new ones came in. \$1000 grant from the City was deposited.
- Tax exempt status: No letters have been received from IRS.
- Discussion about what to do if we don't get volunteers for officers in 2014: How to dissolve SNAIL? When would SNAIL treasury be transferred to Sunnyvale Community Services?
- Discussion on bylaws: Allowing commercial property owners to be SNAIL members. Voted not to change present policy – all property owners can be members.
- Elections for 2014: John Cordes was elected for 2014 Chair. There were no nominees for Vice Chair, Secretary, or Treasurer.
- Voted to have the election for Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer in December.
- City News: John Cordes announced the City-wide election results.
- Holiday Party, Dec 7th: Georgina Aubin asked that everyone attend. Discussed invitation list for City Council, etc. Neighbors should bring extra food because our guests are being told they do not need to bring food.
- Bonnie Lloyd will look for a dinner night out volunteer.
- Neighbors need to be looking out for new development near their homes on their own. Especially on the northern end of Madrone.

Newsletter Delivery Update

We need volunteers on the 700 block of Madrone, the 700 block of Borregas, Worley Ave., and the 200 block of East Ferndale to deliver SNAIL newsletters once a month. Each block takes about 15-20 minutes.

Please check your busy schedules and find a few minutes to help your neighborhood with this very important task. Our newsletter is how we keep in touch and share our coming events. Please call 408-739-8490 to volunteer a few minutes of your time.

Thank you, *Connie Cook-Turner*

Armory Dates

Upcoming dates for SNAIL volunteers to work at the Armory are:

- Tuesday, Dec. 3rd & Dec. 10th
- Monday, Dec. 16th
- Tuesday, Dec. 24th & 31st

To volunteer, please contact Malcolm Lloyd 408-747-1949

It's that time of year again!

Red Bows Day - Saturday, Dec. 7th, 2013, 9 a.m.

Block reps and Elf helpers meet at Connie's home for breakfast goodies, coffee, tea, hot chocolate, and friendship before heading out to decorate our neighborhood for the Holiday Season. This is one of the nicest things we do all year and we all feel happier for it!

It's time to get your SNAIL Red Bows out of storage. Check them over, and let us know what supplies you need, so we can have them ready for you.

Anyone who hasn't had Red Bows on your street in the past and would like to have them, just count your street trees and call 408-739-8490 to get some. Anyone who would like to help put up the bows, please call also.

We need to hear from everyone who has Red Bows at your home whether you need supplies or not, to know that you will be active this year, or if you might need a helper.

Looking forward to seeing you on Red Bows Day!

Thank you, *Connie Cook-Turner*

Bishop Elementary School News

Bishop School was excited to hear of the passage of Measure G. Money provided from Measure G will go directly to Bishop School to modernize our classrooms, kitchen, and library media/center. Site utilities, parking and traffic, restrooms, roofs, windows and energy systems will be upgraded as well. We have already begun design discussions with the architect and look forward to the changes that will take place. Soon you will be able to see the proposed plans & provide input into the design at the Bishop School front office. We will keep you posted. Thank you for your efforts!

Upcoming Events at Bishop:

Holiday Party on December 13th, 2013, at 5 p.m. in the cafeteria with Santa Claus, crafts, raffles, food and more! The event is open to all Bishop families.

Walking Wednesday is on December 18th to encourage our students to walk or bike to school.

Holiday vacation begins Monday, December 23rd, 2013, and school resumes on Monday, January 6th, 2014.

Reminder: Bishop School welcomes visitors but is a CLOSED campus. All visitors must sign in at the front office and obtain a visitor's pass when visiting during school hours. Penal Code Section 627.

We hope all our families enjoy a safe and happy holiday!

Jennifer Aufang

Rotating Earthquake Food Stores

Here's one way to always have emergency food stores on hand without having to throw out the older food. Purchase canned meats, vegetables, fruits, soups, stews, and canned juice. Buy enough to feed at least your family for over three days. Store these cans in a place which is still easy to get to if your house were to collapse or burn. Store a can opener with the cans. Keep them till next November and then donate them to Second Harvest Food Bank or another charity. Around the same time, buy another batch of canned food and drinks, store them again, and donate them a year later.

SNAIL BOARD and CITY of SUNNYVALE SUPPORT STAFF

Chair	John Cordes	550 E. Arbor Ave.	650-288-9645
Email	SNAILchair @ snail . org		
Vice Chair	Jessica McDole	598 E. Duane Ave.	404-236-9517
Secretary	Jim Quaderer	302 Beechnut Ave.	408-737-9479
Treasurer	Kirstin Sims	663 Madrone Ave.	650-759-9170
Newsletter Editor	Mark David	621 San Diego Ave	408-734-4325
Newsletter Distribution Coordinator	Connie Cook-Turner	810 Carolina Ave.	408-739-8490
Social Secretary	Bonnie Lloyd	802 Borregas Ave.	408-747-1949
Neighborhood Preservation	Steve Frias	SFrias @ sunnyvale. ca. gov	408-730-7613
Neighborhood Resource Officer	Todd Fekete	TFekete @ sunnyvale. ca. gov	408-730-7153

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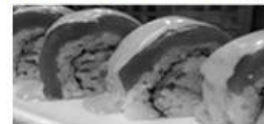
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