



Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Association

Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Association (SONA) general meetings are open to all interested parties. General meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of the month at Bascom Community Center, 1000 S. Bascom Ave beginning at 6:30pm. SONA board meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of each month at the Sherman Oaks Community Center at 6:30pm. Newsletter is partially funded with a Community Action and Pride (CAP) Grant from the City of San Jose.

Issue 184 of Your Neighborhood Newsletter

Notes from the Board

It didn't take long for the encampment on the freeway at Menker and Moorpark to return, nearly doubling in size. SONA has again filed a request with Caltrans to clear the site and to permanently close off the access. This site is extremely problematic because it is directly across from a pre-school and we have had numerous complaints about inappropriate behavior near the outdoor playground. We have also advised State Assembly Member Evan Lowe's office.

In addition to the encampment, SONA has filed a request for the portion of Moorpark that runs from Menker to Kingman parallel to the freeway be cleared of debris and vegetation. The Caltrans portion of the property is now impeding access on city streets.

SONA's board also sent a letter last month to Crossroads Church in response to neighbor complaints. We advised the church that their parking lot has become a site for illicit activity, noise and other problems on the weekend. We assume they are unaware of the issue, so please feel free to contact SONA again if this activity still goes on.

SONA's board also advised the owners of the properties on the corner of Rexford and Del Mar that they must be responsible for the activities on their own properties. The area has long been the site of homeless camps, drug sales, daily drinking and dumping. SONA has conducted previous clean ups, we have worked with the city to enforce the law, but it is time for the property owners to take steps. This property is actually owned by the buildings that front Bascom Avenue. We have advised the property owners that we are more than willing to work with them, but enough is enough.

Residents have also complained about the lack of parking enforcement overall, especially in the permit zone south of the SJCC campus. We need to track these problems, so please contact Anne (pg 2) about this.

SONA September 2016 General Meeting Change of Venue

SONA has joined with the Buena Vista Neighborhood Association, the Burbank/Del Monte Neighborhood Advisory Committee and the West San Carlos Business Association (Midtown) to host a District 6 Candidate Forum. See Page 4 for the flyer and further information.

If you want to submit questions for the candidates, please use the email on the flyer. All queries and questions will be confidential. If you do not have access to email, please contact Randi Kinman or Anne Kearney.

This is the first time in ten years we will have a fresh face on the City Council. It is also the first time (outside of special elections) both candidates are women.

SONA helped organize this forum because in the past our area has been overlooked. Now is your chance to help make a decision about who represents us.

Visit the candidate's websites.

Devorah "Dev" Davis
<http://devdavis.com>

Helen Chapman
<http://www.helenchapman2016.com>

Viva CalleSJ 2016 – Coming to our Area! September 18, 2016 10am-3pm

Viva Calle SJ was wildly successful last year and is coming to a neighborhood near you this year. This event closes major streets for one day, allowing you to walk, skate, scoot or cartwheel along the route at your leisure, just don't bring your car. Start and stop anywhere you like, enjoy all or part of it, get to know the neighborhoods in a safe and fun fashion.

This year's event is called Glen to Zen and will close off Lincoln Avenue from Minnesota to West San Carlos. This joins the primary route that starts at West San Carlos and Bascom, travels to Montgomery Street, takes a jog down West St John to Fourth and turns down Jackson Street to end in Japantown.

There are activity hubs on the route (WSC and Meridian is closest) where you will find restrooms, bike repair, wellness areas, family activities and more. Along the route there will be lots of fun, food and festivities.

Cars will be completely removed from the route the night before and parking will be minimal adjacent to the route, so plan on taking transit if you aren't dusting off your bike or skateboard. There will be bike parking if you want to stroll.

Viva CalleSJ transforms public spaces, encourages active transportation and healthy recreation through car-free streets. This free event is co-sponsored by the City of San Jose, Kaiser Permanente, The Knight Foundation, VTA and Santa Clara County Public Health.

You can visit the website at www.vivacallesj.org to sign up for future announcements, learn more about the routes, activities and hubs, join the sponsor list or donate to this and other activities.

Please keep in mind that this one day event will alter traffic patterns along the routes, so plan accordingly if you need to travel through the fun zone. Vehicle traffic will be banned from early in the morning but the route should be open by 4pm.

Enjoy your streets, enjoy your local neighborhoods.

SONA Contact List

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Facebook: Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Association (San Jose)
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Sherman-Oaks-Neighborhood-Association-San-Jose/151383304945052?fref=ts>

Nextdoor Neighborhood: www.Nextdoor.com

Website www.sona-sj.com

SONA's newsletter is published monthly and distributed to 1000 residences. All ad copy is due by the 15th of each month. Newsletter editor is Randi Kinman. Our all-volunteer group welcomes your participation. Feel free to contact any of us with ideas or questions.

Election 2016

If you think that one person's vote doesn't count, remember that right now there is a city council office being contested over less than two dozen votes. Every vote matters. Every vote counts.

- **Register to Vote.** You can go to the Registrar of Voters (ROV) at 1555 Berger Drive or find voter registration materials at libraries, post offices and the DMV. If you need assistance, call the Registrar at 408-299-VOTE. You can also register to vote online at www.sccvote.org.
- **Are you eligible to vote?** You must be 18 by November 8, a California resident and a U.S citizen. You cannot vote if a court has declared you mentally incompetent. You cannot vote if you are in prison or on felony parole; contact the ROV for more information if unsure.
- **Unsure if you are registered?** Check with the ROV or simply re-register.
- **Have you moved?** If you have moved since the last election, you must re-register. If you're not sure, check with the ROV.
- **What are the deadlines?** October 24 is the final deadline to register. November 1 is the deadline to request a vote by mail (**Absentee**)ballot. Voting by mail is now free in Santa Clara County, so you can sit at home in your comfy chair and take your time. For questions about absentee voting call 408-299-8640.
- **Can I vote early?** Yes. Early voting at the ROV office begins October 11. In addition to the ROV office, you can vote at satellite locations throughout the county beginning October 29. Be advised, however, that you need to make sure your ballot at a satellite location has all of the eligible offices listed for your home address.
- **What if I need help voting?** Voting is your right and the ROV is equipped to ensure there are no barriers. If you cannot read, the ROV can help. If you need ballots in languages other than English, the ROV can help. If you are disabled, injured or otherwise physically impaired, the ROV can help.
- **What if I can't make it to my precinct on election day?** You can vote in the national, state and local elections with a provisional ballot at any precinct on election day. Simply advise them you are voting outside your precinct and ask for a provisional ballot. If you have a hotly contested school board or other local election and are not in your district, your provisional ballot will not have that race on it, so best to make it to your precinct or the ROV. As long as you are in line at the deadline time, you are eligible to vote.
- **How do I know if my vote was counted?** Your ballot, whether you voted by mail, at the registrar, at the polls or at a satellite location has a tracking number you can follow.
- **How can I help?** The ROV requires a lot of volunteers to make things happen on election day. Some of those volunteers are paid, some not. Contact the ROV for details on what is available, what might suit you and how you can help make sure everybody gets their chance to vote.

**Neighborhood and Business District
San Jose District 6 City Council
Candidate Forum
Helen Chapman and Devora “Dev” Davis**

**Thursday, September 8, 2016
7-8:30 pm (doors open at 6:30)**

San Jose City College

Room T-415

Technology Building, corner of Moorpark and Bascom

Free parking (waived by the campus)
in student lots A & S with E as an overflow

Hosted by moderator Jennifer Wadsworth, Staff Writer, Metro Newspapers

Submit questions in advance (Bascom, West San Carlos and Midtown area-related only, please) to SJD6MidtownForum@gmail.com. We will take questions at the forum if time allows.

Sponsored by:

