



Sunnyside News

March 2014 vol. 15, No. 1

**Be sure and visit the
SNA Booth
at the
16th Annual
Glen Park Festival
Sunday April 27
10 am - 4:30 pm
Diamond Street**

**Upcoming Sunnyside
Neighborhood
Association Meetings**

**Mondays, May 5
August 4
Nov 10 (note change)
7:00pm - 8:30pm
Location:
St. Finn Barr
Church Hall
415 Edna Street
at Hearst**

**Meet your
neighbors and learn
about your
neighborhood!**

New SNA Board Elected

Please welcome the newly elected 2014-2016 Executive Officers of Sunnyside Neighborhood Association. Elections were held at the February 3 general quarterly meeting, according to SNA by-laws. Here are our new Board members.

Lisa Spinali, President

Lisa is a native San Franciscan with roots in North Beach and the Portola District. A Sunnyside resident since 2008, she loves being a part of a true neighborhood. Lisa works as a freelance consultant for the public, private and nonprofit sectors. One of her current projects is to develop a leadership program at the Presidio in collaboration with the White House—focused on helping leaders address large-scale community challenges. When not working, she also loves to cook, entertain and take on crafting projects. Lisa is looking forward to serving her second term as the SNA President.

Renee Espinoza, Vice President

Renee moved to Sunnyside with her partner Mary Jo and child Josie in 2008. Last year they welcomed second child Ace into the family. You may often find this family walking their two dogs (Olive the Chorkie and Luna the Husky mix) around the neighborhood, or playing tennis at a local park. She currently serves as the Executive Director of SFCASA, a nonprofit that trains community members to advocate on behalf of our City's foster youth. Renee values the importance of an engaged and supportive community.

Estelle Smith, Secretary

A 17-year resident of San Francisco, Estelle moved to Sunnyside approximately three years ago. Estelle loves the neighborhood and is happy to call it home. She strives to do her best to promote the needs of the area through her volunteer work on the SNA board. She feels Sunnyside has a unique blend of residents and feels blessed to have a community that feels like a family and a good place to raise one.

Rav Kutz, Treasurer

Ray has lived in the Sunnyside for ten years and has participated in various events and activities - history project, greening, graffiti abatement, garage sales and Project SAFE. He's also currently a SAFE block captain, member of the City College Chorus, and a member of the San Francisco Shakespeare Festival board. He looks forward to helping SNA manage its finances and participating in other SNA events in the coming year.

(continued on page 4)

Sunnyside Neighborhood Association

Voice mailbox 415-937-1305
www.sunnysideassociation.org

Board 2014 - 2016

Lisa Spinali, President
sunnyside.president@gmail.com

Renne Espinoza,
Vice President
vicepresident.sunnyside@gmail.com

Ray Kutz, Treasurer
ray.jutz@gmail.com

Estelle Smith, Secretary
secretary.sunnyside@gmail.com

Alice Guidry,
Member-at-Large
memberatlarge.sunnyside@gmail.com

Sunnyside News

Sunnyside News is published four times per year. SNA encourages members to submit news, features or letters to the editor. All letters must be signed. All items are subject to editing.

The Sunnyside Neighborhood Association assumes no responsibility for the statements and opinions expressed in *Sunnyside News*. Editorial views do not necessarily represent the official position of SNA.

Richard Goldman, Editor
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415-935-1307

President's Message

Dear Sunnysiders,

Hello and Happy Spring! I am looking forward to another great year of work together as we continue to strengthen our neighborhood in so many different ways. As you will see from this issue of our *Sunnyside News*, there are a lot of changes happening in our community-- just as there are large changes happening across our entire City. How we maintain our local community amidst these changes is critical. We will continue to work with you and as you will see it is the local leaders of our community who are helping to steward our way amongst these changes and opportunities.

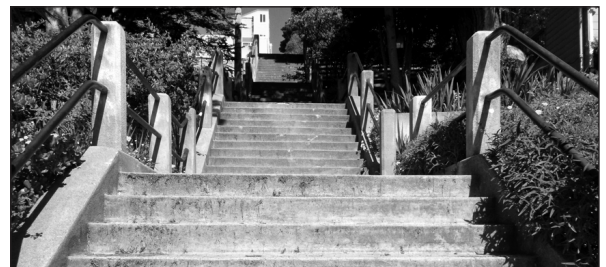


What makes our neighborhood special is its people—those that have been here for generations and those newer ones who have joined this community because they want to be a part of a community. Many of us are connected on line as well as through NextDoor.com which is a helpful service for connecting and communication. Yet, I would like to encourage you to connect personally with neighbors when you get a chance amidst our day to day schedules. Say hello when taking a walk, help a neighbor with groceries. I share this quote with you from Dorothy Day as it really encapsulates how I (and hope you) feel about community—our community of Sunnyside.

We have all known the long loneliness and we have learned that the only solution is love and that love comes with community

I look forward to seeing you very soon. And, don't forget to stop by our booth at the Glen Park Festival on Sunday, April 27.

Most sincerely,
Lisa



Think you know what? and where? these photos are? Go to page 4 to find out!

Are you thinking about how to participate and volunteer in our Sunnyside community? Great! There are opportunities for you. Go to our website: sunnysideassociation.org, come to our next general meeting (May 5) and/or consider signing up on our Sunnyside Nextdoor bulletin board: sunnyside.nextdoor.com

Monterey Blvd Safeway Moving Closer Toward Planning Commission

~Richard Goldman

At SNA's February 3 quarterly meeting Natalie Mattei, Safeway Real Estate Manager, updated members on plans for the Monterey Safeway. Per SF Planning's requests modifications were made to match the motifs of the neighborhood. The side of the store will have large glass windows, vining trellis, and brick. The loading dock door is also brick, with mosaic. Watch for information soon about an exciting community contest for a mosaic design. The roof driveway has grillwork, and the parking lot grillwork has a car headlight shield around its perimeter.

Operating hours should remain the same. An MOU (memorandum of understanding) with SNA is intended to maintain current open hours, from 6 AM to midnight, and only change to 2 AM, (not 24 hours), if future market conditions change and SNA Board and Sunnyside residents want expanded hours. Safeway is about to explore the existing underground utilities, so sidewalk excavation will be taking place. The recycling center will leave to make room for the excavated dirt.

At the Planning Commission Hearing the building permit along with a variance must also be approved to allow the wider driveway to the roof to fit all 3 lanes of cars, one in, two exiting, which is a road diet from the current 4 lanes. Stay tuned for your opportunity to send comments or attend the Commission hearing for the permit.

Regarding recent news of its acquisition, Safeway remains confident its new investors will continue to consider San Francisco important for Safeway. To view the latest design go to: <http://sunnysidesafewaysf.com/>.



Balboa Park Station Maintenance Focus of March 25 Community Meeting

~Rita Evans

The Balboa Park Station, one of the busiest in The City, suffers from poor maintenance and neglect. Anyone who uses the station can attest to its dirtiness. Trash is everywhere, pigeon droppings foul railings and the platform, and the few trash cans usually overflow. Its perimeters landscaped areas are neglected. The surrounding streets are also in disrepair with dangerous potholes. Crosswalk markings are faded with barely visible pavement marking.

At a Community Meeting on March 25 from 6:00-8:00 pm at CCSF Multi-Use Bldg (Phelan near Ocean), Room 140, DPW Director Mohammed Nuru and representatives from SFMTA, SFCTA and BART will outline plans for improved maintenance for the Station area. They will be available to answer questions about priorities for cleaning and landscaping this station that serves thousands of commuters each day. Neighbors are encouraged to attend and insist on regular cleaning, better maintenance, and improved landscaping. Let our public officials know that we care about Balboa Park Station.

We Will Not Forget

~Rita Evans

On the afternoon of April 10, 2013, Becky Lee, a Sunnyside resident and long time employee at Sunnyside Elementary School, was struck and killed while in the crosswalk at Judson and Edna. The intersection is controlled by 4 way stop signs in all directions. The driver was not cited or arrested.

After months of repeated inquiries to the District Attorney's office, members of SNA's Traffic Committee were informed in mid-January that no charges would be filed. It is the Traffic Committee's impression that the San Francisco District Attorney's office has contributed to the carnage being suffered by pedestrians at the hands of irresponsible driver by once again sending a loud message that enforcement will be lax or non-existent when pedestrian fatalities are involved.

At the special meeting on pedestrian safety at City Hall, of the Police Commission, and the Board of Supervisors' Neighborhood Services and Safety Committee, on January 16, which all SFPD Command Staff (continued on page 6)

Treasurer's Report

~Ray Kutz, Treasurer

Beginning Balance:

12/10/13 \$5,554

Income: \$712

Membership Dues
Donations
Interest

Expenses: \$1133

Newsletter
Meeting Notice Cards
Postage
Meeting Expenses
St. Finn Barr Church
Website Fee
Newsletter Publishing Software
West of Twin Peaks Central Council
Membership Fee

Closing Balance:

2/10/14 \$5133

New SNA Board Elected

(continued from page 1)

Alice Guidry, Member At Large

Alice has lived in the Sunnyside neighborhood more than 30 years and has been involved with many activities in the community including fundraising for St. Finn Barr Church and other organizations. Sunnyside has always been a family oriented and diverse community where neighbors help each other. She is looking forward to working with Sunnyside Neighborhood Association for the betterment of the community.

What/Where Are These Photos?

from page 2

The Detroit Steps, north and south, one of San Francisco's step streets here in Sunnyside, on Detroit Street, between Joost Avenue & Monterey Blvd., and between Monterey Blvd. and Hearst Avenue.

Ocean Avenue Public Plaza Coming Together

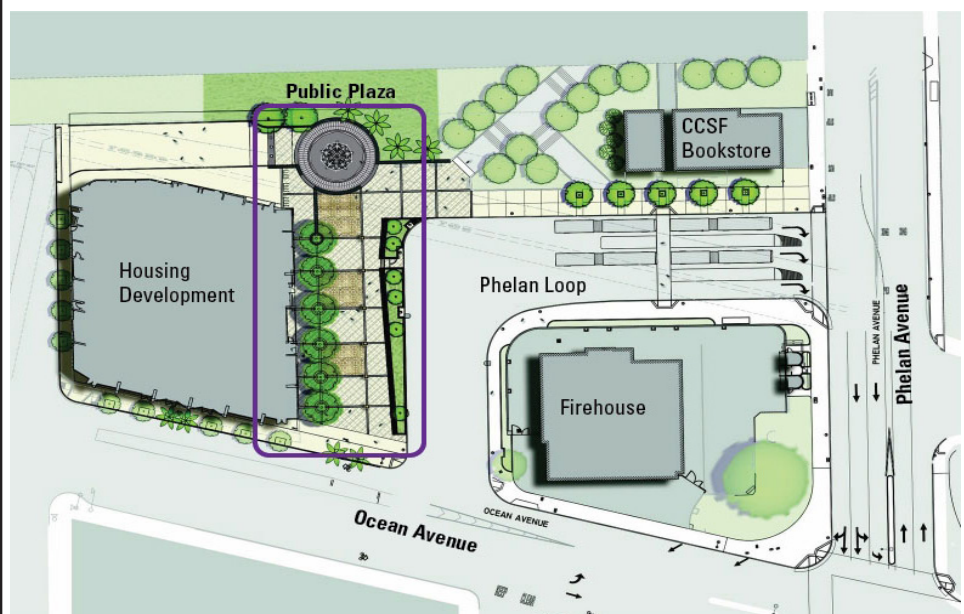
~Ray Kutz

The Ocean Avenue Public Plaza advisory committee met on February 6 to receive updates and help plan the next items for the plaza associated with the new low-income housing that has begun construction there. The housing construction is currently on schedule and the Unity Plaza will start construction when the housing is completed. The actual plaza construction could begin this time next year 2015

SFMTA and SFPUC came to an agreement to allow a sculptural element to be installed in the northern corner of Unity Plaza. All concerns related to waterlines traversing the plaza have been addressed and the two agencies are in the process of formalizing the agreement.

A pedestrian connector (stairs, sidewalk, and trees) from the plaza to CCSF is planned as part of the construction. SFMTA has agreed to manage the construction as well as offer five years of maintenance funding to CCSF. Since the connector is on CCSF property, it is CCSF's decision to take on the maintenance long term, which is still pending. If CCSF agrees to maintain the pedestrian connector, the connector will be included in the detailed design package. If not it will be dropped as part of the plaza project.

The committee requested that a pictorial commemorative feature should be incorporated in the detailed design phase of the project. The commemorative piece will provide a sense of place, connection of history and where it is today; themes to consider: "edge of the city, boxing rings, training facilities, horse track". A subcommittee to curate the commemorative feature was created and will provide content suggestions to the plaza committee for review in the coming months. Stayed tuned for more updates.



San Jose Avenue Traffic Calming

~Jon Winston

SF Municipal Transportation Agency (MTA) held a community meeting in Glen Park on February 3 and presented its plans for a traffic calming pilot road diet project on San Jose Avenue. Working with Caltrans, MTA plans to reduce car speeds on San Jose Ave and the I-280 off-ramp to 35 mph.

Pilot Project modifications planned are:

- Phase 1:
- Merge the left lane on the current 2 lane Northbound I-280/San Jose Avenue off-ramp with the northbound lane of San Jose Avenue downstream of the existing I-280 tunnel
 - Reduce San Jose Avenue to two lanes north of St. Mary's Avenue, then open it up to three lanes just upstream of Randall Street to maintain the traffic calming effect of the road diet. The third lane will reappear briefly as a right-turn pocket onto Mission Street a few hundred feet before Randall Street to avoid a backup.
 - Upgrade the San Jose Avenue bicycle lane to a separated bikeway (where space allows), and create a buffered lane with a striped painted area between cars and bicycles.

This road diet is similar to what was successfully done on the southbound lanes of San Jose Avenue from Randall to the entrance to I-280 several years ago. Old timers will remember that the second exit lane on North I-280 was temporarily added after the '89 Loma Prieta earthquake while the double deck freeway of North 280 downtown was closed and rebuilt.

- Phase 2:
- Maintain Phase I changes on San Jose Avenue
 - Merge the two lanes of the existing I-280 off-ramp into a single lane upstream of the existing I-280 tunnel, which then merges with the Monterey Boulevard lane.

Phase 1 started in March and will be evaluated by MTA at the end of October. If, at that time, there is no reduction of speed on the offramp on to San Jose Avenue, Phase 2 will be implemented.

The plan was well received by residents who attended the meeting and there was little or no opposition. Unfortunately, the presentation conflicted with the SNA general membership meeting so Sunnyside was under-represented.

Questions or comments may be directed to Project Manager Mike Riebe at 701-2467 or Mike.Reibe@sfmta.com.

The Project web site is <http://www.sfmta.com/projects-planning/projects/northbound-san-jose-avenue-i-280-off-ramp-road-diet-pilot-project>

Sunnyside Real Estate

2013 saw major real estate price increases which continue to climb. Median SF house prices now exceed the 2007 peak, due to limited inventory and multiple offers. Increased rents have new buyers realizing it can cost less to buy than rent. Historically SF real estate has a 10 year cycle starting at start of each decade. Moving into the middle of this cycle, prices are expected to peak and level out within the next few years, also affected by interest rates which rose during 2013 from about 4% to current about 4.5%, and forecast to rise another 1% in 2014. Thanks to Darin Holwitz of McGuire Real Estate for providing up to date statistics.

Sunnyside Sales Activity

Activity	4Q12	4Q13
New listings	9	13
Sold homes	10	16
Asking price range	375k-689k	614k-1.149m
Sold price range	463k-870k	570k-1.335m
Sold price median	762k	712k
Sold price average	697k	840k
Days on market (DOM)	30	36

Address	Br/Ba	Asking	SOLD	DOM
170 Staples	1/1	614k	570k	57
410 Foerster	2/1	599k	585k	74
650 Joost	2/1	429k	636k	28
363 Monterey	2/1	588k	645k	12
391 Staples	4/2	749k	650k	74
70 Staples	3/1	824k	680k	61
650 Circular	3/2	688k	695k	34
494 Joost	3/1	649k	710k	12
263 Staples	2/1	649k	715k	29
237 Genessee	2/2	749k	825k	36
494 Mangels	2/1	849k	850k	33
662 Mangels	2/2	799k	905k	34
725 Detroit	4/3	895k	1.186m	20
267 Mangels	4/2	1.149m	1.205m	21
121 Joost	3/1	995k	1.250m	32
735 Detroit	4/3	949k	1.335m	25
698 Joost	2/1	550k	Active	4
131 Congo	3/2	779k	Active	66
175 Hearst	3/1	825k	Active	26
223 Monterey	4/4	1.449m	Active	42
170 Flood	3/3	859k	Pending	99
243 Staples	2/1	690k	Pending	115
320 Hearst	4/3	949k	Pending	108
32 Edna	2/2	859k	Withdrawn	116

We Will Not Forget

(continued from page 3)

attended, Chief Greg Suhr pledged that SFPD officers will now issue citations or arrest motorists at the scene of serious collisions involving pedestrians or bicyclists if the drivers are found to be at fault. The chief also stated that the department will review accidents from the previous 12 months to determine if citations or arrests are warranted.

The Traffic Committee was dismayed by this response, expected more from our public officials and has written to Captain Tim Oberzeir of Traffic Operations, asking that SFPD investigate the accident before the 12-month period cited by Chief Suhr elapses. It is expected and hoped that the driver will be held responsible for her deadly actions on April 10. Captain Oberzeir has directed the lieutenant in charge of the Traffic Collision Investigations Unit to oversee the follow-up we requested. We will keep SNA members informed of further developments.

Lower Speed Limit on Monterey Blvd Proposed

~ Jon Winston

As well as providing access to our neighborhood streets, Monterey Boulevard is used as a freeway on and off-ramp and can be dangerous, with pedestrians crossing it, and bicyclists and motorists traveling on it. San Francisco Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC) is recommending reducing its speed limit from 35 to 25 miles per hour.

SF PSAC's rationale includes:

- **Save Lives.** Higher rates of car speed are associated with higher odds of pedestrian deaths (see table below). Slower speeds will help protect all users of the roadway.
- **Reducing the Speed Limit Will Not Inconvenience Drivers.** Estimates put the level of service impact as minimal, conjecturing about a 45 second increase to travel by car the 2 miles of Monterey Boulevard.
- **A Reduced Speed Limit is More Appropriate for this Neighborhood.** The area surrounding Monterey Boulevard is residential. Reducing the speed to 25 miles per hour tells drivers that they are passing through a residential neighborhood, with schools, homes and small businesses, and to be aware of pedestrians, bicyclists, children and seniors.

At SNA's November 4 quarterly membership meeting PSAC's proposal was announced, but not voted on. However Sunnyside, Glen Park Elementary and St Finn Barr Schools, and Sunnyside Conservatory have endorsed the proposal. At its November 12 meeting PSAC unanimously supported the proposal and recommended the proposal to Supervisors Norman Yee and Scott Weiner, as well as to SFMTA, which would ultimately vote to change the speed limit.

<u>Relationship of Vehicle Speed to Pedestrian Death</u>		
<u>Vehicle Speed</u>	<u>Odds of Pedestrian Death, Source 1</u>	<u>Odds of Pedestrian Death, Source 2</u>
20 mph	5%	5%
30 mph	45%	37%
40 mph	85%	83%
References for this graph come from: http://humantransport.org/sidewalks/SpeedKills.htm		

Community Meeting on Balboa Park Station Circulation

~ Rita Evans

Caltrans, SFMTA and BART are studying Balboa Park Station Circulation to reduce conflicts between pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists and public transit at the I-280 freeway ramps while not degrading vehicle operations. On January 30, the Balboa Park Station Citizen Advisory Committee, SFCTA, SFMTA, BART and Caltrans held a community meeting at CCSF on various alternatives proposed for I-280 ramp closures.

- **Alternative 1A:** Close I-280 southbound off-ramp to Geneva and northbound on-ramp from Geneva. Considered a short-term alternative.
- **Alternative 1B:** Includes Alternative 1A changes as well as new frontage roads between Geneva and Ocean and would require reconstruction of the Ocean Avenue Bridge over I-280; considered a long-term alternative.
- **Alternative 2:** Close the I-280 on- and off-ramps at Ocean Avenue, creating a single interchange at Geneva.

Community input will be considered as a final report and implementation plan are drafted. The presentation is at http://www.sfcta.org/sites/default/files/content/Planning/BalboaPark/BalboaPark_Workshop%202_FINAL_0.pdf.

For more information or to give your comments, contact SFCTA's Chester Fung, chester.fung@sfcta.org, 415-522-4804.

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The "Slow Down" Program Aims to Improve Pedestrian Safety.
If you would like to post the "Slow Down" sign
on your window facing the street,
please email Dot Real Estate at:
info@dot-re.com



Organized by Dot Real Estate



Contact: info@dot-re.com
www.dot-re.com

Supported by your neighborhood businesses

Big Joe's Cafe
D4 Hair Salon
Heff's Barber Shop
K's Kitchen
Lucky River
Martini Cleaners
Railroad Coffee Shop
State Farm Insurance

SNA Annual Membership Dues

Dues are \$15/year for households, \$25 per year for businesses.

Make checks payable to SNA, and send to:

SNA, PO Box 27615, San Francisco, CA 94127

Name (please print) _____

Street/City _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Household \$15 _____ Business \$25 _____ Donation: \$ _____

Donations to Sunnyside Neighborhood Association, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, are tax-deductible.

Sunnyside of Life

~Ric Lopez

Neighbors, we see them sometimes everyday, or once a month, and or maybe once a year. They do exist and that is comforting to some, and a thorn in the side to others. But they are our neighbors, for better or for worse.

Spring 1967, San Francisco was preparing for that indelible Summer of Love. It was the quiet before the storm and neighborhoods were filling up fast. Except Sunnyside. As kids our belief that we lived "out in the boonies" was kind of true. Nonetheless we started to dress the part, with flowers in your hair and lots of tie-dye. Music from garage bands in Sunnyside filled the air, and we all thought we would make it big. That spring felt different. It felt like the whole world was building up to something, something that I would remember the rest of my life.

After a long day at the park, I walked home from Monterey Blvd. down Edna, to stop at the LOG CABIN corner store and grab a candy bar. As I sat on the stoop outside the store, I looked across the street and watched a well dressed gentleman packing a brand new car with lots of boxes. I ran across and asked if he needed help. He said "Hello young man, I'm doing okay for now." I sat with him and we talked about the neighborhood and how he enjoyed living here, I told him my family and I just moved here about nine months ago, he said, "Well, then young man, guess I will be seeing you around," and off he went in his big car. He was right. From that spring on, I grew up with the best neighbor one could have. He gave me advice, shared jokes, and made the best sweet potato pie.

Who would have ever guessed that when I became an adult, I would move back to Sunnyside and right across the street from my favorite neighbor. We spent more time sharing stories and sweet potato pie. He watched me become the person I am and when my parents passed, he watched me and made sure I was okay.

Neighbors, for better or for worse, are Sunnyside, and even if the world is about to burst into a new generation, if you're lucky, you can count on them for the better.

This article is dedicated to my dear friend, and neighbor, who passed away at the beautiful age of 99 in February of this year. Thank you, for being a part of my life, and part of Sunnyside.

Sunnyside News

Voice of the Sunnyside
Neighborhood
Association

39 Years of Neighbors
Helping Neighbors
1975 - 2014

Sunnyside Neighborhood Association
P.O. Box 27615
San Francisco CA 94127

Next Sunnyside
Neighborhood
Association Meeting

Monday, May 5
Meeting at 7:00pm
Location: St. Finn Barr
Church Hall

Meet your neighbors and
learn about
your neighborhood!

sunnysideassociation.org