

Neighborhood Association Quarterly Meeting Notes

Date/Time: Monday, August 25, 2014 at 7 p.m.

Location: Sunnyvale Community Center, Neighborhood Room

Deanna J. Santana, Sunnyvale City Manager

Frequently asked, “What does the city manager do?” City manager is the glue binding city policy and services. Role of city manager 1) advises Council, 2) manages day-to-day operations and 3) responsible for strategic development of the organization.

Discussed background and professional experience ([highlights are covered in this Sunnyvale News Release](#)).

Sunnyvale is considered a top-tier organization among city managers, a highly sought after position. Sunnyvale is in excellent fiscal condition with a 20-year budget, highest credit rating, reserves and budget stabilization fund.

Key areas of focus:

- 1) Growth Issues and Planned Development
- 2) Revenues not keeping pace with increasing expenditures
- 3) Water Pollution Control Plant
- 4) Investing in Streets and Sidewalk repairs
- 5) Current housing market presents challenges for affordable housing
- 6) Increasing resident satisfaction with city services
- 7) Downtown & Civic Center
- 8) Integrating Technology into City services – meeting the demand for mobile apps

Q& A:

Q: Sue Muller-Robb asked, *How many parks are there in Sunnyvale and what are the current staffing levels?*

A: According to Parks Superintendent Scott Morton, 40 full-time parks field staff and 15 temporary staff maintain over 600 acres of open space at over 100 sites. Within that total, 21 of the sites are parks (mini, neighborhood, community or regional) and total 240 acres.

Q: Holly Lofgren asked, *How does apartment density affect Sunnyvale School District?*

A: New apartments and high density housing are something that the school district can plan for. South Sunnyvale is experiencing the biggest challenge with respect to adequate school staffing levels because single family homes previously occupied by empty nest families are now being purchased by families with school-aged children.

Q: Deborah Marks asked, *Menlo Park is currently renovating their City Hall; can Sunnyvale renovate City Hall rather than razing and building new?*

A: At this point, all options are on the table. Staff will evaluate all options and present to City Council for consideration before next steps are taken.

Q: Ralph Kenton asked, *Is there a concern about urban sprawl and its effect on traffic.*

A: Many roads in Sunnyvale are “pass-throughs.” This issue is multi-layered.

Q: Ralph Kenton asked, *Is anyone planning for a major economic downturn?*

A: Not exactly. Sunnyvale is, however, somewhat insulated from economic downturns due to its geographically strategic position and the value provided by Sunnyvale businesses.

Q: Fred Fowler asked, *Given the recent earthquake in Napa, how is the City doing on the emergency preparedness front?*

A: The City is reviewing and updating its emergency preparedness plans.

Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) – Power Point Presentation Attached

VTA is conducting outreach this fall related to the El Camino Corridor, its most utilized route in the entire system. Served by bus lines 22 and 522 (rapid transit), VTA will look at modifying bus routes to better serve this corridor, up to and including dedicated bus lanes or mixed flow with sidewalk extensions.

There will be an outreach meeting at Sunnyvale City Hall on Sept 9 at 5:30 p.m. An Environmental Impact Report will also be issued soon, including a 45-day comment period.

Vector Control District, Russ Parman – Power Point Presentation Attached

West Nile Virus – The number of confirmed cases are way up this year. Drought years are particularly effective for the transmission of West Nile Virus. VCD will be doing fogging as a way to kill mosquitos and decrease the spread of the virus.

Outreach for fogging includes:

- Door Hangers
- Website (including maps)
- News Release
- Twitter
- Alert SCC (opt-in program)
- Extended phone hours the day before and the day of the fogging
- VCD is now adding outreach to neighborhood groups (contact for a presentation)

Sue Muller-Robb, Orchard Gardens Park Extension

Sue presented some information about the improvements being made to Orchard Gardens Park. She advocated for accessible equipment, explaining how choosing certain equipment either includes or excludes residents with accessibility issues. She asked neighborhoods to support the City's purchase and installation of accessible equipment.

Submitted by Nathan Truitt



