

Moreland West NA Meeting Minutes  
Zoom Meeting  
May 26, 2022, 6:30-8 p.m.

## Agenda

- 6:30 p.m. Welcome & Announcements
- 6:40 p.m. El Paseo Mixed Use Signature Project Update
- 6:55 p.m. Neighborhood Safety & Emergency Preparedness
- 7:00 p.m. SJ & Campbell Police Reports
- 7:10 p.m. “Neighborhood Pets & Responsible Pet Ownership”
  - San Jose Animal Care & Services
  - Silicon Valley Animal Control Authority
  - Silicon Valley Pet Project

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, September 29, 2022. It's currently planned to be online, but this may change depending on the COVID health situation and meeting space availability. The main topic will be Waste & Recycling Services available to SJ and Campbell residents.

## Community Updates

### 5K Beautify San Jose Grant

- **Moreland West Neighborhood Litter Pick Up** -- BSJ grant funds supported outreach and a banner for our annual litter pick up, held on April 23. Forty-two volunteers helped to remove more than 118 lbs of trash from our streets and sidewalks. Photos are at [www.morelandwest.org](http://www.morelandwest.org). Thanks to neighbors who participated in the event and everyone who helps throughout the year to keep our community trash-free.
- **Pet Waste & Litter Reduction Project** -- MWNA is using most of the BSJ grant funds to spearhead a joint effort with the Moreland School District to install two pet waste stations and three litter receptacles in our community. One pet waste station/litter receptacle is now on Student Lane near the Moreland Community Garden, one pet waste station/litter receptacle is on Fallbrook Ave near the Moreland School District office, and another litter receptacle will soon be installed at the intersection of Fallbrook Ave and Student Lane. The school district will maintain the litter receptacles.
- **Fallbrook Ave Meet & Greet** -- Grant funds will also be used to pay for refreshments at a community-building gathering of residents on the 1700 block of Fallbrook Ave on August 20. An ice cream sundae bar and kid's activities are planned.

## **Campbell Neighborhood Assistance Grant**

- **Yard Signs** – MWNA was recently awarded a \$500 grant from the City of Campbell, which will pay for flyers that were distributed last January and for more yard signs to help publicize meetings and events. If you're interested in being a yard sign host, please send an email to [morelandwestna@gmail.com](mailto:morelandwestna@gmail.com)
- **Block Party in Campbell** – Grant funds are available to purchase refreshments for a community-building gathering in the Campbell portion of our neighborhood. If you're interested in co-hosting a low-key gathering this summer/fall on your block, let us know!

## **Election Info**

- **Remember to vote in the June 7 election!** -- There's a convenient mail ballot drop box in front of the Moreland School District office on Fallbrook Ave.
- **Seeking candidates for Campbell City Council** -- Campbell neighbors will elect a new City Council representative in November. Campbell recently moved from city-wide to district-based Council seats. There are 5 Council positions and candidates for Districts 3, 4, and 5 are up for election this year. Our neighborhood is in District 4. The nomination period opens in July, but it's not too early to think about running for a Council seat. It's a big time commitment and a 4-year position, but anyone who's 18 or older, a registered voter, and who is a resident within the district may run. Contact the City Clerk's Office at [cityclerks@campbellca.gov](mailto:cityclerks@campbellca.gov) for more information. Campbell City Councilmember Liz Gibbons has offered to talk with anyone who is thinking about running. Her contact info will be in the next MWNA e-newsletter.

**Vaccine Clinic at Easterbrook Discovery School** – The Moreland School District is partnering with the Stanford Children's Health Teen Van to offer Covid-19 vaccines and boosters to students, staff and community members on June 1 from 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m. There is no cost and no insurance required. Appointments can be made here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0a4dabac2ca02-edsvaccination>

**Latimer Garden & Outdoor Classroom** – Save the date! MWNA will host an Open Garden event for the community at the new Latimer School garden. Saturday, June 11, 2022 from 9am-11am. Details forthcoming.

## **El Paseo Mixed Use Signature Project**

The San Jose Planning Commission approved the project on May 25, 2022.

Moreland West NA has provided input for this project, supported reasonable density and heights, and advocated for affordable housing, inclusion of small businesses and homeownership opportunities, job creation, adequate park space, more comprehensive traffic analysis, and a plan for the rest of the 30-acre El Paseo Shopping Center property. To our great concern, the 10.8-acre project has only grown in density and height. The current project – four buildings (six 9, 10, 10, 11, 11, and 12 story towers) with over 2,000 new residents and only 190 new jobs – is oversized for the location, which has no transit other than buses.

The Environmental Impact Report determined that there would be few impacts: no view to protect, no water conservation measures required, and that transportation/traffic issues were all mitigatable. We believe that the 1.1-acre park space for 2,000 new residents is insufficient and that roadways/parking spaces should not be counted as open space. We observed that the traffic analysis was insufficient and faulty. (For example, transportation experts expect that only 15% of new residents will commute during peak hours and that only a single car will drive down Saratoga Ave in the morning and head north on 85.)

Recently, we coordinated with the Baker West NA and other resident groups to share our concerns with Planning Commission members. Although it was publicized that the public would be allowed comments up to two minutes at the Planning Commission hearing, we were summarily limited to one minute. (Similar happened at Community Meeting #2 held by the Planning Division in January 2022.) The developer has a record of providing insufficient project presentations, and they have not provided a much requested rendering that would help people visualize what the entire project – all four buildings – would look like in the existing space. We feel that these actions and omissions are an intentional and coordinated effort by the developer and the City to secure project approval.

Our neighborhood and others feel that this project was rubber stamped by the Planning Commission. We want to set the record straight on things like faulty traffic analysis and public access to school facilities, and to continue trying to make it a better project for surrounding neighborhoods and the City. This includes seeking commitment for some of the \$18 million in parkland in-lieu fees to improve green spaces that will be impacted by the project.

## **West San Jose Multimodal Transportation Improvement Plan**

One bright spot from the Planning Commission meeting was the recommendation to extend the West San Jose MTIP along the full length of Saratoga Avenue for transit,

pedestrian and bicycle planning and investment. This will not have any immediate impact, however, because planning and improvements along Saratoga Ave are secondary to the main project area which runs along Stevens Creek Boulevard.

MWNA brought up the exclusion of our Urban Village area from the WSJ MTIP with the Department of Transportation over a year ago and again this spring. Given the large development projects proposed here, DOT staff has agreed to perform a “Walk Audit” with us in early June along Hamilton Ave, Prospect Rd, Lawrence Expy, and Saratoga Ave before submitting the final WSJ MTIP to the City Council this summer.

### **Neighborhood Safety & Emergency Preparedness**

- **MWNA Safety & Emergency Preparedness** coordinator Cyrus Shariari described a CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) event held on May 21 to test and install smoke alarms. Upcoming CERT events: June 12 and July 4, 2022.
- **SJ Police Department** – Western Division Cpt. Brian Shab informed us prior to the meeting that, as a result of annual shift changes, our Community Police Officer, Josh White, has been assigned to a different beat. Cpt. Shab will introduce us to our new CPO, once he/she has been assigned.
- **Campbell Police Department** - Officer Jason Favreau reported no real updates, just the usual vehicle thefts.

### **Neighborhood Pets & Responsible Pet Ownership**

Amy shared several pet-related neighborhood concerns, including the need to control aggressive pets, the proliferation of dangerous foxtail weeds, and pet waste. She reminded everyone that pets are not allowed on school fields, and that irresponsible owners who don't pick up their pet waste harm students and the community. She requested that pet owners use common courtesy when allowing their dogs to “do their business” on neighbor properties and that neighbors should remember that, sometimes, dogs just need to “go”.

The following staff and volunteers described services provided by their organizations and answered a variety of questions from attendees.

#### **San Jose Animal Care & Service**

Jaysen Jenkins, Field Operations Supervisor

<https://www.sanjoseca.gov/your-government/departments-offices/animal-care-services/animal-care-services-2>

- Covers San Jose, Cupertino, Los Gatos, Milpitas and Saratoga
- They do investigations involving animal cruelty, abuse and neglect; aggressive animals; bites and rabies; and nuisances like chronic barking.

- They also handle permitting of animal facilities like Petsmart and Petco and small pet shops to ensure animals are getting proper care.

### **Silicon Valley Animal Control Authority**

Janet Alexander, Outreach & Rescue Coordinator

<https://www.svaca.com>

- Covers Campbell, Santa Clara, Mountain View, Monte Sereno.
- They also provide animal care and adoptions services for feral animals.
- Many cities require licensing primarily because they want to ensure rabies vaccinations. We've fortunately eliminated rabies in our area because of these vaccinations, and most rabies cases are found in wild animals.

### **Silicon Valley Pet Project**

Judy Wallof - Foster Coordinator and Adoption Counselor

<https://www.svpetchproject.org/>

- They pull from three partners: San Jose Animal Care, TriCity Animal Shelter and County of Santa Clara Animal Services.
- They have placed more than 1,600 animals since 2015.
- When placing foster pets, they consider experience with pets, home setup, schedule/time and expectations. They offer all the supplies and veterinary and care services.
- They have a location in Cambrian Park Plaza as a center for animal meet ups.

Some of the Questions:

- **What should we do if we see a loose dog?** Try to contain them. Call if the animal is aggressive or seems fearful.
- **What should we do if we see a coyote?** Call us. We'll call the fish and wildlife department. Coyotes may be sick or hungry. They prey on outdoor cats.
- **Cougars?** Call 911 or another authority because this is a public safety issue.
- **When should we report bites?** Bites are a common occurrence. Hospitals and urgent care facilities are required to report them, even if it's someone's own small puppy with sharp teeth. Dogs that cause serious bites will trigger an investigation into the circumstances of the bite and the history of the dog. This may lead to a hearing and other action regarding the dog to determine if it is dangerous or vicious.
- **What should I do if a loose dog attacks or bites my dog on leash?** Do not run. The biggest thing is having something between you and the dog - a purse,

backpack or stick, etc. Be big and loud with the aggressive dog who is posturing. Stand your ground. These dogs are assessing your body language. Running will increase the dog's confidence.

Other resources to know:

**Wildlife Center of Silicon Valley** – <https://wcsv.org>

Dedicated to providing sick, injured, and orphaned wildlife with exceptional free care, rehabilitation, and the opportunity for release. We also aim to educate the public about coexisting peacefully with local wildlife.

**Santa Clara County Vector Control** – <https://vector.sccgov.org/home>

Call for service related to mosquitoes, rodents, wildlife, or other vector problems

**Santa Clara County Animal Services Center** – <https://animalservices.sccgov.org/home>

An open-intake shelter that accepts stray and abandoned domestic animals from the unincorporated areas of Santa Clara County as well as the cities of Gilroy and Morgan Hill. The Animal Services Center provides shelter to homeless pets, reunites lost pets with their families, facilitates pet adoption and provides volunteer opportunities for those looking for the opportunity to improve the lives of pets in our care. Area shelter for more unusual and large animals, including pot-bellied pigs, goats and horses.

Submitted by Diana Lubliner