



Volumes 10, Issue 6

APRIL 2008

All RESIDENTS and BUSINESSES of: all of LANTANA, RENO, AUBURN (4758-5160) DRIVES; all of ONTARIO, CASTLE, South side of UNIVERSITY (4749-4849), East side of EUCLID (3611-3889), ESTRELLA (3803-3857) AVENUES; DWIGHT (4759-4792), WIGHTMAN (4750-4871) STREETS.

FOX CANYON MAYORAL FORUM

Do you have a question about City government that is nagging YOU for a real and honest answer?

Do you want to know what the candidates running for the Mayor's Office suggest doing with the City, and how to fix present problems?

Are you tired of driving over the moonscape of the Loop [auburn/Wightman] to the detriment of your car's suspension and your nerves?

Are you tired of the excuses and the hiding behind the "we have NO money to fix potholes, to repair sidewalks, to build the ONTARIO

AVENUE street connection, to purchase land to build, much wanted and needed, PARKS in this 'HOOD?'"

If all these and other questions beg for an answer make time to attend the Mayoral Forum. Perform your CIVIC DUTY and take advantage of this great opportunity to ask all your questions; and pin the candidates to the commitment of their answers. Live in City Heights, or other parts of the City? You need to attend the Mayoral Forum too.



Fox Canyon Neighborhood Association

Cordially invites you to attend and participate in the Mayoral Candidates Forum and Debate.

Confirmed Participants:

Eric Bidwell, Floyd Morrow, James Hart and Steve Francis

Tuesday, MAY 13, 2008 from 6:15 – 7:45 pm
Community Room @ AUBURN PARK
5123 University Avenue, SD, CA 92105

Moderated by **Joseph Duffy** Co-Publisher
San Diego Metro Weekly

Organized by the Fox Canyon Neighborhood Association
Hosted by the Community of AUBURN PARK

Come and Join US!

Please be prepared to participate, be on time and bring your **QUESTIONS** written down.

For information call **Jose Lopez** @ (619) 282-2788

STATE OF THE ASSOCIATION

To read the entire Power Point PDF report, click on this link or cut & paste
<http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/pdf/neighnews/196204817/822929152/22768102.pdf>

This last April 8, 2008, the Association had the honor and the pleasure to host Elected Official Reps, City Officials, Candidates for Public Office, neighbors and friends. In all, forty-two [42] people attended the event to hear the State of the Association President's Report.



Lending credibility to the association's vision and mission statements and the hard work we do to enhance the quality of life and the environment in Fox Canyon, Todd Gloria, representing the Office of Congresswoman Susan Davis; Fernando Reyes, representing the Office of Assemblywoman Shirley Horton; Rebecca Leister, representing the Office of County Supervisor Ron Roberts; Ron Lacey, representing the Office of Mayor Jerry Sanders and Marisa Luque, representing the Office of Councilmember Jim Madaffer; Assistant Police Chief Boyd Long, representing Police Chief Lawnsdone; Lt. Monica Kaiser representing Mid-City Captain Guy Swanger took the opportunity to be present to the association's gala night and witnessed the delivery and setting of policy that will affect the neighborhood for the year to come. In addition, Floyd Morrow, seeking the Office of the Mayor; Marti Emerald and David Tos, running for District 7 and Mr. John Pilch, representing the Campaign Office of April Boling who is also a candidate running for District 7, had the extreme courtesy to attend, the patience to listen, the time and the friendship to mingle with our neighbors and friends. The Association extends deep and sincere THANKS in appreciation to all honorable guests who made it a point to join us at this yearly community building event. Furthermore, the Association

NEXT ASSOCIATION MEETING

Tuesday, MAY 13, 2008 @ 6:15 PM

5123 University Avenue *

(Community Room at AUBURN PARK)

***Please NOTE: This is a NEW meeting location.**

Proposed Agenda:

MAYORAL FORUM

COME and JOIN US!

The BOARD of DIRECTORS

Will NOT meet during MAY due to the **District 7 Candidates Forum**

Fox Canyon Neighborhood Association, Inc.

[A 501 (c)(3) Public Benefit and Social Welfare (www.IRS.gov)

"publication 78" listed) Nonprofit Corporation]

4916 Lantana Drive, SD, CA 92105 (619) 282-2788

FoxCanyonN@aol.com Web-site www.FoxCanyon.Org

HOUSING SUBCOMMITTEE

The Crossroads Housing Subcommittee will meet

Thursday, JUNE 12, 2008 @ 6:30 PM

5123 University Avenue, 92105

[Community Room at AUBURN PARK]

Proposed Agenda:

As noticed by the Redevelopment Agency

Contact, Issues and Info: Jose Lopez, Chair, (619) 282-2788

Tracy Reed, Project Manager, Redevelopment Agency, (619) 236-6543

CH FARMERS MARKET



Neighbors **Rosa Vargas, Ignacia Diaz, Doris Pierson** and **Gretchen Torgerson** made a significant effort to attend the City Heights Farmers Market workshop to explore the possibility and requirements needed to participate and secure a vendors' space. To see more pictures of this event, please click-on, or cut and paste:

<http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/pdf/neighnews/196204817/822929152/99459512.pdf>

Ladies really shined and presented a magnificent table with wonderful decorations to host the guests. Doris Pierson, Gretchen Torgerson, Rosilyn Davis and Jose (Jesse) Chavez provided the refreshments for the night. Below, you will see Gretchen's pictorial journey of the event and to see the entire set of pictures, please click on the following link and/or cut and paste, or visit our web-site at www.FoxCanyon.Org.

<http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/pdf/neighnews/196204817/822929152/616988722.pdf>



Pictured here are, standing: Mr. **Ron Lacey**, Office of the Mayor, seated: (l) Ms. **Marti Emerald** a candidate running for District 7, Assistant Chief **Boyd Long**, and Lt. **Monica Kaiser**.



Mr. **Floyd Morrow**, a candidate running for the Mayor's Office, in a congratulatory moment with Jose Lopez.



In this picture are **Todd Gloria** and **David Tos**. Mr. Gloria is running for the City Council **District 3** seat and Mr. Tos for Council **District 7**.



Elias Qabille, Auburn Park Community Manager, looked his best in his native Somali garb to greet and meet neighbors and invitees.



The best part of the evening was enjoying Doris Pierson's *[the original cookie Lady]* baked goods and cookies. In the picture are Jose, Doris and David holding one famous chocolate chip cookie.



Gretchen, Doris and Rosilyn labored to the best of their abilities to present the refreshments in the best of table etiquette and eye appeal



JIM MADAFFER
COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO TEM

April 8, 2008

Mr. Jose Lopez
4916 Lantana Drive
San Diego, Ca 92105

Dear Mr. Lopez,

Congratulations on the past year's accomplishments and I wish you good luck presenting the State of the Association speech. You should be commended for your hard work and dedication to the community of Fox Canyon.

Your participation in the governing of our City contributes to the quality of life we enjoy in San Diego.

I wish you the best in this upcoming year. Keep up the good work!

Sincerely,

Jim Madaffer
Council President Pro Tem
District 7

JM/mi

CITY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING • 555 101 STREET • SAN DIEGO • CALIFORNIA 92161
Tel: (619) 594-6077 • Fax: (619) 594-1300 • Email: jmadaffer@san-diego.gov
© 2008 City of San Diego

NEW MEETING LOCATION

As you all might know, since the beginning of the year [2008] we have been meeting at the Community of Auburn Park, 5123 University Ave.



To **ACCESS** the community room: enter through this door to the courtyard, turn right, and walk west, toward the building's end, the last two glass doors. **PARKING**: Sufficient parking is readily available on the streets [52nd/University] around/front of the building. Please, remember it's always wonderful and kind to offer a ride to your neighbors and to carpool. We want to see you here, **Come and Join Us!**

DISTRICT 7 CANDIDATES FORUM



Again, our neighbors have to do a great job in preparing for the District 7 Candidates Forum. Our quality of life heavily depends upon our activism in the civic and political processes. Improvements to the neighborhood are only a direct derivative of a dedicated and active political life. Get ready, make time and participate in finding out which of all four candidates will be the best qualified individual to represent us at City Hall as a committed partner and council member. Think of this Forum as a huge job interview from which you have a vested interest to hire, with your vote, only ONE person for the job you want him or her to do for YOU.

Fox Canyon Neighborhood Association

Cordially invites you to attend and participate in the District 7 City Council Candidates Forum and Debate.

Confirmed Participants:

Marti Emerald

April Boling

Bill Daniel

David Tos

Tuesday, May 27, 2008 from 6:15 – 7:45 pm
Community Room @ AUBURN PARK
5123 University Avenue, SD, CA 92105

Moderated by **Scott Lewis**, Co-Editor
(...)**voice of san diego.org**

Organized by the Fox Canyon Neighborhood Association
Hosted by the Community of AUBURN PARK

Come and Join US!

Please be prepared to participate, be on time and bring your **QUESTIONS** written down.

For more information call **Jose Lopez** @ (619) 282-2788 or email FoxCanyonN@aol.com

EUCLID AVENUE

Hugely failing, alley like: narrow, little Euclid Avenue is in doubt of continuing to enjoy the possession, in the City budget, of Capital Improvements Department CIP No. 52743.0 "Euclid Corridor Improvements". The communities facing and using the Euclid Avenue corridor need to make sure that Councilmembers TONI ATKINS and JIM MADAFFER both agree to support this CIP and keep it in the budget. It always pays to get involved and be polite while you're at it. Although, the level of frustration is now rising rapidly among our neighbors, who feel disposed of a real solution and the tangible dollars to solve the issues of a blighted street in the heart of our communities. Still, we need to be patient with, and follow the process. Thank you so much for your emails of support and continue to send them to keep the pressure, and be involved in this matter until we have a vote confirming that CIP No. 52743.0 is in the firm hands of this needful Avenue.

HIRE YOUR NEIGHBORS FIRST

With the price of gas the way it is, it is best to hire your neighbors first. This way, they will walk to work. The savings for NOT driving out of the neighborhood will be passed on to you.

MONICA'S SUSANA House Cleaning Services, Lic # B-2004012335, "We do all general cleaning services for your house!" Call Monica Susana's cell: (619) 508-9603.

JOSE SILVA'S Gardening Services, "Don't wait for the Code Compliance WEEDS letter, we'll knock them out for you!" Call Jose Silva at (619) 287-1306.

The Original Cookie Lady



Doris Pierson

Phone: (619) 280-0935

REGISTER TO VOTE



Are you a recent move-in to Fox Canyon; are you a new citizen, changed your name, or party affiliation? If so, you must re-register to vote by May 19 to be eligible to vote in the election of this June 3rd. If you need a form, call your Neighborhood Association and a volunteer will be happy to deliver one to you [Fox Canyon only], call (619) 282-2788.

HOME FOR DINNER

The beauty of owning a home in Fox Canyon, if you're sensitive and quiet enough to care and observe with pride, is that wildlife comes to your window and joins you and your family for dinner. Take a close look at the Coopers Hawk enjoying its dinner among the blooming jacaranda tree branches ten feet away from where the residents were enjoying the last meal of the day.



GO TO SCHOOL

It doesn't matter what self-serving Community Leaders or those neighbors wanting to keep you down, out of the job pool and slaved to low wages, tell you, **YOU MUST** speak and communicate proficiently in **ENGLISH** to compete for **GOOD PAYING JOBS** to get out of the ghetto, or the prison of your own intelligence, if this is your American dream. Learn the business culture and your community standards to be able to communicate with neighbors, to learn your rights and also your **OBLIGATIONS**, the laws that bind us together, the fun and support needed when living in this great land of opportunity. The Mid-City Continuing Education Center awaits you, to help in the task of teaching you English as Second Language **[ESL]** **FREE** of charge, and Civics to teach you how to blend in. So, if last night, you just jumped "**El Bordo**", today you can go and enroll in school! Let us be honest, you need no papers and no money to attend class and enrollment is available, upon space, all year around. You do have time, just think of all the time you waste watching the "telenovelas" and other junk, and "**YES**" you spent about 6 years learning your native language, you also have the ability to spend another 6 more learning English. The teachers have made the commitment to send us the class schedule for publication, next month. But if you just can't wait, go visit the Enrollment Office at 3792 Fairmount Avenue, SD 92105 or Call (619) 388-4500 for more information. It is achievable, with a sound education, one day you can be an attorney, a doctor, a builder, or a council member.

Jose

YOU DO NEED PERMITS

It doesn't matter how much you want to excuse it; twist it, or don't know about it. The matter is that for everything you intend or dream to do to your house structure as a remodel; you need a permit before you touch it. If we all were to adhere to this reality, Code Compliance would be non-existent. Ignorance of the **LAW** is no excuse or a viable defense. Check it out! San Diego Municipal Code Chapter 12: Land Development Reviews, Article 9: Construction Permits, (Added 12-9-1997 by O-18451 N.S.; effective 1-1-2000.); Division 1: General Construction Permit Authority and Procedures (Added 12-9-1997 by O-18451 N.S.; effective 1-1-2000.); §129.0101 Purpose of Construction Review Procedures: The purpose of these procedures is to establish a review process for **construction plans before construction, demolition, or installation and for inspection of construction work before use or occupancy**. The intent is to determine compliance with applicable codes and other regulations to safeguard public health, safety, and welfare. (Added 12-9-1997 by O-18451 N.S.; effective 1-1-2000)

Newsletter Circulation: **575** hard and **1,952** E-mailed copies.



The Fox Canyon Voice

Reserves for itself the right to edit for space, clarity and content all materials submitted for publication.

The views expressed in this newsletter are strictly those of the authors and **DO NOT** necessarily reflect the views of the FCNA, Inc., organization.

Doris Pierson proofreader, we're grateful for the donation of her precious time.

Be Kind and Loving to Your Neighbors.

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

[Tuesday, April 22, 2008]

Meeting called to order by Lopez when Quorum established at 6:42p.

Meeting attendance: Seven [7] Board Members [including: Torgerson, Davis, Kozminski, Pierson, Ilginis, Du and Lopez with Chavez and Shetter excused and Diaz absent and NO Public] present.

Public Comment: NONE.

Board Members' Comment: NONE

President's Report: Attendance report to the LU&H Committee.

Leading Motions:

- Motion to approve agenda as proposed Pierson/Torgerson, passed 7/0/0.
- Motion to approve minutes (March-08) and monthly accounting [March-08], Kozminski/Ilginis, passed 7/0/0.

Action Items:

- Motion to approve Members' meeting agenda: Mayoral Forum with Jose conducting and Doris, Rosilyn, Gretchen and Jesse providing refreshments, Du/Davis, passed 7/0/0.

New Items or Issues: NONE

Closing Comment: NONE

Adjournment: at 7:31 PM to the Corporation of the Fox Canyon Neighborhood Association meeting of JUNE 24, 2008 at 6:30p.

Thomas Du, Secretary.

FROM THE E-MailBox

Jose, you are going to think that I am crazy but I don't know what 5/0/1c in the minutes, last month, mean. Do you care to explain? I'm dying to know, Rosie, Auburn Drive.

Dear Rosie,

The Bylaws dictate that the Chair to the Board [the elected president] is a silent chair. Except when the number of Board Members attending a particular Board meeting is in the even number, then the Chair will vote to break a tie. At the last month's meeting the Board attendance was on the odd number. Therefore, the Chair was silent and the motions were recorded as 5 in favor, 0 opposed and 1 abstention, the Chair. This translates in recorded numbers as 5/0/1c. Thanks for reading the newsletter and for your question. Feel free to email your questions again at anytime, Jose.

BIG EVENT

There is a big event coming to our neighborhood. Get yourself, your family and your house ready to do hard work and wait to learn a little bit more to find out what will happen on SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2008

LEAD

The Redevelopment Plan Area Committees, in this case: the City Heights and Crossroads set-aside monies for housing rehabilitation within their designated areas. These set-asides are given to low and moderate income homeowners, who qualify, as forgivable loans that are administrated by the Housing Commission. In addition, City Council Members allocate CDBG to the Environmental Services Department [ESD] to abate LEAD PAINT. With the Lead Program, also property owners [Landlords] of need, who meet the above profile, are included within the guidelines for help availability. The access to the Lead Abatement Program is also the Housing Commission. If you need any of these programs help and/or for an application, please call bilingual [English/Spanish] Program Administrator:

LYLE KNUDSON @ 578-7521

EXPIRED PERMITS

So you know the LAW. You also know that you need a building permit to demo, remodel, do room additions/alterations, and to re-route and add to your house mechanics [electricity, plumbing, etc]. Proudly, you march to Development Services to plan check and pull permits. Patiently, you subject yourself to the torturous process of work progress inspections. But the sign-off for some reason never happens and your permit expires. You might think that everything is just dandy and correct because you had permits. Well, if you are not careful to have the last sign-off to complete the legalities of your permit, it is like you never had a permit at all. With time, when the permit expires [remember: some permits could have as long as *three years longevity*] your former project becomes a CODE COMPLIANCE VIOLATION. The longevity of permits is a loophole widely used by aggressive flippers to get away with doing more work and remodel to the structures, they sell to make a quick buck, as originally permitted. At selling time, the Realtor might disclose the new work done under permits. With confidence, you buy the house, and then ten [10] years later Code is at your door telling you that half your house is not permitted and in need to be permitted again or be removed, then the real nightmare begin. In another example: a mechanical permit for electrical work to change service was pulled one month previous to a sale and disclosed by the Realtor, but never signed-off. Fifteen [15] years later, the homeowner discovered that the original fuse box with 4 live circuits was never shut-off/converted, and was also concealed from view/access with drywall behind a finished room wall. If a fire would have originated at the fuse box, the insurance company never would have paid the claim, based on non-permitted work. But also, the potential for life-lost and a fatality was real from 4 live circuits without breaker control, at all. To avoid fatalities, save a bit of your liver and some white hairs, if you pull permits, make sure that they are signed-off, and also support a change of policy to have Development Services send notice just before permit expires. Then, within two months after permit expiration date, Development Services should refer expired permits back to Neighborhood Code Compliance [NCCD] for Field Inspectors to check the status of work abandonment and to start the Code Compliance Violation process all over again. Call your Elected and City Officials and ask for their help in closing this loophole.

LOST OF HISTORICAL HERITAGE

Municipal Code § 129.05.03 is used to stage overnight attacks on existing structures in older communities of color and poverty by aggressive remodeling and/or complete construction of a totally new structure with increased destruction of neighborhood *character, charm, scale and texture*. According to current City regulations, historical structures over 45 years old are required to be reviewed for potential historical value if the structure is proposed to be demolished or substantially altered. How Does Chapter 12, Article 9, Division 5, Section 129.0503 Read?

Exemptions from a Demolition/Removal Permit:

- (a) A demolition/removal permit is NOT required to demolish or remove any structure that is exempt from a building permit in accordance with Section 129.0203.
- (b) A Demolition/Removal Permit is NOT required to demolish the following:
 - (1) *A one-story frame structure that is 500 square feet or less in area, unless the structure has been determined to be a contributing element to a designated historical structure or site;*
 - (2) A temporary construction shed or office; or
 - (3) A temporary tract or subdivision office for which a temporary construction permit had been previously issued.

This Code Section is used as a loophole to demolish entire older and

potentially historical structures that add value and charming to particular neighborhoods. PROPERTY VALUES and desirability are predicated upon well maintained, clean and charming areas with great curb appeal. This curb appeal is also predicated upon proper, clean and decrowded front yard setbacks; carefully planned/maintained landscape and period structures with blending architectural motifs, appropriate to the original date of neighborhood development. The subdivision map that created Fox Canyon was filed on June 1911. Our Elders, through oral tradition, tell us that two houses were moved to the neighborhood in 1927, before the sidewalks were poured-in. The historical markers stamped on some sidewalks read 1928 [4932 Lantana] and the cast-iron sewer main was installed in 1939 to replace the clay [previously, out houses and septic tanks were the norm]. Yet, you drive all over the neighborhood and with the fingers of one hand will count the houses that retain their true architectural and historical value, untouched. Two of them are next to each other on Wightman Street [one is a Tudor and the other a craftsman]. Both are next to the one that was stripped to the bone overnight, one weekend, using the loophole of Section 129.05.03, eight weeks ago. For sometime, Fox Canyon has been the subject to this type of overnight/over-one-weekend attacks loosing with it a great part of its historical heritage. For this reason, it is morbid and shocking to contrast and compare the community of Fox Canyon against the Historical District of Islenair. This uncontrolled destruction has produced a mixed-match of styles, textures, motifs and no charm that has injured the area beyond repair. It is so sad to see a house recently done [on the cheap side; let's sell it now, get our money and run] with a wonderful porch with period columns and stucco [these two don't match or blend] all over it with the period siding gone. For all these reasons the community of Fox Canyon asks:

- Please REPEAL Chapter 12, Article 9, Division 5, Section 129.05.03, Subsection (b)(1) by an action of City Council.

In addition, we ask your committed support to help us protect our historical heritage by contacting your City Council Member and also the City Attorney's Office to request the REPEAL of this Code Section and see this communal reality to protect our neighborhoods at risk.

The Chair of the Land Use and Housing [LU&H] Committee is Councilman BENJAMIN HUESO (619) 236-6688 and his office is a great place to start.

GAS THEFT

Oh my, how things change in our quick moving society. About two months ago the crime of choice was car theft. Two SUV's, a truck and a SUV repossessed by its rightful owner [the thief sold it to a neighbor using fake paperwork] were stolen from Lantana/Dwight over two early mornings [around 4:00a] flat. This week SUV's don't matter, they are gas guzzlers and with the price of gas as it's, too expensive to feed. GAS THEFT is now the crime of vogue. Several neighbors have seen their golden liquid disappear due to siphoning, overnight. Call the police, call the police and call the police @ 531-2000, if you witness or are a victim of a crime. Things to do: buy a key gas tank cap [about \$20], rediscover your garage and house your car in it, not your junk! Use your driveway to park and/or at least park your car with the tank side toward the traffic side of the street, install surveillance cameras, a \$61 value for model 1975 at www.worldofficeproducts.net.

Happy Mother's Day!
