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Willard Neighborhood Association Newsletter November 9, 2007

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Items appearing in the WNA E-Newsletter are deemed to be of general interest to neighbors but do not necessarily reflect the views of Willard Neighborhood Association (WNA) or its Steering Committee

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Summary of Items in This E-Newsletter

Full articles appear further down in the body of this E-Newsletter.

1. Bus Rapid Transit or Rapid Bus + Your Chance to be Heard -- Saturday, November 17

The Berkeley Alliance of Neighborhood Associations is hosting a community meeting which will feature Greg Harper, the President of AC Transit's Board of Directors. This is an opportunity for all Berkeley residents to present their ideas and concerns about BRT to someone who can really make a difference in the way this project moves forward.

Let's do a Reality Check before spending \$400 million

The City Council moved oversight of BRT's implementation to the Planning Commission and should now look at some real world testing before further committing funding and staff time to developing preferred routes in Berkeley.

2. Crime in our neighborhood Armed Robberies and thing we can do

With two brazen armed robberies in our neighborhood in the past month, we could be looking at a very bad trend. There are some promising things to take advantage of but the real effort needs to come from us in the neighborhood.

Officer Burcham, Area2 coordinator for the Berkeley Police Department, offers some tips on how to make yourself safer when out walking.

We need to help both the Berkeley Police Department and the UC Police Department look for creative ways to fight crime

in our neighborhood.

3. Going Solar

The number of Berkeley homeowners and businesses with rooftop solar collectors could multiply in the next few years. Berkeley is set to become the first city in the nation to allow property owners to pay for energy efficiency improvements and solar system installation as a long-term assessment on their individual property tax bill. Mayor Tom Bates asked the City Council to conceptually approve a Sustainable Energy Financing District at Tuesday's Council meeting.

4. Changes to the requirements for alcoholic beverage sale Public Hearing, Wednesday, Nov. 14th

The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on amendments to the Zoning Ordinance regarding alcohol sales outlets.

Ed Kikumoto from the Alcohol Policy Network gives an analysis of the three amendments being considered.

5. 2525 Telegraph -- Art House/Cafe or Night Club

The Willard Neighborhood Association Steering Committee recaps the Use Permit conditions imposed by the Zoning Adjustment Board and what actions we can take in the future.

Other Items of Interest (located at end of email)

A. People's Park Advisory Commission – MKThink redesign final Public Comment

Monday December 3rd at 7pm
Trinity Methodist Church, 2362 Bancroft

At this meeting the Advisory Commission will make recommendations to the University on the MKThink design ideas compiled from their public meetings. All public comment should arrive by email or US mail well in front of this meeting so it can be incorporated

by the Commissioners.

B. Local Artisan's work on display in City Hall

Jim Rosenau of This in That

View his piece entitled "All Politics is Local" in City Hall

Everyone welcome.

Contact information of City of Berkeley and Willard NA (located at the end of this email)

President's Introductory Note:

With the new year not far off, its time to look back at what's been accomplished this year.

The Willard NA held its first annual National Night Out, a national effort coordinated locally, to take back the night for the community and its third annual Welcome to the Neighborhood block party and yard sale where we welcome the students to the neighborhood with inexpensive goods, free food and lots of neighborhood information. We've also done two major work days in Willard Park with the help of UC students offering energy back to the community. You can see our work by noting how little graffiti you see on the flat surfaces, how few weeds you see in the planting areas and how nice the new grass looks in the tot lot.

We've worked with the City of Berkeley and the Berkeley Police Department on a number of issues. We've clarified the policy on camping in the grass strip between the sidewalk and the street. We've been active in getting the word out to the neighborhood when we've had a problem with armed robberies and rapes. We are working with the City on how to get contact information posted on the outside of rental properties that will actually put you in contact with the owner or manager if you need to talk with someone at night or in an emergency.

We've worked with the City and the University to make sure our neighborhood stayed clean when the students vacate the neighborhood in May and June. We've worked with both of them on strengthening the Second Response noise ordinance for uncontrolled parties and in clamping down on underage drinking at those parties.

We'd like to offer an invitation to come to our Steering Committee meetings. They are the third Thursday each month – the next meeting will be December 20th – in the week before Christmas vacation begins. If you'd like to come see what we do each month, email me and I'll send you the draft agenda and where to come for the meeting.

For those of you who feel WNA is helping make our neighborhood a better place to live I'm asking that you step up and contribute \$10 per household in voluntary dues. You can find the form at the very bottom of this email, and on our neighborhood link website.

<http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/pdf/nhextra/734472517/782299266/505369471.pdf>

If you can donate you will help us cover our costs for events like our spring and fall workdays in the neighborhood, the Xeroxing that let's us flyer for the events like the Block Party and the ability to support good works in the community with seed money. Whether you donate or not, you are still a member of Willard Neighborhood Association and entitled to all the rights and privileges that go along with that.

Thanks -- Vincent Casalaina <ProBerk@aol.com>

Willard Neighborhood Association Items in This E-Newsletter

1. Bus Rapid Transit or Rapid Bus + Pro-Transit Alternative

The Willard Neighborhood Association Steering Committee's strong support of effective public transit and opposition to Bus Rapid Transit's removal of traffic lanes on Telegraph has formed a sub-committee headed by George Beier.

GeorgeBeier@hotmail.com

BANA Community Meeting – Bus Rapid Transit Saturday, November 17

Berkeley Alliance of Neighborhood Associations (BANA) will host a Community Meeting on Saturday, Nov. 17th to discuss Berkeley's vision of Bus Rapid Transit (BRT). BANA will have a special guest speaker, Mr. Gregory Harper, President of AC Transit's Board of Directors. Mr. Harper joins us, so that he can hear our thoughts first hand, on the various plans put forth for BRT, and alternatives to BRT that have been proposed in Berkeley. Please see his biography below.

The meeting will take place Sat Nov 17, 9:15am at 2407 Dana St., First Presbyterian Church--Church Lounge. Street and garage parking are available. Light refreshments will be served.

The Bus Rapid Transit project as currently proposed would create dedicated bus lanes and BRT stations on arterial streets in the cities of Berkeley, Oakland and San Leandro. The intent of the project is to achieve the speed and reliability of rail using lower cost buses. The project would also include specially designed

passenger boarding platforms, shelters, NextBus signs and bus priority at traffic signals.

Many of the features proposed only for BRT could be used in alternative proposals such as Rapid Bus +. This meeting is the place to let AC Transit know how we see the future of public transit in Berkeley.

The new service would operate primarily on Telegraph Avenue, International Boulevard and East 14th Street roughly parallel to the existing BART service but with more stops available. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Report (DEIS/R) is currently available for this project.

http://www.actransit.org/planning_focus/details.wu?item_id=30

AC Transit has currently implemented Rapid Bus featuring NextBus signs at selected stops and bus priority at traffic signals along the BRT corridor. This service will be discontinued if BRT is fully implemented. Construction of the full BRT project is scheduled for completion in 2011.

The full cost of building BRT is currently estimated at \$400 million. To date, only limited funds are available for implementation of the project. Voters approved Regional Measure 2 in the March 2004 election. This measure raised bridge tolls by \$1, and funded a number of projects including \$65 million for construction of the Bus Rapid Transit system. This measure also includes \$3 million annually to operate the system. In addition, Alameda County Measure B, the 1/2 percent sales tax, will raise \$20 million for construction of the project. There is also about \$4 million available from Federal and State sources. This leaves a funding gap of nearly \$300 million.

Biography:

Greg Harper, an East Bay attorney and a former Emeryville mayor, was elected in November 2000 and re-elected in 2004 to represent Ward 2, including portions of Berkeley, Oakland and Emeryville. Director Harper presently serves as President of the Board of Directors. A principal in a local law firm, Director Harper is active in regional civic affairs and serves on the Regional Planning Committee of the Association of Bay Area Governments and the Alameda County Housing Authority. He also has served on public bodies including the Bay Area Air Quality Management District, the Alameda County Congestion Management Agency, and the Blue Ribbon Task Force for Water Transit in the Bay Area. Director Harper earned his B.A. and B.S. at the University of Illinois and a J.D. at Hastings College of the Law.

Recap of City Council action moving BRT oversight to Planning Commission

Written by Scott Mace

Kriss Worthington's motion to put the Planning Commission into the lead role regarding BRT, and move the Transportation Commission into an advisory role, passed in Tuesday's City Council meeting (October 23rd).

The Transportation Commission's goal all along has been for BRT to wreak havoc on traffic in the south side, advocating BRT as their weapon of choice to make traveling on the south side so impossible as to literally force people from their cars. The Transportation Commission has been openly and aggressively functioning purely as a Trojan Horse for AC Transit. This being the case, transferring oversight of BRT to the Planning Commission, with the Transportation Commission in an advisory role, is a good thing.

As Lisa Plourde and Councilperson Spring pointed out, ridership on this bus line is minimal, BART is superior for this travel corridor overall, and it's either premature or backward to consider dedicated bus lanes when ridership demonstrates no demand for this. Kriss' proposal also includes 'eco passes' to make bus travel inexpensive and increase ridership, something we all support.

I pointed out during public comments that BRT can and should undergo real-world testing, a simple 'Reality Check' that is only reasonable for a \$400,000,000 project. The City and AC Transit can lay out what AC Transit proposes as BRT's use of lanes by using pylons (and other traffic mitigation devices) on Telegraph between Alcatraz and Dwight or Bancroft (as AC Transit prefers) and see what happens. This simple and do-able 'BRT Reality Check' will transform the opinionated / statistical discussion into a scientific real-world demonstration of BRT in action.

AC Transit should embrace this as a way to verify the essential accuracy of their EIR for BRT, and the City can make an informed decision based on facts demonstrated on the ground.

Video of this City Council Meeting of 10/23 can be seen at

<http://www.ci.berkeley.ca.us/citycouncil/agendaindex.htm>

2. Crime in our neighborhood

Armed Robberies and what we can do

*Additional material provided by Ashley Trott, Daily Californian
City of Berkeley and UCPD*

Since the last Newsletter, two armed robberies that have taken place on Parker Street between Hillegass and Benvenue. both robberies involved two suspects, both of whom were armed and both of whom brandished their guns to the young

people who were robbed. This is a new and disturbing trend in the neighborhood and one that we need to make sure the City addresses in a serious fashion.

Here's what Officer Steve Burcham has to say about how to be safer when you are out walking in the neighborhood:

With the recent report of two armed robberies in the Willard Neighborhood area, a number of people have become concerned about the safety of the area. Although the number of robberies for the month of October has dropped significantly from last year, I would like to remind people of some safety tips.

First and foremost is to pay attention to your surroundings. Many victims that I have interviewed didn't see the suspect. Many times this was because they were busy thinking about everything but where they were and where they were going, or because they saw something that didn't look right, but ignored their senses. If a situation or area looks strange or unsafe, think about ways to avoid it. Don't be afraid to cross the street or walk around the block to avoid what you think might be a dangerous situation.

Second, walking with a one or more additional people can certainly make you look less appealing to a criminal. This however does not mean that you can now ignore your surroundings. A group of distracted people lose many of the benefits of walking with a group.

When a robber or other criminal is planning to do something, they are looking for the best situation for them. In the case of a robber, they want a distracted victim so that they can commit the robbery and be on their way before the victim really knows what is happening.

And finally, if you see something or someone that looks suspicious, please call the police. Alert neighbors have called us on a many of occasions resulting in a number of arrests. For emergencies call 911, or 981-5911 from your cell phone. If you don't think the situation warrants a 911 call, then please call us at 981-5900.

Thank you

Officer Stephen Burcham #138
Area 2 Coordinator
sburcham@ci.berkeley.ca.us
(510)981-5778

There are a few promising signs. Last month's safety walk sponsored by the ASUC's External Affairs Office brought students, police officers, politicians and community activists into the streets in an attempt to prevent crime by

documenting areas that might be physically dangerous after dark. Sharon Hudson from the Willard neighborhood took part in the walk.

“(Getting community participation) made it beyond just the school, it made it the whole city,” said David Garfinkel, the ASUC Safety Walk-Through coordinator. Mayor Tom Bates and Councilmember Kriss Worthington were among the politicians to participate in the event, walking routes in the South Campus area. “(Organizing the walk was) a wonderful example of leadership from our young people,” Worthington said. “It’s so much better to stop crimes before they happen.” Mayor Bates said, “It’s a question of money and priorities if the hazards pointed out by the ASUC are to be fixed.”

Here’s what KPIX had to say about the Safety Walk:

<http://cbs5.com/video/?id=28013@kpix.dayport.com>

Here’s a story from one of our neighbors who took advantage of a City program that may have saved her life.

The very best thing I ever did for myself with regard to crime in Berkeley was to attend the Citizen Police Academy. Thanks to those 12 sessions, when I was carjacked I was calm and confident, knowing exactly who would help me and how best to behave. Of course I was lucky too... It is strange to say that the carjacking occurred just a week after our last session. I had won the 'best actor' award at the academy for my role as an officer in people's park; I was stabbed fatally when the perp distracted me by admiring my belt buckle :)

Details on the Citizen’s Police Academy ---

The Berkeley Police Department’s (BPD) Citizen’s Police Academy (CPA) is a 14-week program that has been designed to provide you with a “behind-the-scenes” overview of the department, its’ administration and procedures. This interactive course is facilitated by BPD police personnel and strives to bring awareness of the police role in the City of Berkeley community. Citizen’s Police Academy participants will have the opportunity to engage in an array of experiences and education regarding contemporary policing.

Session content ranges from basic patrol techniques, officer safety, use of force issues, crime scene management, evidence collection, criminal investigation – what detectives do, weaponless/defensive tactics, a basic firearms safety/live fire course, and scenarios involving police and community members. In addition, participants will interact with members of all ranks of the department; participate in hands on work as well as a unique opportunity to do a BPD patrol ride-a-long.

Other topics in the CPA include basic booking procedures, the role of dispatchers in the communications center, our community-involved problem

solving strategies, narcotics investigation, police ethics and the discipline process.

APPLICATION/COMMITMENT PROCESS

- Potential participants for the BPD CPA must meet the following criteria:
- Be able to make one weekly evening session for 14 weeks
- Miss no more than two (2) sessions
- Minimum age of 21 years
- Live or work in the City of Berkeley
- No prior felony convictions
- No misdemeanor arrests within one (1) year of application

The Chief of Police may waive any of the requirements upon review and approval.

SELECTION PROCESS

The Chief of Police selects CPA participants through a nomination process. Interested community members must complete an application form and are subject to a thorough background check upon applying. Enrollment is limited to 15 students per academy and those not selected are placed on a waiting list for future academies. The Citizen's Academy will take place in the Spring of 2008. Please check our website in the coming months for an application.

<http://www.ci.berkeley.ca.us/police/departments/communityservicesbureau/citizensacademy.html>

What can we do locally ---

Greg Wineger who has coordinated our Willard Neighborhood Association crime fighting and I would like to restart the Willard Walk group. the concept is that we will walk in pairs during the evening hours in the areas that need additional "eyes on the street". we are not asking anyone to step in harms way. we are asking that if you see something that looks suspicious while you are walking, please use your cell phone to call the BPD cell phone non-emergency line (981-5900).

if you'd like to take an hour once a week to walk the neighborhood, please contact Greg <Greg.Wineger@ucop.edu>. Some of you have already volunteered, but we could really use more people to make sure we have enough people to cover the area.

you should always have the BPD cell phone hot line pre-programmed on your phone (981-5911)

Details on the armed robberies ---

Parker at Hillegass

On Monday, October 22, 2007, at 12:11 AM. A group of 8 males were walking westbound on Parker. They were approached by a Black male suspect who had been perched on a fire hydrant. The suspect displayed a fire arm and demanded their wallets and cell phones. Suspect #1 was joined by suspect #2 who was also armed with a gun. After complying with the demand, two of the victims were struck by the suspects. One of the victims was transported to Alta Bates for treatment.

The suspects were described as follows:

#1 – Black male, 5'07" to 5'10" in height, 160 lbs, medium build, in his 30s, with a goatee, wearing a dark hooded jacket with the hood pulled over his head and blue jeans._

#2 – Black male, 5'10" to 6'02" in height, in his mid-twenties, 180 lbs, wearing a dark hooded jacket with the hood pulled over his head and jeans.

Parker near Benvenue

On Monday, October 29, 2007, at 7:37 PM. A female was walking eastbound on the 2600 block of Parker when she saw two men walking on the opposite sidewalk. The men crossed the street and approached the victim. The first suspect pointed a gun at her, demanded her property and grabbed her purse and camera bag. The second suspect also had a handgun and both suspects pointed their guns at her as they left the scene.

The suspects were described as follows:

#1 – Hispanic male, 20-25 years-of-age, 5'07" in height, 170 lbs, medium build, with dark hair, wearing a black knit cap and an oversized grey hooded sweater.

#2 – Black male, 20-25 years-of-age, 6'0" in height, 250 lbs, with a large build, black hair, wearing a black sweater and blue jeans.

3. Going Solar

City of Berkeley Proposes new method of financing solar upgrades

*Edited from Judith Scherr's 10/30/07 Daily Planet article and
Material from the City of Berkeley*

The number of Berkeley homeowners and businesses with rooftop solar collectors could multiply in the next few years, if a complex financing proposal

pans out.

The concept of the city providing funds to loan to property owners was first proposed by Councilmember Dona Spring in 2002 “after rolling blackouts yanked up our energy bills,” Spring told the Daily Planet on Monday.

After five years, Berkeley is set to become the first city in the nation to allow property owners to pay for energy efficiency improvements and solar system installation as a long-term assessment on their individual property tax bill. Mayor Tom Bates asked the City Council to conceptually approve a Sustainable Energy Financing District put together by Cisco DeVries, chief of staff to Mayor Tom Bates, the city’s energy division and a number of financial consultants. The program could begin operating next year.

There are currently about 383 sites in Berkeley with solar panels, not including those being installed as part of Solar Cities Collective Power Program. The new financing proposal is expected to add about 125 energy-efficient and/or solar sites with estimated construction costs at \$4.4 million.

Installations of solar electric and solar thermal systems are cost effective for many residential and commercial property owners with the existing state and federal subsidies. The Berkeley Plan eliminates the two major financial hurdles to installing solar electric and solar water systems – the high upfront cost and the possibility that those costs will not be recovered when the property is sold.

City Manager Phil Kamlarz described the financing as working this way: An assessment district would be formed, comprised of property owners who want to be part of the program. The city would borrow the funds to pay for the program from banks or other sources. The interest rate charged to the city would be less than the interest rate at which many property owners would be able to borrow as individuals. The financing is intended to cost property owners the amount they would have been paying in higher electric bills.

“Berkeley’s proposal is brilliant because it allows property owners to take advantage of the City’s ability to find the best rates,” said UC Berkeley Professor Dan Kammen, who directs the University’s Renewable and Appropriate Energy Laboratory and will be assisting the City in developing the program. “If Berkeley makes this work, I have no doubt it will be replicated all over the state and the nation.”

One of the questions still to answer is the relationship between the solar contractor and the property owner. La Pierre says that under the city financing program, the city would certify contractors with whom the property owners would contract directly. Under this scenario, costs could be regulated by the city. But Kamlarz says that if the city were to certify a contractor, Berkeley could be liable if the contractor did not perform as required. He prefers a plan where property

owners choose their own contractors, without certification by the city.

The city plans to fund the work to create the Sustainable Energy Financing District with about \$160,000 from an Environmental Protection Agency grant proposal written by the city's energy division. Details are currently being worked out between the agency and the city. In addition to the grant funds, some city staff time would be devoted to putting together the program. Part of the work would include having the city of Berkeley create a booklet explaining to other cities how to go about replicating Berkeley's model.

The Sustainable Energy Financing District is being developed as part of the City's implementation of Measure G – last year's ballot measure setting greenhouse gas reduction targets for Berkeley and directing the Mayor to lead the development of a plan to meet those targets. The first complete draft of the Climate Action Plan will to be released for public comment in mid-November.

"There are more than 400 solar installations in Berkeley today. With this program, I think we can install thousands of solar systems over the next decade and go a long way to meeting our greenhouse gas emission reduction targets." said Berkeley Mayor Tom Bates.

4. Changes to the requirements for alcoholic beverage sale **Public Hearing, Wednesday, Nov. 14th 7pm**

Zoning Ordinance Amendments Related to Alcohol Sales Outlets

The Planning Commission of the City of Berkeley will hold a public hearing at the North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst Ave. (at Martin Luther King, Jr. Way), Berkeley (wheelchair accessible).

The proposed zoning amendments address three issues related to alcohol uses:

- (1) Abandonment of lawful non-conforming off-sale alcohol beverage sales outlets after 90 days of closure;
- (2) Allowing private right of action against nuisances, including nuisance alcohol outlets;
- (3) Providing the Zoning Adjustments Board greater flexibility when issuing a use permit for a new alcohol sales use when there has been only one prior violation or complaint.

Comments on the three alcohol related zoning ordinance amendments *Written by Ed Kikumoto, Policy Director, Alcohol Policy Network*

1. Abandonment of lawful nonconforming off-sale alcohol beverage sales outlets after 90 days of closure.

An empty storefront, which was once an alcohol outlet, can reopen as an alcohol outlet of the same type at any time without further approval of the City. The City has the authority to revoke the unused activity after one year of continuous closure. The decision to revoke the use is discretionary and the City does not systematically remove these old uses after the one year time period. An inactive lawful nonconforming (grandfathered) use should be *automatically* terminated after a reasonable amount of time. Ninety days is considered reasonable. Any subsequent alcohol use would then require a Land Use Permit.

2. Allowing private right of action against nuisances, including nuisance alcohol outlets.

This would allow a private citizen the right to bring a Small Claims Court action against a nuisance activity using local nuisance ordinances in the event the City did not take action to abate the nuisance. For example, when the City enacts performance standards for alcohol outlets, a nuisance business could be taken to Small Claims Court by a private citizen for violations of the performance standards in addition to a private nuisance complaint of "quiet enjoyment of property."

3. Providing the ZAB greater flexibility when issuing a use permit for a new alcohol sales use when there has been only one prior violation or complaint.

The application for a use permit for a new alcohol sales use usually means the sale of distilled spirits and longer hours of operation. The violation could be alcohol related or for public nuisance activity. Approval in this instance must be conditional. The condition should be that the operator must not receive another violation or complaint for one year from the date of approval and if there is a violation or complaint the use shall be immediately revoked.

5. 2525 Telegraph -- Art House/Cafe or Night Club

Written by Dione Cota, WNA Steering Committee

The ZAB issued a use permit that will covert two adjacent commercial spaces into one for the use of a restaurant and art gallery that will serve beer and wine.

The applicant originally requested a 2a.m. closing time and an extension of the liquor license to include hard alcohol. On September 10th many neighbors arrived and spoke before the ZAB during the public comments.

The ZAB ultimately concluded that the operating hours will be 7a.m. to 12a.m. (midnight) Sunday through Thursday and on Friday and Saturday 7a.m. to 1a.m. with occasional live entertainment. All live entertainment shall cease at 10:30pm Sunday through Thursday and 11:30pm Friday and Saturday. This is an

extension of the existing zoning by right conditions for this area. The By Right Laws in effect are operating hours until 10pm and Midnight Friday and Saturday.

Despite many individual neighbors concerns along with The Willard Steering Committee's opposition, Mr. Eslami has been granted permission to extend the By Right hours.

One of the major mitigations that we were able to put into the Use Permit is that after six months of use, the applicant is to submit a report to the Zoning Officer. The report should address any neighbors' complaints, police service calls, etc and what action was taken. To that end, we will hold at least one meeting with Mr. Eslami and his staff prior to the six month review to go over any issues that have come up. If you'd like to be notified when that meeting will take place please email me, Dione Cota, and I'll make sure you get an email with meeting details.

The Zoning officer will submit this report to the ZAB for review. The ZAB has the right to revoke the use permit, if the operation of the establishment violates any of the conditions described in the use permit.

A big Thank You goes out to those neighbors that took the time out of their lives to speak or send an email to the ZAB.

It cannot be stressed enough that regarding changes and extensions to Existing Zoning Laws, community involvement is of paramount importance. Especially since now it seems the door may be open to have more "late night" establishments in our neighborhood, on Telegraph Avenue. It may mean taking an evening to attend a meeting and speak but the result could be worthwhile if we join together and tell the ZAB we want and don't want in our neighborhood.

For the complete Use Permit please email: dionecota@sbcglobal.net

Other Items of Interest

A. People's Park Advisory Commission – redesign Public Comment

Monday, December 3rd at 7pm

Trinity Methodist Church, 2362 Bancroft

The draft report: People's Park Assessment & Planning Study by MKThink consultants is online at the Community Relations website:

http://communityrelations.berkeley.edu/whatsnew/peoples_park_draft_study.htm

A copy of the report is also available for viewing at the People's Park office. Community members who would like to comment on the draft report should e-

mail their comments to pplspark@berkeley.edu or send them by US mail to:

People's Park Community Advisory Board
336 Sproul Hall #4208
Berkeley, CA 94720-4208

The study reflects the opinions and perspectives of a broad range of community stakeholders who are concerned about the future of People's Park. The study's findings suggest future directions that the university may consider with the goals of making the site safer and generating greater use by the campus and community.

Members of the public are invited to comment on the study in writing or to address the People's Park Community Advisory Board at its December 3rd, 2007 meeting (7:00 pm, Trinity Methodist Church, 2362 Bancroft).

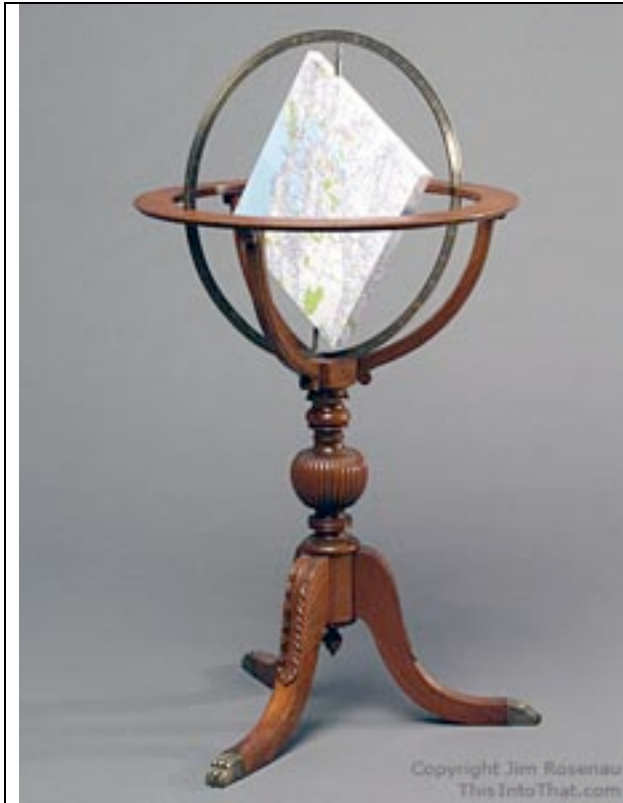
At its December 3, 2007 meeting, the board will discuss recommendations to make to the university with respect to the study. Please pass this information along to your neighbors.

We would like to thank you for participating in the community input process and invite you to comment on the draft report.

Irene Hegarty -- hegarty@berkeley.edu

B. Local Artisan's work on display in City Hall

Berkeley City Hall will be home to "All Politics is Local" (shown below) for the next year. I can't think of a better spot for it. One side of the flat earth displays a map of Berkeley, the other, a map of the Bay Area.



All Politics is Local--a flat earth projection

I had a strongly didactic message in mind when I made the piece and thought it was pretty explicit. Wrong. After I began to show the piece in the studio and on my website, Thom Friedman's book, "The World is Flat," came out and the image inherited a host of new meanings. It has since been appropriated to a number of websites to convey their authors' views of globalism.

The reaction in my studio has been gloriously varied, with some seeing it my way and others constructing their own meanings. Ambiguity, I was taught as an editor, is undesirable. But I see that in sculpture it may be a higher calling.

This piece has never left my studio before this showing. It's one of a series of art furnishings I've completed in the last 4 years. Since the pieces are one of a kind I don't bring them to juried craft shows, which tend to require a more uniform body of work. As the studio has gradually filled with such work I've begun looking for the right venue for the pieces as a group.

Thanks to Max Dichter for providing the globe base and Jerry Derblich for suggesting a flat earth to go in it.

Jim Rosenau
studio: (510) 845 0106
office: (510) 845 7854

jim@thisintothat.com
www.thisintothat.com

*** * * * * City of Berkeley: Useful Contact Information * * * * ***

Police

Police Emergency Number: 911 (from landline);
981-5911 (from cell; preprogram with this
number)

Police Non-emergency Number: 981-5900

Link to beat maps and a list of beat officers:

<http://www.ci.berkeley.ca.us/police/departments/beatinfo/beatlineup.html>

In Willard neighborhood, North of Derby is Beat 7, South of Derby is Beat 9.

Area Coordinator -- Steve Burccham 981-5778

Other City Departments:

Neighborhood Services Liaison Jim Hynes <jhynes@ci.berkeley.ca.us> 981-2493

Public Works Customer Service: 644-6620 (streets, sidewalks, graffiti, sewers, litter, storm drains, street lights) pwworks@ci.berkeley.ca.us

Tree Trimming/Planting (Forestry): 644-6566 trees@ci.berkeley.ca.us

Written Communication with City Council:

To comment to City Council, cut and paste the following email addresses:

City Clerk <clerk@ci.berkeley.ca.us>,

Mayor Tom Bates <Mayor@ci.berkeley.ca.us>,

Councilmember Linda Maio <LMaio@ci.berkeley.ca.us>,

Councilmember Darryl Moore <DMoore@ci.berkeley.ca.us>,

Councilmember Max Anderson <MAnderson@ci.berkeley.ca.us>,

Councilmember Dona Spring <DSpring@ci.berkeley.ca.us>,
Councilmember Laurie Capitelli <LCapitelli@ci.berkeley.ca.us>,
Councilmember Betty Olds <BOlds@ci.berkeley.ca.us>,
Councilmember Kriss Worthington <KWorthington@ci.berkeley.ca.us>,
Councilmember Gordon Wozniak <GWozniak@ci.berkeley.ca.us>

Representatives for Our Neighborhood:

Councilmember Kriss Worthington (District 7) 981-7170
All except Eastern edge of neighborhood

Councilmember Gordon Wozniak (District 8) 981-7180
Eastern edge of neighborhood

Mayor Tom Bates 981-7100

Zoning Adjustments Board:

To comment to the Zoning Adjustments Board regarding projects on their
calendar, email: Zoning Adjustments Board <zab@ci.berkeley.ca.us>

Best to submit your comments 10 days prior to meeting for inclusion
in the advance packet to board members, but late submissions will be
distributed the evening of the meeting

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Dues Contribution Form

Name: _____

Address: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____@_____

Phone: (_____) _____-- _____

Interests: _____

Suggested Dues: \$10/household Amount Donated: \$_____

We appreciate your contribution and will use your money to support activities that benefit the Willard neighborhood. Whether you donate or not, you are still a member of Willard Neighborhood Association and entitled to all the rights and privileges that go along with that.

Make checks payable to: Willard Neighborhood Association

Send to: Willard Neighborhood Association
2619 Benvenue Ave. Apt. A
Berkeley, CA 94704

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Willard Neighborhood Association Newsletter: The WNA Newsletter covers items of general interest to neighbors in the Ashby/Telegraph/Dwight/College area of south Berkeley, including announcements about community-building events, greening projects and work parties around the neighborhood.

If you're receiving this email, you probably either signed up at a neighborhood event or a neighbor forwarded it to you. Please note that to prevent spam, WNA always uses bcc and does not share your email address with third parties. Feel free to pass the WNA Newsletter on to other neighbors you think might be interested.

To submit items for the newsletter: Email content or links you'd like to see included in the Newsletter to Vincent Casalaina <ProBerk@aol.com>. Please note that due to the volunteer nature of the endeavor, the Newsletter does not typically include "letters to the editor" or "commentary" type articles. The Berkeley Daily Planet has a large section devoted to opinion.

WNA Yahoo Group: If you would like to receive messages (and participate in discussions) on the WNA Yahoo Group, please sign up on the website indicating your interest, and you will receive a confirmation of your membership.

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/willardna/>

WNA Neighborhood Links site: If you would like to see the agendas and background information that the Steering Committee gets each month, you can find it here at this site. Also here are archived copies of the Newsletter and some additional contact information.

<http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/berkeley/willard/>

Willard Park Blog:

After a five and a half year tour of duty in the San Francisco Bay Area, Christine and Mark Celsor have decided to move back to Cincinnati. They've loved living in Berkeley but their daughter is seven months old now and they want to spend more time with their extended family and old friends. The big move is scheduled to start on Wednesday, November 28th.

We will miss the energy that both Mark and Christine have shown in their public service to the neighborhood. Mark's neighborhood blog will go away soon – so say goodbye before it comes down.

<http://www.willardpark.com/>

If you would like to be removed from this mailing list, please reply to this email with the subject line of "un-subscribe" and I'll remove your email address.