

SAN ANTONIO HILLS, INC.

HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION

P. O. BOX 54 LOS ALTOS (LOYOLA), CALIFORNIA 94023
www.sanantoniohills.com

SPRING 2015 NEWSLETTER

Our Association represents the homeowners of the unincorporated Los Altos Country Club area. **Additionally**, it is the Sponsor of the **Approval Committee** as indicated by the CC&Rs in the deeds of the **entire** Los Altos Country Club area, as well as adjacent areas. This committee is responsible for dealing with violations of the CC&Rs of the restricted parcels. Deed restrictions are a civil neighborhood responsibility and not government regulations.

To our neighbors that are now part of Los Altos Hills, we remind you that your property deeds contain CC&Rs that remain enforceable, and are administered by the Approval Committee that remains part of the Board of Directors of San Antonio Hills, Inc. We acknowledge that we no longer speak on your behalf in neighborhood city matters. However, the civil CC&Rs on your property remain in effect. We thank you for your continued support.

We thank all our members who, though unable to attend the Annual Meeting, sent in their proxy and dues. A quorum is required of all resident members, along with all owners with Standard CC&Rs or all acreage having CC&Rs.

CURRENT ON-GOING SURVEY

Have Your Say – Respond Today – Consensus Required

Follow-up Surveys to the ones sent January 2015. The enclosed page answers questions and provides information on Change in Sphere of Influence and Mature Tree Ordinance.

Must Reads Page 4

Neighborhood Watch Teams

Petition to Repave Hwy I-280

JOIN YOUR NEIGHBORS IN SUPPORTING YOUR ASSOCIATION PLEASE MAIL YOUR DUES TODAY.

Annual Dues SAH membership is open to owners/residents and non-owner residents. The dues cover our yearly expenses: support of the approval committee, newsletters, postage, insurance, appeals, forms, annual meeting, legal fees and website. Make check payable to San Antonio Hills, Inc. An envelope is provided for your convenience. Thank you.

2015 Dues \$35.00

Report of the Annual Meeting held on February 11, 2015

The meeting was opened by Dick Blanchard. Pete McSweeney verified that quorums existed necessary to conduct the annual meeting. The minutes and Treasurer's report of the 2014 annual meeting were read and approved.

Election of Officers Pete explained the board member selection. San Antonio Hills includes two areas separated by I-280. The area below consists of two thirds of the residents and the area above consists of the balance. The nine members are distributed to match the population: six living in the lower with three in the upper. Both areas are divided geographically as well as by population to fully represent all residents. When a seat becomes vacant, the Nominating Committee seeks a resident that lives in the unrepresented area, supports the CC&Rs, and interested in maintaining the character of SAH.

The following nominated Directors were elected to fulfill a two (2) year term:

Lyle Hornback	Director	Mora Court	(lower)	948-3197
Ted Brown	Director	Country Club Drive	(lower)	948-6954
Richard Blanchard	President	Mora Drive	(upper)	948-3073
Todd Trowbridge	Secretary	Par Ave	(upper)	949-1059
Lee Shahinian	Director	Country Club Dr	(upper)	948-1917

Directors with one year remaining are:

Peter McSweeney	County Liaison, Historian	Topar Avenue	(lower)	948-4783
Ida Crawley	Membership	Frontero Avenue	(lower)	941-7346
Glen Balzer	Treasurer	Magdalena Avenue	(upper)	917-0703
Nelson Hansen	Director, fulfilled unexpired term	Oakridge Ave	(lower)	941-5406

President's Report President of the Homeowners Association, Richard Blanchard, provided an overview of projects undertaken by the Board in 2014. **1.** Hazardous intersections having reduced visibility caused by excess vegetation were identified. Board members worked with the County and with homeowners to improve safety by trimming the vegetation. **2.** White striping was added at intersections to improve safety for hikers and bicyclists. **3.** The noise caused by commercial aircraft flying over neighborhoods was measured and compared to the noise allowed by Noise Ordinance B11-154. The noise levels complied with this standard. **4.** Construction projects and lot splits were monitored on a monthly basis to assure compliance with County Regulations and CC&Rs. **5.** A project to upgrade the San Antonio Hills website was initiated. (See *A New Look for Our Website* below.) **6.** A survey is being taken concerning a change in the "sphere of influence" of residents in the area between I-280 and Foothill Expressway. The results are provided elsewhere in the Newsletter. **7.** San Antonio Hills is working with Los Altos and Los Altos Hills to have the section of I-280 between Page Mill Road and Foothill Expressway repaved with noise reducing asphalt. (Find more information on page 3.)

California Water Service (CWS) Community Update **Chris Wilson**, Customer Service Manager, reviewed the **improvements** that have occurred over the last 10-15 years. *Pump Stations* – 4 generators have been added to critical stations; replaced pumps, motors; improved data acquisition and security to insure reliability and availability of water during emergencies. *Fire Hydrants* - Working with the fire district, replaced all hydrants in Los Altos Hills and San Antonio Hills. Chris then reviewed **conservation**. CWS is proactive with public outreach. They partner with Santa Clara Valley Water District (SCVWD) to offer rebates and free Water Wise House Calls. There are several rebate programs: HE toilet replacement - \$125 per qualifying toilet; HE clothes washers - \$150; and landscape - \$2 per square foot converted. CWS mails free conservation kits to customers.

He reviewed **best practices** that we can do to minimize usage: fix leaks, shorten shower times, full loads of dishes and laundry, adjust irrigation with the season, reduce run time and use drought-tolerant native plants.

At this time, California Water Service does not know the amount of water that will be available nor of future reductions. On November 25, 2014, SCVWD extended its call for county-wide reduction of water use by 20% over 2013 until June 30, 2015. For 2014 LAS achieved 16% reduction compared to 2013. In February 2015, SCVWD staff will make recommendations to the District Board. In April 2015, the SCVWD board will decide to call for increased, decreased or maintain status quo reductions. CWS company wide conservation budget is \$21 million, which covers a three year period of 2014 through 2016. For more information, call 650-917-0152 or go to the website: calwater.com. Ron Richardson, District Manager, was also present.

A New Look for Our Website **Sarah Granger**, who has more than 25 years of internet experience, is updating our website to improve content and ease of use. In an attempt to understand the usage of the internet by the members, Sarah asked two questions:

Who present had visited our web page and who uses email: 40-50 members and

Who are on Facebook and Nextdoor. 10 members

She then gave a tour of the new website that will be coming soon. When the new site is completed it will be switched on at the existing domain; will be accessible via mobile/smart phone; and will have news and information. She asked the members what they like to see on the website. Suggestions: information on the Fire District & Fire Commission; information on emergency procedures. She asked if there is interest in joining a SAH email group to receive news/announcements. This information would not be accessible to any other organization. A signup sheet was made with about 20 members signing up after the meeting. Sarah is looking for interesting old and/new photos of our area to include on the new website. Please email the photos directly to Sarah. To join the SAH email group, please email her and opt in by providing your name and email address. **Email Address: sarah@sarahgranger.com**

Sheriff's West Valley Division Commander, Captain Rick Sung told the members that he started his career here patrolling the local roads and getting lost; but he remembers the warm hospitality of the local residents. He has traveled many paths through the system from beat cop and has come full circle. He started his new position on January 11, 2015, and he likes to connect directly with the community. He understands the needs of rural communities and wants to foster healthy relationships with the people who live within the jurisdiction of the West Valley Division. He talked about home burglaries and the advantage of alarms and video cameras. Good videos go out to other agencies for help in identifying the subject. He said that sometimes the trunk of your car is not as secure as one may think. If the trunk has a trunk release lever, the criminal can smash the window, release the trunk and take what's inside. So when you're out shopping, especially at Christmas time, be aware of your surroundings. Just as it's not safe to leave items on the seats of the car; the trunk may not be either. He feels that the Department is as good as the support it receives from the neighbors. Deputies will come out to check your home while you're on vacation and will also do a security check up on your home. Do not hesitate to call about suspicious activities. Don't call a friend or family member first, losing minutes that can make a difference. Call direct. **Emergencies:** from a land line dial **911** and from a cell phone dial **408-299-3233**. He would like all residents to have their cell phones programmed with the emergency phone number. **Non-emergency:** dial 408-299-2311; for vacation patrol checks and other general items 408-868-6600 8 am to 5 pm. Website: www.SCCsheriff.org. He remained after the meeting to answer questions.

Loyola Bridge Update **Michael Murdter**, stated that the contract was awarded on February 10th to Granite Construction Company, and that he would not go into a detailed update since it was already contained in our newsletter. He reviewed lane

closures. During Stage 1, the inside lane in each direction on Foothill Expressway would be closed. During Stage 2, the outside lanes in each direction on Foothill will be closed as well as a complete closure of all Foothill lanes for a few nights. He stressed that two-way east-west traffic on the bridge will be maintained. Throughout his review of the project, he introduced members of his staff and their involvement in the project. A list of names is shown at the below, along with other County personnel.

For more information and to sign up for automated project updates by email, he suggested visiting their website. www.sccgov.org - In the search, type roads and airports 37C0117, then open the link Loyola Drive Bridge Widening at Foothill Expressway to find the Sign Up for Project Updates. Direct Contacts

Project Engineer Amir Douraghy	408-573-2497	amir.douraghy@rda.sccgov.org
Project Inspector Jay Johnson	408-690-9189	jay.johnson@rda.sccgov.org

A question about resurfacing our streets this year as was promised at our 2014 annual meeting was asked. Mike said: “you have a good memory” and that the 2015 Micro-Surfacing Project will begin around August and finish in October. The material being used is a one step process versus the two-step chip seal process previously used in residential areas, and will allow use of the streets after two hours of being applied.

Santa Clara County District 5 Supervisor Mr. Joe Simitian Mr. Simitian began by stating that his assistant, Kristina Loquist, was not present due to family matters and introduced a new member to his staff, Policy Aide Kristine Zanardi. He then asked all the County personnel to stand up, and there was a dozen representing different departments. He stated that his primary goal is to be aware of what goes on in his district, and to serve his constituents. He meets them through several means: visiting our farmers’ market in the summer and holding town meetings via phones or in person. He urged us to contact his office and other departments to let them know our observations, concerns, and questions.

He discussed the upcoming construction of the Loyola Bridge, and fifteen months is a long time. He talked about the many delays that occurred during the Oregon Expressway work, and wondered why it took so long. After discussions with various departments, it was determined that the penalty for delays wasn’t high enough. That is not the case in the contract for the Loyola Bridge. Delays may happen, but he feels it will be completed on time.

He talked about the new contracts that were just awarded by the County Board of Supervisors on February 10th for Garbage, Recycling, Yard Waste and Food Waste Collection. Most contracts are awarded for five years; but he pushed for a ten year contract for our area. While there is an increase for service in our area, the ten year contract resulted in lower rates for a longer period of time.

Concerning annexation versus non-annexation, he could cite pros and cons for both. Over the many years he’s been associated with SAH, there have been surveys taken and discussions for and against. What ever we decide to do, he and his office will assist us to facilitate what we want.

Meeting was adjourned. Joe Simitian, his staff, County representatives and the SAH Board Members stayed to answer questions.

The Association wishes to thank the County Personnel, who, each year, gives of their personal time to be at our meeting.

County Personnel *Supervisor’s Office* Land Use Kristina Loquist, absent this year; *Policy Aid* Kristine Zanardi.

County Counsel, specializing in land use: Assistant Counsel Elizabeth Pianca

Roads & Airports Director Michael Murdter; Dan Collen, Deputy Director, Infrastructure Development; Masoud Akbarzadeh, County Traffic Engineer; Jay Johnson, Senior Construction Inspector; Amir Douraghy, Associate Civil Engineer; Ron Jackson, Deputy Director, Roads Maintenance; Dan Pendergraft, Superintendent, West Yard; Jose Vega, Road Operations Supervisor, West Yard.

Guest: Eli Aramouni, Principal Engineer, Drake Haglan & Associates, Consultants

Sheriff’s West Valley Patrol: Division Commander Captain Rick Sung

County Fire Department: Fire Chief John Justice, Deputy Chiefs Steve Prziborowski and Joe Parker

Integrated Waste Management Division : Rob D’Arcy

Neighborhood Watch (NHW) Teams against Crime Recently there has been an up-tick in breaking and entering crimes in our San Antonio Hills Neighborhoods. Criminals are more brazen, with break-ins occurring during daylight hours, even when residents are at home. A concerned resident, Ed Cohen, asked the Board's assistance in reaching out to other residents to consider forming Neighborhood Watch Teams in association with the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Department. A Watch Team consists of neighbors on a block, who know each other and watch out for each other's property and homes, working to make their neighborhood safer. Each Team will need a block team leader (or better yet co-leaders) to collect emergency contact information from each household. This information is not shared with anyone outside of the Team. Captain Sung will be glad to meet with interested residents to assist in setting up teams.

Once a team has been established, a Deputy Sheriff will meet with the Team, providing a presentation detailing how the NHW program works. The team leaders will maintain a close relationship and communication with the Sheriff's staff so regular meetings can be held to share information and conduct training to promote safety. Captain Sung believes Watch Teams are a good idea. He said there's a huge difference between simply being more vigilant versus a formal neighborhood watch program. NHW signs can be purchased and be installed for the residents by County Roads Department. Nick Hansen will be the Board Coordinator working with Ed Cohen. If you are interested in being a part of this program, please contact Nick Hansen at 941-5406 or by email, NEH55@aol.com. You can also email Ed Cohen, edward.cohen@alumni.duke.edu.

Repave Hwy I-280 Petition Los Altos, Los Altos Hills and San Antonio Hills residents suffer from an aging Interstate 280 Road. A petition to repave I-280 between Page Mill Road and Foothill Expressway is underway. At the request of Los Altos Hills, an information sheet was given to members as they registered at the door, and members signed the petition after the meeting. **Information Recap** Emissions from I-280, *Noise* (>84dB), *Air & Water* (PM2.5 pollution) and *Property Values* (-14% near I-280) have an adverse effect on the residents. Consider these facts: 1. Rubberized pavement has been mandated for use in populated areas since 2009. Its use can reduce the air, noise and water pollution effects by up to 90%. 2. A need to repave I-280 from Hwy 92 to Hwy 85 has been identified, but the project is not yet scheduled. 3. Our area has the highest population density along the entire stretch of road. 4. Unfortunately, it will take a minimum of SIX YEARS to take any action. **The petition asks to start the project quickly, repaving that part of the road first.** More information about this initiative can be found at <http://www.pagemill280.org/Noise/Noise.htm>. From this site there is a link to the petition. It is easy to add your name. You can also send an email to I280Noise@gmail.com asking that your name be added to the petition. Please include your address. The information will not be shared. Join with our neighbors by adding your name to the petition.

New Garbage Contract Green Team of San Jose was awarded a ten year contract for our area, starting July 1, 2015. Green Team will be sending new service information with a postcard attached for you to return indicating what cart size you need. Visit their website www.greenteam.com. Contact: 408-282-4400 or via email customerservice@greenteam.com.

Melvin Vaughn and Deborah Dexter, are residents and members of the seven member Board of The Los Altos Hills County Fire District representing San Antonio Hills. The District provides Emergency Services and Fire Protection Services to the residents of our Unincorporated Area. In addition, it offers two free workshops to residents: Personal Emergency Preparedness (PEP) and Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). The board meets the third Tuesday of every month at 6 PM, for about 2 hours. Please visit their website for more information [@www.lahcfd.org](http://www.lahcfd.org).

General Information

The 2016 Annual Meeting is tentatively scheduled for February 10th.

Remember to return your survey and dues. An envelope is provided for your convenience.

Visit our website. Log onto <www.sanantoniohills.com for information about your community.