

ECCC



El Cerrito Community Newsletter

Volume Six

Number 11

November 2011



Happy Thanksgiving

**Storm Water
ECCC's Thursday, November 17, 2011
Meeting
Think Blue!**

Mr. Bill Harris, Supervising Public Information Director, Transportation and Storm Water Department, City of San Diego is going to discuss storm water and run off into our drains. This is something we don't give much thought to in our day-to-day lives. Many of us think that when water flows into a storm drain it is treated, but the storm drain system and sewer system are not connected. Everything that enters storm drains flows untreated directly into our creeks, rivers, bays, beaches and ultimately the ocean. Storm water can contain harmful pollutants, including pesticides, pet waste, trash, and automobile fluids.

San Diego residents have the most to offer and the most to gain from Think Blue. Each of us in San Diego can take simple steps to reduce pollution of our waterways and storm drain system. First, it's important to remember that some of our day-to-day activities have the potential to negatively impact water quality. Leaking automotive fluids, leaves and grass clippings from our yards, pet waste left on the ground and cigarette butts tossed outside are just a few of the types of pollution we need to pay attention to and avoid. When it rains, or when water is allowed to run off properties it can pick up these pollutants and other debris that endanger our local waterways. **How You Can Help: Step One:** "Be a Clean Water Leader" and

share your knowledge with friends, neighbors and family. We need every one to take action to reduce the amount of pollution generated in our communities. Included below are links to a brochure - perfect for sharing the importance of Think Blue. **Step Two:** Adopt clean water habits outlined in our brochures, fact sheets, and Public Service Announcements. Remember, each of us has a role to play in preventing pollution of our streams, creeks, rivers and beaches. **Step Three Step** up when you see the potential for storm water pollution. We encourage everyone to report pollution of storm drains and our recreational waters. In the City of San Diego call **(619) 235-1000**. In the greater San Diego region, call **1-(888) 844-6525** to make a report:

<http://www.sandiego.gov/thinkblue/pdf/thinkbluebrochure.pdf>

Newsletter Donations – Donations Are Urgently Needed

We're sorry to have to ask again for immediate help, but we only received \$135 over the past two months. Currently our bank account has \$160 and it costs \$244 to print this newsletter this month. Would you please once again step up to the plate and help us out? All donations, large and small are always welcome and appreciated. Donations received: Tarja Laurila, 58th Pl - \$50, Lois K. Allen, Adelaide - \$25, "Benny" - 54th Place - \$20. Anonymous were: \$20 - 54th Place, \$10 - Dayton and \$10 - Meade. You can your donation to the P.O. Box # or use our PayPal link on the ECCC Blog at: <http://elcerritocommunitycouncil.blogspot.com/>

Note: DECEMBER'S MEETING IS ONE DAY LATER!

Friday, December 16th, 2011

It's the ECCC's

Holiday Celebration Get-Together & Pot-Luck

Come one - come all! Everyone residing or working in El Cerrito is invited to our Annual Holiday Pot-Luck. If you own a business in the neighborhood, don't be shy; come and join us. If you have a new neighbor or one you have not met, this will be a great opportunity to introduce yourself and invite them to come and join us. Perhaps you have a neighbor who cannot get out by themselves at night and would love to participate in the festivities - offer them a ride or give us a call at 619-287-2460 and we'll arrange to bring them to the party and take them home.

Its party time! Wow! - do we have some special treats lined up for you and your family, so come hungry. A roast turkey plus cold drinks/coffee will be provided by the Board of Directors. All we ask is that you bring your favorite dish to share for about 10 people; either home made or from your favorite restaurant/store. A few suggestions are: vegetables, salads, potatoes, rice or pasta dishes; rolls/biscuits plus desserts. The feast starts at 7:00 PM. in the Parish Hall, so load up the kids, grandma, and neighbor or two and let's have a wonderful community get-together for the holidays. **See you there!**

We also need donations to raffle-off. Last year we raffled off two pet baskets, (filled with goodies), donated by Petco, a stainless steel colander full of Italian goodies, bottles of wine, a couple of decorated wreaths, etc. If you have unwanted bottles of wine or spirits, or white elephants you don't know what to do with, just donate them to our raffle with any new unwanted gifts. We will also have our popular "split-the-pot" raffle. All money donated will be split 50-50 between the ECCC and the lucky winner. Just call Jan Riley at 619-287-2460 to pick up your donations or e-mail: jan.riley@cox.net.

Save LOTS OF \$\$\$ - Get See's Candy Delivered to Your Door & Help the ECCC Raise Money

The holidays are getting closer and closer and it's time to think about your annual order of See's Candy from the ECCC! When we are watching our pennies, it's good to know that not only do you save on every item you buy, but purchasing your See's candy through our program helps the ECCC to raise money. The ECCC gets about \$1 for every pound you buy – even if the pound is a Gift Certificate. ***PLUS you get it delivered to your door-step!*** No fighting crowds or trying to find a decent parking spot! Just fill out the order form in this newsletter, together with your check and mail it to the ECCC at **P.O. Box 151268, San Diego, CA 92175-1268:**

The deadline for getting your order to us is Saturday, November 26. We will deliver the candy to your door no later than ***Saturday 3rd or Sunday, December 4, 2011.*** See's Holiday catalogues will also be available at the November ECCC Meeting.

Join the ECCC Email List!

If you've attended one of the El Cerrito Community Council meetings, you probably already receive regular announcements from the ECCC. In addition to monthly announcements for ECCC meetings, residents on the e-mail list receive no more than 3 or 4 messages each week with information about local news and events. Messages include local meeting announcements for planning, redevelopment, recreation and schools. They include information on topics ranging from neighborhood crime, to local entertainment events,

News from local government representatives and neighboring community groups. ***If you want to receive email announcements from the ECCC, send a message to ECCC@cox.net and ask to be added to the list.***

Lights for Hoover and Crawford High Football Fields Hoover Resident Group Sues

Construction has started at Hoover High School for the kind of new and remodeled facilities that are now in the planning stages for ***Crawford High School and Horace Mann Middle School.*** Plans for both Hoover and Crawford include lights at the football fields. A group of residents has filed a legal challenge to installing lights on the football field at Hoover High. They are collecting donations to fund this lawsuit, and some El Cerrito residents have already contributed.

The website for Taxpayers for Accountable School Bond Spending: (<http://www.tfasbs.org/>) includes information about new construction at Hoover High and the group's lawsuit. The site includes a link to photos of the 90 and 100 foot tall light poles recently installed at Hoover. Local media also have information about the Hoover High School lawsuit: ***"Stadium Lights Get School District Sued" at voiceofsandiego.org, February 11, 2011. "Residents Sue over Hoover High's Stadium Lights" at: signonsandiego.com, March 7, 2011.***

The San Diego Unified School District (SDUSD) is funding school renovation and repair with bonds approved in 2008 under Proposition S. For information about Prop-S and school facilities projects (including projects at Hoover, Crawford, and Mann) visit the SDUSD website at <http://www.sandi.net>. From the Home page, follow the Proposition S link to the Facilities Planning and Construction Page, with links from there to information about Prop-S and specific school plans. Links to these pages are also in a December 14, 2010 posting on the ECCC Blog: <http://elcerritocommunitycouncil.blogspot.com> or you can call: **Ron Anderson at 619.301.3344 or 619.283.9981 (wife is Dawn).**

Enforcement of Code Compliance - Parking on Lawns

The ECCC Board of Directors proposed, at its meeting on Thursday, November 3, 2011 that the community be asked to vote on whether or not a letter should be sent from the ECCC to Mayor Jerry Sanders & Councilmember Marti Emerald in support of the College Area Community Council's letter concerning the city's policy not to enforce the code requirement that residences not park vehicles on their lawns. (See letter below)

Would you please let the ECCC know, in advance, if you approve of this letter, make comments on it or suggestions for changes by either calling **619-287-2460** or via e-mail to: **ECCC@cox.net:**

"RE: Enforcement of Parking on Lawns

Dear Mayor Sanders and Councilmember Emerald:

El Cerrito Community Council, P.O. Box 151268, San Diego, CA 92175-1268. (ECCC@cox.net) 619-287-2460

The ECCC is writing this letter in support of the College Area Community Council's letter of October 18, 2011. As you know, Neighborhood Code Compliance has placed violations for residents parking on lawns [i.e., violations of Municipal Code Section 142.0410 (e)] in the lowest enforcement category of "No Code Compliance Action." While we understand the City's fiscal situation and the need to prioritize limited enforcement resources, we find this decision completely unacceptable. While parking on lawns may not pose imminent risks to health and safety, the practice destroys the appearance of neighborhoods and deteriorates property values. We're confident that if cars were parked on your next door neighbor's yard, enforcement priorities would change.

The ECCC requests that you give consideration to alternative enforcement mechanisms. Chapter 1, Article 2, Division 9 of the Municipal Code was amended in 2007 allowing the City to have police officers write administrative citations for noise complaints [violations of Municipal Code Sections 59.5.0502 (a) and (b)]. The code provides for issuance of administrative citations in the amounts of \$100, \$250, \$500, \$750 and \$1000, depending on the nature of the violation and other factors. Administrative citations can be issued for any code violation, including parking on lawns, and can be written by any Enforcement Official (defined in Section 11.0210 as "any person authorized to enforce violations of the Municipal Code or applicable state codes"). There appears to be no reason why City parking enforcement officers (many of whom regularly patrol the College Area to enforce the Residential Permit Parking District) could not be assigned the authority and responsibility for writing administrative citations for parking on lawns. Citations could be \$100 for the first violation, increasing by denomination for subsequent violations.

We look forward to your prompt response to our recommendation. Sincerely, Jan Riley, Chair, ECCC."

Update from the Crossroads Redevelopment Project Area Committee As of October 27, 2011

University Avenue – Sidewalk Improvements: A consultant team has completed the review of existing conditions and the public outreach phase of the Mobility Study. The consulting team recently presented the preferred improvement options to the Eastern Area Communities Planning Committee ("EACPC"). EACPC recommended the preferred improvement option on October 11, 2011. The next phase for this project is for the consultant team to prepare cost estimates, a phasing and priority plan and present the Mobility Study and recommendations to City Council.

Chollas Triangle – Community Plan Amendment: A consultant team has completed the review of existing conditions/economics and they are in the public outreach phase. The consultant team held two community Charrettes to obtain community input &

consensus regarding: land use, urban form, circulation, and park/recreation/open space.

College Avenue – Traffic Signals: The design plans and specifications have been tasked to a pre-approved

General Contractor. The Field Division of City Engineering will schedule a set-up construction meeting with the Contractor, if the tasks are accepted/awarded. The installation (construction) of the two traffic signals should begin in November 2011 and be complete by January 2012. It appears some field work (surveying and utility mark-outs) has occurred.

North Chollas Community Park – Multi-Purpose Building: This project is currently on hold due to the Supreme Court Stay which is preventing the Agency from transferring all of the remaining funds to the City. City Engineering is working to complete the construction bid package.

El Cajon Blvd – Streetlights: The design plans and specifications have been tasked to a pre-approved General Contractor. The Field Division of City Engineering will schedule a setup construction meeting with the Contractor if the task is accepted/awarded. The installation of the streetlights should begin in November 2011 and be complete in February 2012. It appears some field work (surveying and utility mark-outs) has occurred.

Streamview Drive – Streetlights: The design plans and specifications have been tasked to a pre-approved General Contractor. The Field Division of City Engineering will schedule a setup construction meeting with the Contractor if the task is accepted/awarded. The installation of the streetlights should begin in November 2011 and be complete in February 2012. It appears some field work (surveying and utility mark-outs) has occurred.

At the request of Redwood Village Neighborhood Community Council four "No Littering or No Dumping" signs were recently installed on Streamview Drive where illegal dumping has been a severe problem.

El Cajon Blvd – Sidewalks:

On October 11, 2011, City Council approved funding for this project, officially created the Capital Improvement Project ("CIP"), and amended the FY 2012 City Engineering budget to appropriate and expend \$565,000.

Chollas Neighborhood – Sidewalks: City Engineering has allocated funding for pre-engineering/design for the 52nd/Landis segment. The pre-engineering/design work should take 12 to 18 months to complete. Construction of the 52nd/Landis segment will depend on availability of Redevelopment funds. The Wightman/Altadena and Auburn segments are on hold due to the Supreme Court stay.

CentrePoint – Development: There is a potential purchaser, which is a local developer, and they are in discussion with the Bank to purchase the property.

Mesa Commons – Development: Palm Communities (formerly Palm Desert Development Company) is working to secure entitlements for the proposed affordable housing project and pursuing funding.

Redevelopment Plan – Amendment (Merger): On hold due to the Supreme Court stay.

Storefront Improvement Program: Administered by Economic Development Department Implementation of this program is on hold due to the Supreme Court stay.

Crimemappe.Com Replaces E-watch

If you are concerned about crime in your neighborhood, regional access to a free online tool called **Crimemapping.com** is now available. The program was previously limited to the Sheriff's Department's jurisdiction, but now it's been rolled out countywide. **www.crimemapping.com** is community policing at its best with people and law enforcement working together to build safer communities. Having an awareness of crime helps you take informed steps to make your neighborhood, business and family less vulnerable to crime. To watch a step-by-step guide on how to use **Crimemapping.com**, visit **http://bit.ly/oGdPYh**.

In Memoriam

June of Com Tam 75

June of Cam Tam 75 passed away last month. She was a great supporter of the ECCC – paying for our

banner on the Boulevard. Her great personality and creativity with food will be missed by all in the community.

Charles Ellis-MacLeod

"Charlie's long struggle with cancer ended on Sunday, October 30, in the very early morning, with me by his side. On behalf of us both, I want to express my gratitude for all the care and support we received from our neighbors during his illness. Your kindness meant so much us. A memorial event is planned for Charlie, sometime late November (information regarding location, date and time will be sent later). For those who wish, a donation in his memory can be sent to the Charles Ellis-MacLeod Private Study Scholarship Fund of the San Diego Clarinet Society (for info, please call Elaine at (619 286-4828), or to his other favorite charity, Habitat for Humanity. Elisaa"

Flowers were delivered to both families on behalf on the community.



NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING

Thursday, November 16, 2011

7:00pm to 8:30pm

Blessed Sacrament Parish Hall

Storm Water Run Off – 'THINK BLUE'

Guest Speaker: Mr. Bill Harris, Supervising Public Information Director, Transportation and Storm Water Department, City of San Diego

Vote on Letter Concerning Parking on Lawns

Local Area Meetings & Committee Groups

ECCC Meeting - Third Thursday at 7:00 pm, Parish Hall, Blessed Sacrament Church, El Cajon Boulevard & El Cerrito Drive

ECCC Board Meeting - First Thursday at 7:00 pm, Library, Blessed Sacrament School, El Cajon Boulevard & El Cerrito Drive

Eastern Area Communities Planning Committee - Second Tuesday 7:00 pm, Holy Spirit Catholic Church, 2725 55th St.

College Area Community Council - Second Wednesday at 7:00 pm, College/Rolando Library corner of Montezuma & Reservoir

College Area Project Review Committee - First Wednesday at 7:00 pm, College/Rolando Library - Corner of Montezuma & Reservoir

Crossroads Project Area Committee (PAC) - Fourth Thursday at 6:30 p.m. College Avenue Baptist Church, 3rd floor, Administration Bldg, 4747 College Ave.

PLEASE HELP US KEEP PRINTING THE NEWSLETTER THROUGH YOUR DONATIONS

I/we donate \$ _____ to the printing of the El Cerrito Community Council Newsletter.

Name(s) or Company Name (if corporate sponsor) _____ Address: _____

Phone #(s): _____

Do _____ Do Not _____ print our name(s) in the newsletter. Send donation to

ECCC, P.O. Box 151268

San Diego, CA 92175-1268

Jan Riley, Editor – 619-287-2460

Loud Parties on For Disturbances Call: 619-531-2000