

# The Fair Oaks American River Gateway Neighborhood Association

Fair Oaks, California

September 2016

## **ANNUAL NEIGHBORHOOD PICNIC AND ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING TO BE HELD AT THE PARK!**

*Save the Date: Saturday October 8, 2016, 12 P.M.*

The Fair Oaks American River Gateway Neighborhood Association will hold its 7th Annual Picnic at the Sacramento Bar-Sunrise Access Park located at the bottom of Pennsylvania Ave. on Saturday, October 8, 2016 at 12:00 P.M. The Annual FOARG Membership Meeting and election of next year's directors will occur at the end of the picnic!

Food and drinks are free and we will hold a raffle for fun prizes. Bring your entire family for a nice afternoon in the park and take advantage of the opportunity to meet your neighbors!

**GET UP TO DATE NEIGHBORHOOD  
NEWS!**

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### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

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As of Sept. 2016, the Association has \$4,214.00 on deposit. Your voluntary membership dues go directly to the Association Fund for protection of the neighborhood as stated in the bylaws. Costs to produce this newsletter were donated by the board members.

## **PRESIDENT'S CORNER**

Dear neighbors and members of the Fair Oaks American River Gateway Neighborhood Association (FOARG),

It has come to our attention, and I hope to yours as well, that Michael P. Allen is proposing a new building project at the corner of Sunrise and Fair Oaks. This would be a 10,000 square foot Child Care Center for up to 186 children between the ages of 6 weeks and five years, and after school care for children up to eight years of age, with 24 staff members. The project is being put forth as "low impact to the surrounding area, blends in with the adjacent residential, and generates very low traffic, especially at peak traffic times".

The project is identified as Development Plan PLNP2016-00102

It appears that the only access to and from the project would be a driveway off Howard Street.

I hope you will take time to get yourself informed about this project and share your concerns.

**Please attend our annual meeting on Saturday, October 8<sup>th</sup> at Sacramento Bar. Come at noon for the BBQ, picnic, raffle followed by the annual member meeting to elect board members and discuss neighborhood business.**

Vikki Walker

Don't wait around for the Annual Newsletter! If you would like to be on our mailing list to get the most up to date neighborhood news, please e-mail Michael Faber at [mfaber@elkgrove.net](mailto:mfaber@elkgrove.net) to be placed on our e-mailing list.

## Update on the Learning Experience Development

(At the corner of Fair Oaks Blvd & Sunrise Ave)

MP Allen Contactors, Inc. is planning to develop a 10,000 square-foot child day care facility (for children from six weeks to 8 years old) with a maximum capacity of 183 children on the southwest corner of Sunrise Ave. and Fair Oaks Blvd. The only entrance and exit to the facility will be on Howard Street. The hours of operation will be from 6:30am to 6:30pm with activities on nights and weekends. The Learning Experience anticipates that they will have 24 staff and 43 parking spaces.

The project was presented to the Fair Oaks Community Planning Advisory Council (CPAC) on July, 6 2016. Our neighborhood association and many neighbors presented their concerns. Among those concerns were: traffic on Howard Street (a single lane road), traffic through the neighborhood, safety in the

neighborhood, air quality for the children, and emergency evacuation of children.

The Fair Oaks CPAC voted for a continuance of the project in order to conduct traffic studies on Howard Street and neighboring streets, and to address the air quality and emergency concerns. After these studies are done, the Fair Oaks CPAC will meet again, and they will notify residents of the meeting time and place.

If you would like more information regarding this project, you may visit <https://planningdocuments.saccounty.net>.

The application number is PLN201600102.

If you have concerns, you can email your concerns to Fair Oaks CPAC at [CPAC-FairOaks@saccounty.net](mailto:CPAC-FairOaks@saccounty.net). If you email them, please use the application number PLN2016-00102 to identify this project.

If you would like to get emails from our neighborhood association, please email us at [f.o.gateway@gmail.com](mailto:f.o.gateway@gmail.com), and we will send you updates (your email will remain confidential and will not be used for any other purpose). If you would like to support us in preserving our neighborhood, a donation to our cause would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

## Update on the Fair Oaks Eco-Housing Project

Brenda Boston

Members of the Fair Oaks Eco Housing Project have been diligent this last year to increase its number of potential residents. Ads often heard and seen on media outlets encouraging site tours to existing co-housing projects in surrounding counties as well as bi-monthly tours here at 4025 New York Avenue. Saturday morning meetings at the Fair Oaks Coffeehouse before the hour long tour followed by question/answer lunches at the Siam Patio. The architects, engineers, and future residents all committed to meeting the latest milestone deadlines—secure construction financing, finalize the loan, begin construction in the spring of 2017, and a projected move-in date in the spring of 2018.

The project is a little behind its original schedule. The start construction date was to be Spring 2016 with a move-in date of Spring 2017. However, construction documents were not submitted to Sacramento County until Jan 2016. Construction financing sought this July. The developer hopes to finalize the loan by Fall 2016. The revised start construction date is Spring 2017, move-in Spring 2018. The property is currently a rental on a monthly term.

The Environmental Council of Sacramento (ECOS) recently endorsed the project with a unanimous vote. “One of the key objectives of ECOS is to promote and reinforce Smart Growth principles. We are pleased to endorse Fair Oaks Eco-Housing as an example of sustainable infill project that will enhance the Fair Oaks Community,” said Brandon Rose, the Ecos Board President.

## COMMUNITY TRAINING OFFERED TO PUBLIC TO ASSIST FIRST RESPONDERS IN OVERWHELMING EMERGENCIES!

What happens when a disaster is so large our First Responders are overwhelmed? In such circumstances, they will rely on help from trained members of the public called CERT.

What is CERT? The acronym translates to Community Emergency Response Team. A training program connected with the Sac Metro Fire District locally while sharing the values and visions of the Federal Emergency Management Assn. The program educates individuals about preparedness for hazards that may impact their area and trains in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. Using training learned in the classroom and during exercises, CERT volunteers assist others when professional responders are not immediately available to help.

CERT members have proven to be an active and vital part of community and response capability. Legally they are considered Good Samaritans covered under the Volunteer Protection Act. Though they have no authority beyond the Good Samaritan when deployed appropriately they complement emergency hazards by ensuring the safety of themselves, their families, and working outward to the neighborhood until first responders are able to arrive. The basic training courses for CERT involves lifesaving techniques such as CPR; automatic external defibrillation (AFD); residential/neighborhood checks; evacuation of individuals with disabilities; traffic management and crowd control; animal welfare response. There are in-depth supplemental training courses offered beyond basic. One to three courses offered within Sacramento County annually. It is our intention to inform you as classes become available in **2017** via our FOARG website and email sign-ups.

## Sac County 311 Connect - Your Link to County Services:

Where do I report an abandoned vehicle? Who fixes broken street lights? Now there is one number to connect with virtually any Sacramento County service: on a landline or cellphone, dial 311; on the internet, go to [www.311.saccounty.net](http://www.311.saccounty.net); on a mobile device, there is an app.

### OUR 2015-2016 OFFICERS

President: Vikki Walker

Vice President: Biba Maletic

Secretary: Roger Smith

Treasurer: Michael Faber (now vacant)

Board Member: Wes Trunnel

Board Member: Brenda Boston

Board Member: Mike Bowling

Board Member: John Adams

Board Member: Bob Boyd

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NEIGHBORHOOD PICNIC ANNUAL MEETING

SACRAMENTO BAR AMERICAN RIVER ACCESS PARK

Saturday, Oct. 8, 2016 at 12:00 noon.

Picnic, Elect Board Members for Next Year, Reports to Membership, and New Business from the Membership.

FOARG MONTHLY BOARD MEETINGS

TBA-CALL MICHAEL FABER AT 686-7020 FOR LOCATIONS

6:30-7:30, FIRST TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH

Board meets regularly to discuss events of neighborhood and actions to be taken by organization. Residents

Welcome.

**CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE!**

[www.fo-gateway.org](http://www.fo-gateway.org)

### MAIL SECURITY

The Neighborhood Association has done a bit of research into how to improve the security of your mail, since there have been numerous occasions of mail boxes being damaged and mail being stolen.

The most secure home mail box is a locking mailbox that is on a steel post in concrete. They can be individual or for a whole group of homes. The local retail outlet for locking mail boxes is called "Custom Home Accessories & Mailbox Specialties" at 11300 Trade Center Dr., Ste. A in Rancho Cordova 95742. The phone number is 916-635-0231. They can provide you with names of contractors that will install the mailbox.

The other option is to purchase a post office box at the local post office, or mail box store. The US Post office fees for a box range from a semi-annual fee of \$43 for a 4x6 box, up to \$192 for a 12x12 box. Check with individual mail box stores for their box rates. All offer 24-hour access. We encourage each resident to ensure their mail is secure.

## **LET'S HELP PREVENT BURGLARIES--PARTICIPATE IN NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH**

We are still having a significant number of vehicle and home burglaries in our neighborhood. Since most crimes occur in isolation, Neighborhood Watch participants act as extra sets of eyes and ears when a police presence is not available. Involvement creates an opportunity to get to know your neighbors and encourage residents to take an active interest in one another's properties.

The program is very flexible. Signs can be posted on telephone poles and on houses. Neighbors can volunteer to walk the neighborhood looking for suspicious activity. At a minimum, neighbors can get to know each other, be more vigilant, and immediately report suspicious persons and activities to the sheriff.

Even if there is not an established Neighborhood Watch in your area, it has been shown that the best way to protect a neighborhood is by actually knowing each other. Talk to your neighbors, recognize faces and cars, go for walks, and let each other know when you need help or experience problems. Be alert, learn to recognize suspicious activities, and immediately report any crime in progress to the sheriff at 875-5111

Here are some ideas to make your house safer:

- Remove landscaping that conceals a view of your doors. Install security lighting which will illuminate your yard toward the street and driveway.
- Install a security system and include warning signs to let potential thieves know that they should not try to burglarize your home.
- Reinforce all exterior door frames, hinges, and strike plates using long screws. Install and remember to use deadbolt locks.
- Always lock your doors even when you are at home, or will be gone for only a few minutes.
- Install a peep hole into exterior doors when there is no visibility from the inside to see who is at the door.
- Replace any exterior hollow core doors with solid core doors. Also replace the door frame with solid hard wood.
- For a partially glass door, install a metal security grill over the glass portion on the inside of the door. Alternatively, install a security wrought iron door on the front entrance.
- For a double door entrance which has two swinging doors, install flush sliding bolts which can extend into the frame at the top and into the floor at the bottom. These should be installed on the normally "fixed" door.
- For a sliding door entrance, install pan head screws into the upper track of the movable panel in its closed position with only enough clearance to allow sliding the door. This prevents the door from being lifted off the track and removed. To prevent a door from being slid open, insert a stick or dowel snugly in the bottom track.

Add, finally, some Neighborhood Watch tips:

- Be alert and watch for and report suspicious behavior.
- Be aware of unfamiliar people and vehicles on your street and let them know you are watching.
- Keep possessions in your vehicle out of sight. Better yet, leave nothing in your car
- Lock your doors at all times. Use deadbolts. Most burglaries occur during the day
- Call the sheriff at 875-5111 if you see a crime in progress.
- Know and watch out for your neighbors.
- File a crime report if you are a victim of a crime.

## Be a Community member:



Know your neighbors. Perhaps assist with mail and newspapers when not at home

Be mindful that a noise ordinance is legally 10 pm but be aware of noise at all times

Inform neighbors when planning events regarding parking concerns

Do not perform auto repairs on county streets and never dump auto fluids or other household waste down or near storm drains. It is not permitted.

Pick up trash you encounter around the neighborhood

Call the store number of an abandoned shopping cart and inform for pick up

Allow 15 ft. clearance from a fire hydrant when parking

Put property lights on timers and motion sensors (cameras have been especially helpful this year) and remember to reset when time changes November 2<sup>nd</sup>

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

To become an Active Member of FOARG Please fill out and return the below.  
\$20.00 annual membership dues optional but highly appreciated.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone

Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please Mail to  
Roger Smith-FOARG Secretary  
3941 Oranewood Dr.  
Fair Oaks, CA 95628