



South Land Park

Neighborhood Association

2021 Spring Newsletter

South Land Park

Neighborhood Association

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SLPNA Webmaster

web www.slpna.org

email slpna@slpna.org

twitter [@SoLandParkAssn](https://twitter.com/SoLandParkAssn)

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Editors

Joe Flores & SLPNA Communications
Committee, Sharla Smith, Brian Ebbert,
Anthony Jackson, Michelle Reyes, Sean
Timberlake, and Keith Vedmore

Designer

[Megan Varvais](#)

2021 President's Message



Joe Flores
South Land Park
Neighborhood Association
President



Sharla Smith
South Land Park
Neighborhood Association
Vice President

The President's Message is a chance to reflect on the accomplishments of the past year for the South Land Park Neighborhood Association. However, before revisiting our accomplishments, I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge that 2020 was not a typical year for any of us as we faced and continue to collectively face a global pandemic, social & political unrest, and the disruption of our work, school & home lives. Amidst this backdrop, I dare to say, SLPNA persevered and thrived!

My name is Joe Flores, and I am the President of the South Land Park Neighborhood Association. Our association area is bounded by Freeport Boulevard, Sutterville Road, Interstate 5, and Florin Road, home to over 14,000 residents. When the first stay at home orders hit in mid-March of 2020, we were on the verge of hosting our Annual Neighborhood Membership meeting of neighbors at Pony Express Elementary School to highlight our performance of the past year, and to set goals for the upcoming year. However, for the protection and safety of our neighbors and community partners, the event was cancelled.

In the first weeks of the stay at home orders, many of our neighborhood serving businesses were either closed or operating under modified operations. SLPNA sprang into action and started to catalog and update a list of businesses that were still open, or had opened an online

portal, and posted this list across our social media feeds, and because of **You**, this list of businesses was our most shared and engaged post in 2020! Thank You!

It was also during these early weeks, where there was an overflow of information from public agencies, and where community partners would have joined SLPNA at the Annual meeting to give updates directly to neighbors, we pivoted, and asked our partners to join us for digital Zoom conversations that were live-streamed on our social media page.



SLPNA hosted a total of four conversations and we were joined by Councilmembers Jay Schenirer & Steve Hansen; Sacramento City Unified School Board Member Lisa Murawski; Sacramento Police Department - South Command, Captain Adam Green; SMUD Board of Director Rosanna Herber; Chelsea Minor, Director of Public Affairs for Raley's, and local business owners, Sergio

Barrios, owner of Barrio Café & Michelle Ortego, owner of Parkside Pharmacy.

These conversations provided updates of emergency actions made by the City Council; school district and distant learning updates by the school board; neighborhood public safety reports; updated utility policies to inform residents and local businesses that power would not shut off due to income loss due to COVID; food item shortages & frontline employee protection; and personal testimonials of business owners, who operate in South Land Park, on the challenges of operating a neighborhood serving business where it is dependent on foot traffic (resulting in a loss of revenue) and the ability to create & fulfilling prescriptions of popular drugs that were sold out at chain pharmacies at that time.

Partnership with Raley's

During the conversation with Chelsea Minor, we had read a neighbor question that asked about their neon sign, and the process of how they place puns on the sign. As Chelsea explained the process, an idea popped into our minds—to partner with Raley's to host a future pun contest, where neighbors could submit their pun, and a grand prize winner would indeed get their pun placed on the Neon sign. Chelsea loved the idea and this led into an official summer contest partnership by Raley's and SLPNA, where the neighborhood association would administer the contest and the winning pun would be placed on the neon sign on Freeport Blvd. This contest was an opportunity to engage our neighborhood and community at large to participate in a digital, family-friendly, safe contest in a time where social gatherings have been canceled, like area Fourth

of July parades.

We received nearly 200 pun submissions, and the Mahon Family of South Land Park won for their pun **YOU'RE KALE'ING ME, SMALLS**. On the day their sign was installed, we were joined by KCRA to highlight the Mahon's and their love for puns and was featured throughout their primetime newscasts.

Raley's Corporate was so pleased with our collaborative Pun Contest that we partnered again to co-host a holiday themed pun contest, where this time, Raley's offered four Grand Prizes, where neighbors would have multiple opportunities to place their puns on the sign. Again, we received hundreds of submissions and the first winning Holiday Pun was **CHRISTMAS THYME IS HERE**, the second Holiday Pun was submitted by Griselda Bergdorf, of South Land Park, with **PEAS ON EARTH IT'S HOLIDAY TIME**, the third Holiday Pun was **GUACIN' AROUND THE XMAS TREE**, and the last winning Holiday Pun was **RAISIN A TOAST TO A NEW YEAR**.



Our partnership with Raley's did not stop with Pun Contests! Together, we planned and safely executed a Drive Thru Trick-or-Treat event at their former Flagship store parking lot. We



Raley's



were also joined by community partners the Sacramento Kings and their mascot Slamson, Sacramento Republic FC, SAFE Credit Union, Pocket-Greenhaven Community Association, Land Park Community Association, Sacramento Police Department - South Command, and Councilmembers Jay Schenirer and Steve Hansen. It may not have been the traditional trick-or-treating, but SLPNA managed to spread some joy, safely to hundreds of families in our neighborhood and community at large!

The Neighborhood Association

Organizationally, the South Land Park Neighborhood Association had a busy year. I am proud to announce, as of the January 2021 Board Meeting, we once again have a full fifteen-member Board of Directors. The Board Members represent a wide diversity of ages, ethnicities, professional experiences, and seven are women. We have Board Members who are relatively new to the neighborhood as well as some seasoned residents. We do have a couple of Board Members whose terms are ending at the end of March, and choosing not to renew for another 2-year term. If you are interested in becoming a SLPNA Board Member to weigh in on citywide issues that affect our neighborhood like zoo relocation, homelessness, redistricting, and finalizing the design plans for the Del Rio Trail, email us at SLPNA@slpna.org.

Is everything perfect in South Land Park?

No.

But, we are actively working to address all issues facing our neighborhood. Board Members Anthony Jackson and Diane Matthews, were selected to represent SLPNA on the new District 4 Homelessness Task Force started by newly

elected Councilmember Katie Valenzuela. We also know that public safety and neighborhood concerns will continue to arise. You are invited to join Board Members Sharla Smith, Justin Delacruz and Scott Burns on the Public Safety & Neighborhood Concerns Committee, or perhaps join our first ever SLPNA Youth Scholarship Program with Board Members Phoebe Austin, Brandon Seto and Brian Ebbert. In fact, if you have a few spare hours, do not hesitate to reach out to us if you want to join any of our committees.

The SLPNA committees are:

- Del Rio Trail Committee
- SLPNA Scholarship Program
- SLPNA Communications Committee
- SLPNA Finance Committee
- SLPNA Public Safety & Neighborhood Concerns
- South Land Park Membership & Business Membership
- National Night Out Committee
- SLPNA Community & Event Planning Committee

Thank you to our Board of Directors

SLPNA Board Members are volunteers with busy lives and hectic schedules just like you. This Board is a fun and diverse group of people that have chosen to dedicate their time to volunteer & advocate for our neighborhood. You can't say that these Board Members are not passionate and are continually strategizing their next moves. Please join me in thanking: SLPNA Secretary Nita Barve, SLPNA Treasurer Paula Mishima, Immediate Past President Brian Ebbert, Phoebe Austin, Kris Bergesen, Scott Burns, Justin Delacruz, Tony Jackson, Diane Matthews,

Anthony Moseby, Chip O'Neill, Michelle Reyes, Brandon Seto, Dan Weitzman, and Del Rio Trail Committee Chair Chuck Hughes.

I would especially like to express my deep and sincere gratitude to Vice President Sharla Smith, who helped me co-author this president's message.

Consider Making a Tax-deductible Donation

The South Land Park Neighborhood Association is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit and we rely 100% on donations and membership dues. We have no employees and we are 100% volunteer-based. Please consider making a tax deductible donation.

Mail donations to:

SLPNA

P.O. Box 22903

Sacramento, CA 95822

Use your smartphone:

Open your Camera App and scan this code:



We cannot wait until we can all be together again at an in-person community event. We all have had to pivot due to COVID, while making sure to think outside of the box and execute outside of the status quo where local businesses were spotlighted, executed safe community events and took the opportunity to create new partnerships with heritage organizations. Collectively, we have

helped to protect and improve our community, which is SLPNA's primary mission. Wishing you all the best in 2021!



THE SACRAMENTO BEE

LOCAL

US Postal Service suspending cuts — but will it help Californians?

BY KATE IRBY AND MARIA HEETER

AUGUST 18, 2020 02:13 PM, UPDATED AUGUST 18, 2020 03:15 PM



Rep. Doris Matsui, D-Sacramento, holds a press conference on Aug. 18, 2020, at the South Land Post office to call for more funding for the U.S. Postal Service and to criticize recent changes made by the Trump administration. BY RENÉE C. BYER





South Land Park Neighborhood Association

Many of our local South Land Park Area businesses that provide necessary services and takeout orders are open (physically or their online store) and ready to serve our community.

TAKE IT TOGO

ABC Bakery
1309 Florin Road Suite F

Akebono
4960 Freeport Blvd

Aviators
6151 Freeport Blvd

Barrio Café
1188 35th Ave

Chicago Pizza
5960 Freeport Blvd

CJ Teriyaki
5635 Freeport Blvd

Dali's Kitchen Traditional
Mexican Food
1948 Sutterville Road

Everest Yogurt
5635 Freeport Blvd Ste 3

Far East Café
5014 Freeport Blvd

Florez Bar & Grill
5900 South Land Park Drive

Fountainhead Brewing Co.
4621 24th Street

Gai'N Rice
4400 Freeport Blvd #140

Giovanni's Pizza
5924 South Land Park Drive

Hong Kong Islander
5675 Freeport Blvd

Izakaya
5651 Freeport Blvd

Jade Fountain Cafe
5021 Freeport Blvd

Jen Kitchen
2362 Fruitridge Road

JP Thai Kitchen
6004 Freeport Blvd

La Bou Bakery
4400 Del Rio Road

Lalo's Restaurant
5063 24th Street

Macau Café
4406 Del Rio Road

Marie Calendars
5622 Freeport Blvd

Miyako Teriyaki
4585 Freeport Blvd

New Lai Wah
5912 Freeport Blvd

Roberta's Cocina
Mexicana
5635 Freeport Blvd

Round Table Pizza
1307 Florin Road

Spinners
1400 Sutterville Road

Sushi Café
4491 Freeport Blvd

Tea Hub
4543 Freeport Blvd

T Kee Restaurant
1910 Fruitridge Road

YD Tofu House
5609 Freeport Blvd

SERVICES

7/11
1199 43rd Ave

A Quality Jewelry
5870 South Land Park Drive

Carson Automotive Repair
1400 Blair Ave

D&P Cards
5968 South Land Park Drive

Dollar Tree
1347 Florin Road &
4910 Freeport Blvd

Duane's Body & Paint
6546 Belleau Wood Lane

Freeport Automotive
6000 Freeport Blvd

Future Green Hydro
6235 Belleau Wood Lane #3

GEM Carwash
5150 Freeport Blvd

Hollywood Hardware
5303 Freeport Blvd

J Crawford Books
5301 Freeport Blvd

Klump's Funeral Home
2691 Riverside Blvd

Kombat Soccer
5958 South Land Park Drive

Land Park Business
Center
5960 South Land Park Drive

Land Park Florist
5874 South Land Park Drive

Licheine's
7107 South Land Park Drive

Litsa's Flowers
1906 Fruitridge Road

Mark's Cleaners
5619 Freeport Blvd

O'Reillys Auto Parts
1317 Florin Road

Parkside Pharmacy &
Wellness Center
4404 Del Rio Road

Rite Aid
4980 Freeport Blvd

Shift Change
4516 Freeport Blvd

SAFE Credit Union
5930 South Land Park Drive
4700 Freeport Blvd

The Bicycle Business
3077 Freeport Blvd

US Post Office
5930 South Land Park Drive

Walgreens
1919 Fruitridge Road

GROCERY

Bel Air
1301 Florin Road

Oto's Marketplace
4990 Freeport Blvd

Raleys
4690 Freeport Blvd

SF Supermarket
5820 South Land Park Drive

Sprouts
Farmers Market
4408 Del Rio Road

The Del Rio Trail Project Started 2020 Very Slowly But Ended With Great News



By Chuck Hughes
Del Rio Trail Committee Chair

The Past

The year began with the train enthusiast's lawsuit against the City's Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Project still pending. Briefs were still being filed, and court dates were beginning to be scheduled . . . and then COVID hit. The court system had to figure out how to conduct trials remotely, normally something done in person and open to the public. The result was that the oral arguments for the lawsuit were not conducted until late summer.

The oral arguments were held entirely remotely but the public was allowed to view online. Several SLPNA Board Members watched the attorneys for the City and the rail supporters' trade arguments before the judge. The Court's ruling was released in early October and can reasonably be described as a complete win for the City and the Project. The [ruling](#) is available on SLPNA's website for anyone's review. Then came the wait to see if there would be an appeal. The train enthusiasts had 60 days after the court's ruling was served to file an appeal. Shortly before the time was up, the railroad buffs gave up their right to appeal in exchange for the City forgiving an approximately \$2,000 fee that was due as result of the previous court loss. The news in favor of the Project was reported in the [Sacramento Bee](#) and [Capitol Public Radio](#).

SLPNA was happy to hear this news and would like to thank the City again for its pursuit of this Project and its defense in court. The project would not be possible without the support and activism of South Land Park neighbors over the past several years.



The Present

The City has recently entered into a [Joint Development Agreement](#) with Regional Transit that conveys control of the property to the City. The agreement requires the City to use the property for a public pedestrian/bicycle trail, or the property would revert back to Regional Transit control. The agreement covers most, but not all, of the proposed Trail route. The City is re-entering discussions with State Parks about acquiring right-of-way for the remainder of the Trail, which is mostly north of the Land Park Drive route crossing. That discussion was on hold until the lawsuit was resolved. Also for this northern section of the route, the City is in talks with Caltrans for an encroachment permit to widen the current railroad bridge over I-5 to accommodate the Trail.

A development application for a substantial new apartment complex was recently before the City Council. The [Klotz Ranch Apartments](#) are not within SLPNA boundaries, they are proposed at the end of Klotz Ranch Court, just south of Pocket Road next to I-5. However, the site is adjacent to the southern end of the Del Rio Trail route. The initial development application to the City did not include a connection to the future trail. SLPNA submitted a [comment letter](#) taking no position on the project overall as it is outside our boundaries, but urging the City to require a connecting point to the Trail if approved so that future residents could access the trail directly. Similar comments were made by the Air District, WALK Sacramento, and some City departments. Plans were revised to include a connection, and the project was conditioned to require a connection on the final plans to the satisfaction of City Public Works. Making access to the Trail as easy

as possible for everyone has been a constant theme in SLPNA's support of the Trail over the years, and we are pleased that a connection was included in this project, which was approved by the City Planning and Design Commission in January 2021.

The City is aiming to have Trail design complete by the end of 2021. There have been no significant changes to the overall plan that was approved by the City Council. As with any construction project, there are numerous plan sheets to prepare along the entire 4.5 mile route, including grading, stormwater drainage, pavement, and of course the intersection improvements at road crossings. The City intends to have another public meeting in 2021. It may be virtual depending on the status of the COVID pandemic when it is scheduled. SLPNA will keep our membership apprised of upcoming hearings.

The Future

The Trail's expected construction cost is funded through a Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) grant for bicycle/pedestrian improvements. The City is currently expecting a 1-season build in 2022. While that date could still slip for several reasons, the City is cautiously optimistic. While it is unfortunate that the lawsuit delayed progress on the Project, the City has maintained momentum. SLPNA and many folks in the neighborhood look forward to breaking ground, and finally, finally, waving to our neighbors as we walk, run, and roll down the Del Rio Trail.

With the lawsuit in the past, SLPNA is re-launching the Del Rio Trail Committee with an eye to a different phase of the Project. SLPNA hopes to organize, and coordinate with the City, for

activities such as tree and shrub planting, funding of additional trail amenities such as benches and picnic tables in appropriate locations, and incorporation of the local railroad history into the route.

After 4 years as the SLPNA Del Rio Trail committee chairman I have stepped down, confident that there are others in the neighborhood with skill sets better suited than mine for this new phase of the Project. Scott

Burns, a longtime SLPNA Board Member and attorney with knowledge of cultural resources issues, who has been invaluable during the train squabbles, is the interim committee chairman. For anyone in the neighborhood who would like to become more involved in the Trail, as we enter an exciting time looking forward to construction and planning for the best neighborhood amenity possible, please email Scott at scott@smburns.com.

Tips For Staying SAFE While Walking/Running Outdoors in The Neighborhood



By Michelle Reyes
SLPNA Board Member

With limited places to go, the amount of neighbors walking/running in the neighborhood has increased. Getting outdoors is not only beneficial for your physical health, but mental as well. These helpful tips will ensure you stay **SAFE** while exploring the neighborhood.

S = Share your location or your experience.

If you're a solo walker/runner, let someone else know when you start and return from your outing, and let that person know what routes you typically take. If you have a walking/running partner, make sure to share your emergency contact with them. Take your cell phone too, if you can.

A = Always be aware. It's important to be aware of your surroundings while walking/running in the neighborhood: look both ways

before crossing the street, keep your music low (or wear one headphone), limit your distractions, and don't forget your doggie bag if you're heading out with your four-legged companion.

F = Flashlights increase visibility. If you're an early bird or night owl, it's important other neighbors and cars can see you. Taking a flashlight will increase your visibility and help you see your path. Wearing bright colored clothing also makes you more visible.

E = Everyone's neighborhood. With more neighbors walking/running it's important that everyone does their part: don't leave trash in the streets, or someone else's lawn, pick up after your dog, and say "hello" to other neighbors walking/running past you.

Stay **SAFE** and happy walking/running.

Public Safety Statistics in South Land Park




By Captain Adam Green
City of Sacramento Police Department
South Command

Below, are five years of Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) statistics for the South Land Park area. UCR statistics are the major categories types that all law enforcement agencies across the nation report and publish. This provides UCR totals by year, from 2015-2020, the last five calendar years. UCR statistics include the following seven crimes: Assault, Burglary, Criminal homicide, Forcible rape, Larceny – theft, Motor vehicle theft, and Robbery. I should note, for the 2020 assault statistics, there was a significant spike (74 in 2020) where 37 officers were listed as victims of assault due to protests. Also below shows density (heat) maps for larceny, burglary, assault, and motor vehicle theft in 2020. Criminal homicide, rape and robbery do not have

enough data points to be included into a density for one year. Plus, there are three additional 2020 UCR density maps: Property crime, Person crime and All UCR in 2020. In looking at all of the categories, we experienced an increase in robbery, criminal homicide and assaults (*37 officers as victims of assault). Fortunately, the other categories were slightly lower than the average for the last five years, aside from forcible rape, which was the same (3). We also report sexual assaults and rape where incidences may not occur in South Land Park but come up on the report because they were reported at the Public Safety Center, which is located within South Land Park. I hope this information is helpful and valuable.

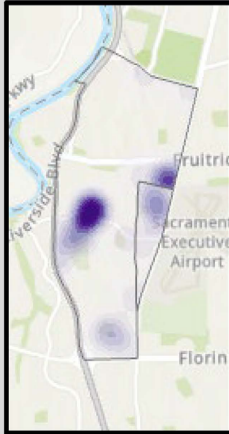
South Land Park UCR Review							
South Land Park Annual UCR Totals							
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Average	2020
ASSAULT	42	36	29	33	27	33	74
BURGLARY	82	97	48	65	77	74	67
CRIMINAL HOMICIDE	0	0	4	2	0	1	3
FORCIBLE RAPE	2	2	1	2	8	3	3
LARCENY-THEFT	240	239	207	243	274	241	221
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT	46	34	35	47	34	39	38
ROBBERY	14	10	12	19	18	15	20

 This information was produced for informational purposes only; it is limited by the information available and/or collected at the time the statistics were generated. This information is not a replacement for official UCR statistics, which are based on national reporting specifications and not reflected in the information provided herein. 2020 contains data related to COVID-19 Restrictions and periods of civil unrest. 2020 data may no reflect other years due to unique circumstances.

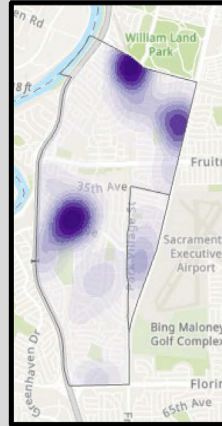
Analyst N. Bassett Created On 2/9/21

2020 UCR Density Maps

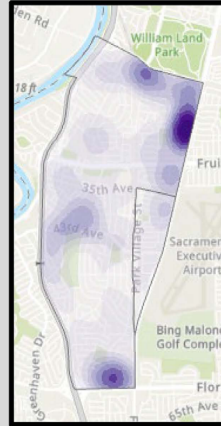
Assault



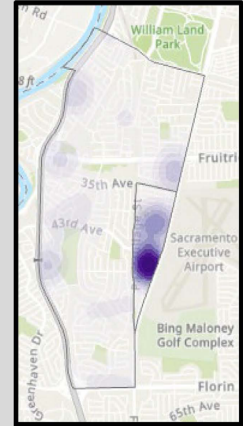
Burglary



Larceny



Motor Vehicle Theft

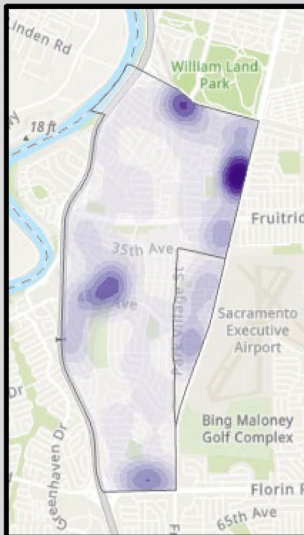


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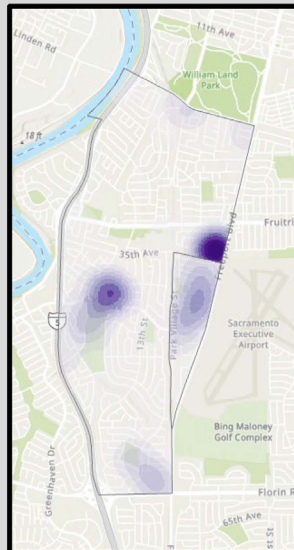
Analyst N. Bassett Created On 2/9/21

2020 UCR Density Maps

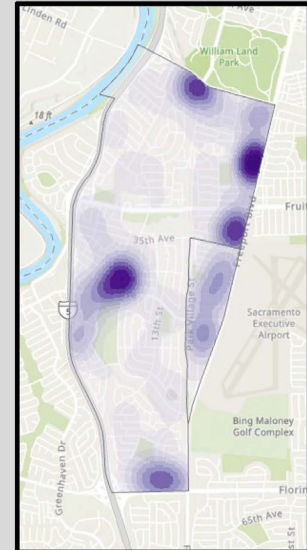
Property Crime Density



Person Crime Density



All Crime Density



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Analyst N. Bassett Created On 2/9/21

South Land Park Home Values: A Visual

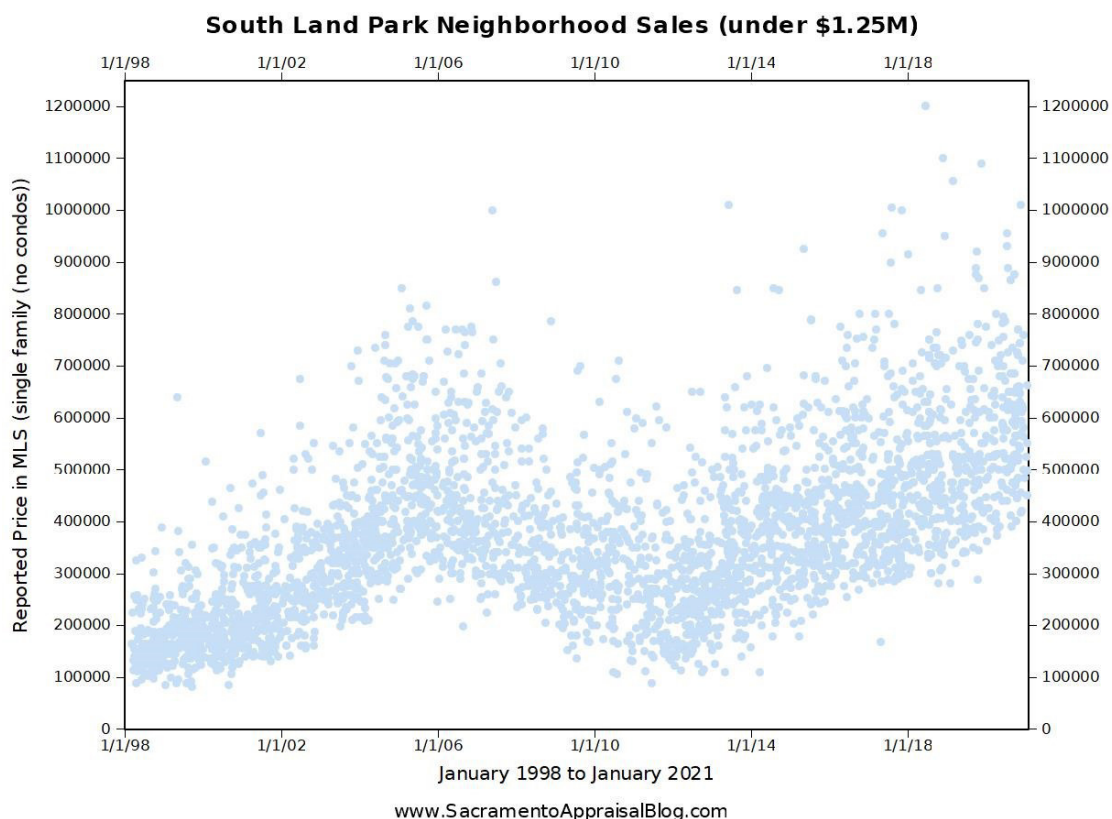


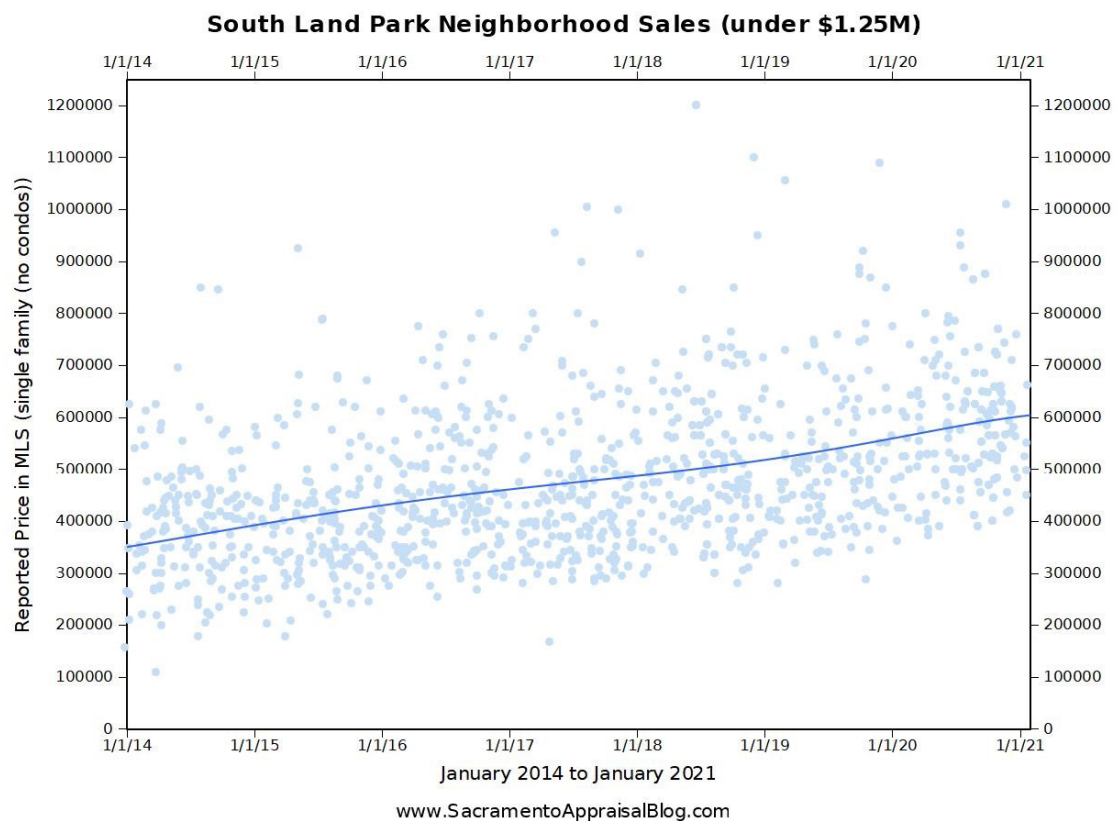
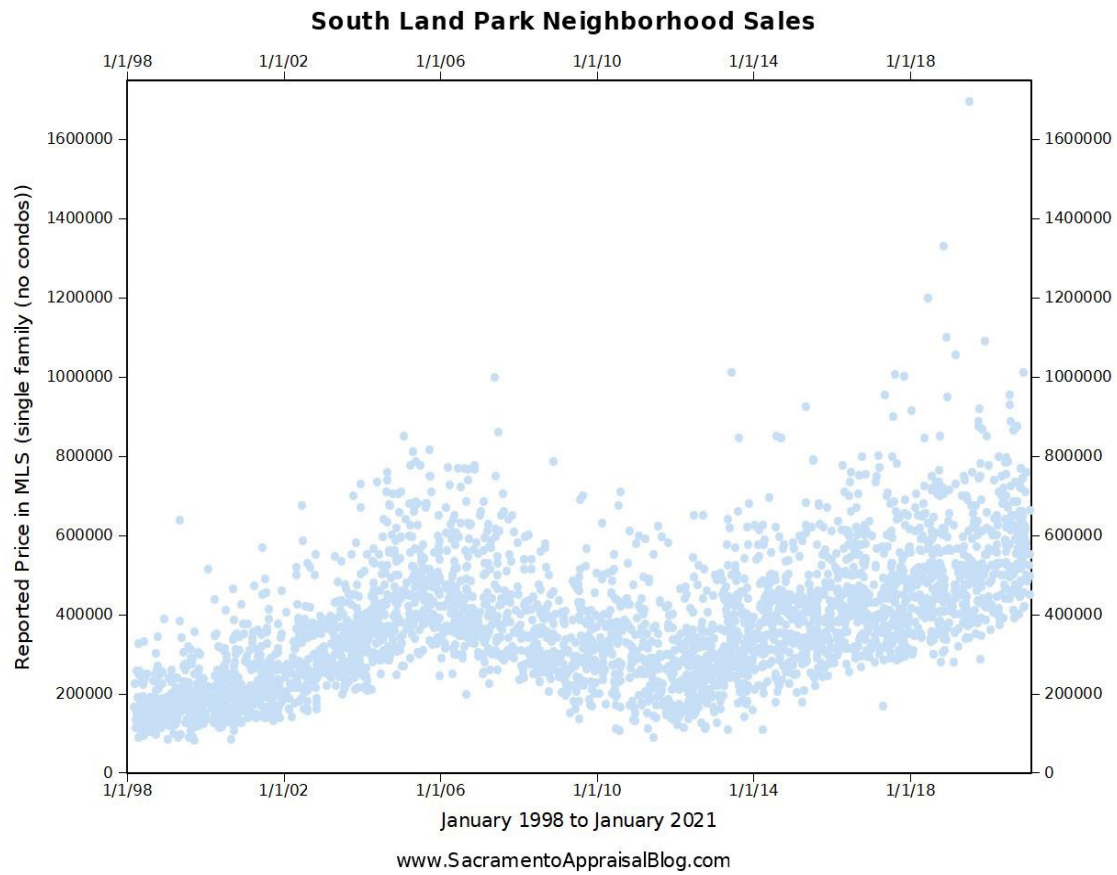
By Ryan Lundquist, Certified Residential Appraiser

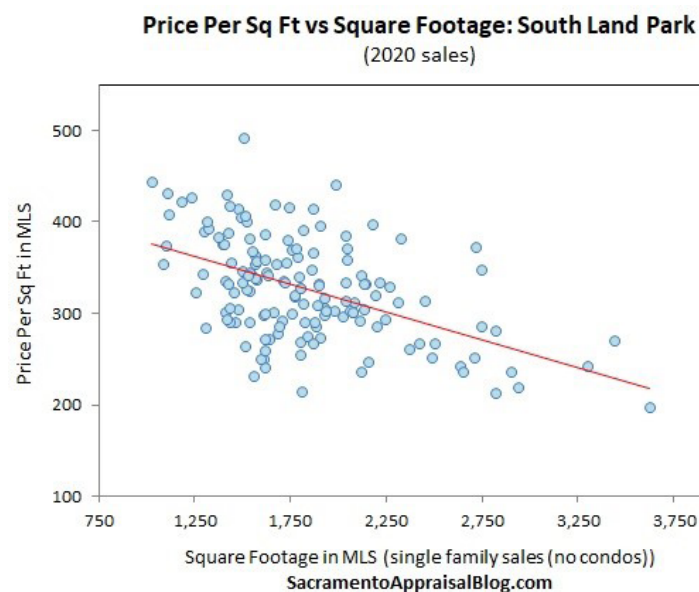
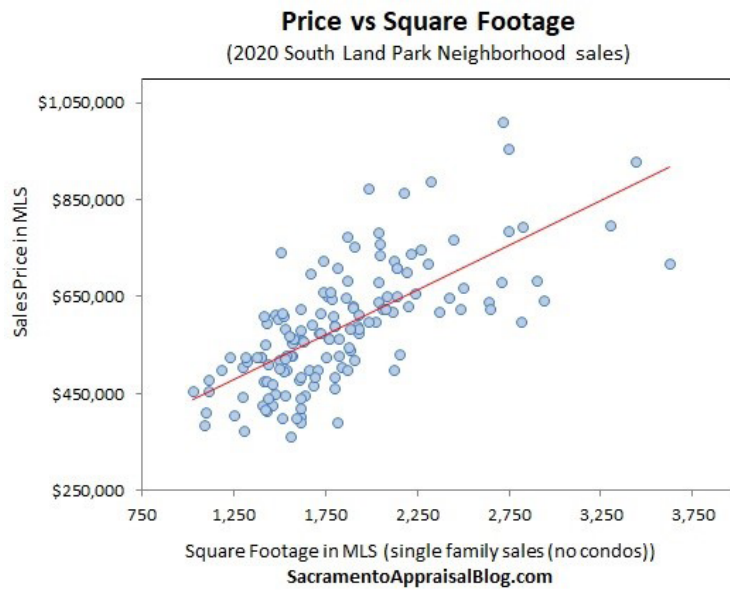
www.SacramentoAppraisalBlog.com

The South Land Park Neighborhood Association asked a Residential Appraiser, who has been featured in numerous media reports, to once again run numbers specifically for our neighborhood from Sutterville to Florin & I-5 to Freeport.

South Land Park Neighborhood			
Data	2019	2020	Change
Median Price	\$500,000	\$577,500	+15.5%
Average Price	\$530,644	\$586,040	+10.4%
Average Price Per SQ FT	\$289.6	\$319.7	+10.4%
Number of Sales	137	150	+9.4%
Cash Sales Percentage	8.7%	13.3%	+52.8%
Avg Days on Market (CDOM)	30	21	-30.0%
Median Days of Market	10	9	-10.0%
Single family MLS sales (no condos) Data: Jan 2021 SacramentoAppraisalBlog.com			







District Five Updates



By Vice Mayor Jay Schenirer
Sacramento City Councilmember, District 5

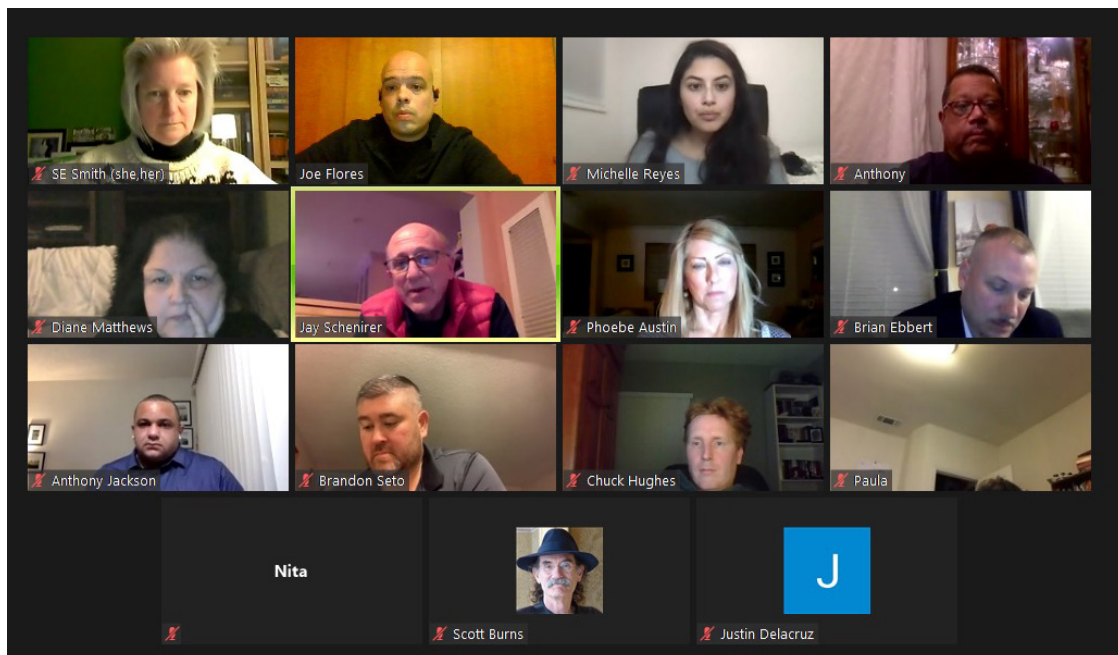
As a result of actions taken at the beginning of the pandemic, as well as better than expected sales tax revenues from internet sales and large purchases, the City found itself at mid-year with a one-time surplus of close to \$60 million. After making up for lost revenues due to COVID and fulfilling a number of long-standing commitments that had been delayed numerous times, there remained nearly \$50 million dollars. After a long debate, the Council voted 7-2 on a budget that included the two following major items:

- \$31.5 million for an affordable housing trust fund;
- \$ 5 million to use as matching funds for utility improvements that will support additional housing;
- \$10 million for youth programs.

In addition, funds will support unhoused women

and children, addressing our City's climate goals, and investments in some of our most treasured public parks and facilities.

While our needs are great, I am particularly excited about the funds being deposited in the City's Affordable Housing Trust Fund and the allocation for youth programming. I have consistently heard from the communities I represent that the two most important issues facing the City are housing and jobs. We will never meet the challenge of homelessness without creating more affordable housing. We will never mitigate the impacts of gentrification without more housing in neighborhoods like Oak Park. And we will not attract businesses and the resulting economic activity without more housing for employees. Increasing our supply of homes also creates good, well-paying jobs in our local construction industry. Councilmember



Guerra and I are working hard to bring additional housing units to our aging corridor along Stockton Blvd. to guard against displacement when Aggie Square is constructed. An allocation of \$10 million from the Affordable Housing Trust Fund could result in nearly 300 housing units being built, not nearly sufficient, but a good start.

On the youth front, I have been working with more than 70 community based, youth providers over the past month to ascertain what our young people need most to be successful. Together, we have developed a set of strategies to support Sacramento's youth. Of the \$10 million voted on by the council, with unanimous support, the City

will be able to invest in strategies that support academic success, mental wellness, violence prevention, and workforce development. These funds will support the continuation of our 'Pop-Ups', creating safe spaces for young people, as well as RydeFreeRT – allowing all K-12 students to ride public transportation for free – anytime and anywhere.

There were many, many ways that these one-time monies could be spent – all of which would benefit the City and its residents. Our actions are a down payment to meet the program needs of our young people day, and the housing needs of Sacramento tomorrow.

District Four Updates



By Katie Valenzuela
Sacramento City Councilmember, District 4

Hello South Land Park
Neighbors! I'm thrilled to

be writing to you as the officially sworn-in Councilmember for District 4. We haven't wasted one minute of our term in office so far – here are some highlights from what we've been working on since December.

Meet the District 4 Team!

I'm so proud to be joined at City Hall (virtually) by three amazing team members! [Michelle Pariset](#), my Chief of Staff, will be managing all of our policy initiatives and overseeing constituent issues. [Mikayla Taylor](#), my Executive Assistant, manages scheduling and will also be helping with climate policy and communications work for our office. [Mousa Musallam](#), our intern, is finishing his fourth year at Sacramento State and is helping

us with constituent affairs. You can read more about them on our [website](#) (which is still under construction!).

While we're all working at home during the pandemic, you can always leave a message at our office and we'll do our best to return your call as soon as we can: 916-808-7004.

Addressing Our Homelessness Crisis

My top priority is to address the growing homelessness crisis in our community. Even before I took office, I called for the creation of a comprehensive plan for homelessness and convened the **D4 Homelessness Task Force**. A few weeks later, the City voted to move forward on a Citywide Master Plan process to identify siting and financing for a strategy to move folks indoors.

The D4 Homelessness Task Force includes South Land Park Neighborhood Association, representatives from other neighborhood associations and business districts, and local service providers active in District 4. Our task is to identify short-term and long-term solutions to the homelessness crisis, and we're off to a great start! We've successfully advocated for a city ordinance to allow short-term camping and parking at designated sites and are in the process of identifying and pursuing potential sites in District 4. We're now starting to bring in local service-providers to talk about what works (and what doesn't work) so we can use their expertise to inform recommendations for the Citywide Master Plan.

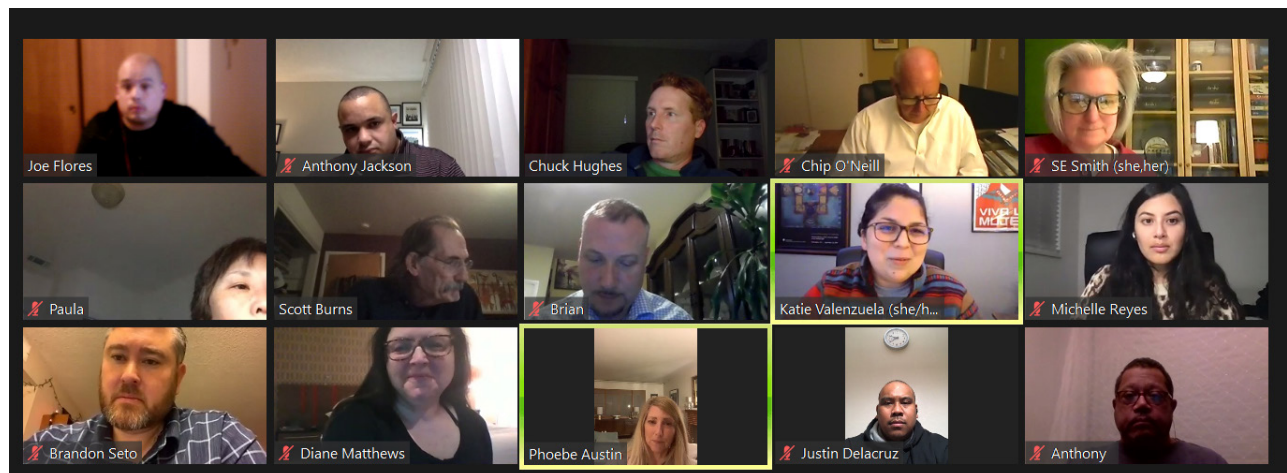
However, the deaths on our streets in recent weeks have been a stark reminder that meaningful action cannot wait. With the January 27th emergency declaration, we have pushed to successfully open four **warming centers** and **safe parking locations** in our district and are in the process of signing up additional locations that will remain open until further notice. We have also ramped up our efforts to bring hotels into **Project Room Key**, which is now 100% reimbursable

from FEMA under a recent Executive Order by President Biden. If you have a location you'd like to offer as a warming center or safe parking site, or a hotel you think might be interested in Project Room Key, please email my Chief of Staff, Michelle Pariset.

Making Sacramento a City for All of Us

As a long-time student of community planning, I'm very happy we've come into office during the **2040 General Plan Update**. This gives us a unique opportunity to ensure everyone in our community – low-income, seniors, workers, students, etc. – have a place they can afford to call home. We made a bold statement by voting to allow duplexes, triplexes, and quadplexes in parts of town currently zoned only for single-family homes, but those changes will be insufficient to address our housing crisis without strong affordability policies. Stay tuned for opportunities from our office to engage in a discussion about other policies we need to ensure our neighbors can afford to keep living in our awesome community.

On January 26th, the City Council directed staff



to begin work on a **Racial Equity Initiative**. This process will be community-driven, and provide opportunities to look at how the City's policies and practices can better promote racial equity. This work will inform all of our work as a City, including (but not limited to) implementation of our General Plan and Housing Element. We're simultaneously continuing the work of ensuring our workforce practices promote diversity and equity, with ongoing audits and future conversations about how we can proactively work to confront inequitable past practices and trends. We narrowly dodged a major escalation of our housing crisis with the extension of statewide and federal tenant protections and COVID relief funding. With direction of Council, the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency will be working to expand the **Sacramento Emergency Rent Assistance** (SERA) program to ensure tenants in our area can take full advantage of these important resources. Visit their [website](#) to sign up to receive notifications on that program.

Finally, you may have noticed some streets that are closed to through traffic in Land Park – well, I'm excited to announce that the overwhelming popularity of that pilot has led staff to extend it to be citywide! We launched another **Slow & Active Street** in partnership with the Midtown and Newton Booth Neighborhood Association on February 12th, and the City is looking for more folks who are interested in piloting a slow street in their community. [Learn more and apply](#).

Improving Civic Engagement

I'm excited to announce that the City will be doing a **Participatory Budgeting** pilot, per the recommendation of the Measure U Community

Advisory Committee, for the 2021-2022 budget. With so much changing and so much need in our community, this will provide you as residents the opportunity to make recommendations on where our budget spending should go this year. Stay tuned for more information and opportunities to participate in the new few weeks!

I'm also thrilled that the City has officially taken steps to include **youth voices** on several of our City commissions: Parks & Community Enrichment, Sacramento Arts, Culture, and the Creative Economy, and the Sacramento Community Police Review Commission. As someone who got involved in the community when I was 13 years old, I know how transformative it can be to give youth a seat at the table! Keep an eye out for an announcement soon for applications for these exciting seats. There's always a lot going on and I welcome your input! Don't ever hesitate to reach out to me directly if you'd like to chat or have an idea – my email is kvalenzuela@cityofsacramento.org. Stay healthy!

Updates From Your Sacramento City Unified School Board Trustee



By Lisa Murawski
Board of Education Member, Area 1

I hope everyone had a lovely “June-uary”—we certainly paid for the nice weather with some big storms! Some of our school sites suffered a little damage, but nothing major. Please read on for some timely updates on issues facing our district.

Reopening

Reopening schools is a hot topic, from Washington, D.C., to right here in SCUSD. There are many considerations—health and safety foremost, but also modifying instruction to accommodate social distancing. It is complex. The district team is working to ensure our students, staff, and community remain safe as we plan to reopen. We don’t have a date-certain yet, but you can read more about what our district is doing to meet and even go above local, state, and federal requirements at the [SCUSD Reopening Dashboard](#). I hear a lot of despair and adults arguing, but the bottom line is we need to come through for our kids. As your Trustee, I am not giving up on a safe reopening. I am committed to making sure our District is doing all we can to welcome our students and staff back as soon as conditions allow and the health and safety boxes are checked. Education is essential!

Budget Challenges

The budget challenges at SCUSD still loom, but a couple things have worked in favor of the

budget recently. First, the district is spending a lot less money in operating expenses while schools are closed, resulting in one-time savings. Second, the district has received significant federal revenue to deal with COVID-19, and state revenue projections are better for the 2021-22 school year and beyond. The savings and federal funds are one-time in nature, and only help in the short term. The state revenues will hopefully be ongoing, but even that’s not enough to close the ongoing structural deficit. We still need to make cuts. The district has asked employee groups to start contributing towards their health care costs and move into high-quality, less expensive plans, and the board is considering further cuts to supplies and student programs and services. I’m committed to putting our children first, and that means maintaining focus on long-term fiscal solvency to preserve local control of our district, avoid a state takeover, and get us to the point where we can reinvest in our children.

Opening Our Campuses to Public Use

Our schools are an important part of the fabric of our community, and many neighbors are accustomed to accessing school grounds for recreation. This past summer, when we were still learning a lot about the virus, the district made the decision to close all campuses to public use for safety reasons. Given the community benefit of outdoor space for safe recreation, I have

recently been pushing to reopen for public use, including for youth sports when that is allowed. District staff is now actively looking to reopen the campuses to the community uses in effect prior to COVID-19. This entails sorting out both the liability and labor negotiations issues necessary to remove the "CLOSED" signs you see on many of our campuses. Which campuses are generally open to the public is a broader discussion, and there are many considerations, including our ability to deal with trash, waste and vandalism. I hope to be able to share good news on this front soon.

Our Obligation to Children

Our children have suffered so much through school closures, academically and social-emotionally. It breaks my heart to think of the children who don't have space to learn at home or for whom school is their safe space. I am heartened when I go out and see our community taking COVID-19 safety so seriously. Thank you for doing all you can to drive our COVID-19 rates low so we can get our kids back to the normalcy they deserve and end this distance learning "experiment."

You can follow our board meetings at this [link](#). Please don't hesitate to reach out to me at lisa-murawski@scusd.edu with any thoughts or concerns! It is my honor to represent you.

2021 Will Be a Difficult Year for the County of Sacramento, But Business as Usual is NOT Enough



By Patrick Kennedy
Sacramento County Board of Supervisors, District 2

2020 was an extraordinary year, to say the least. No. . . . extraordinary is not the right word. It was a terrible year for all of us. However, with COVID-19 vaccinations becoming more readily available, schools planning for re-opening, and life getting back to some form of normalcy, I remain optimistic that better days are around the corner. Of course COVID-19 remains the top priority for the County as we continue to address the needs of our residents, while pressing for

more federal and state resources. For more information on the latest COVID-19 news, visit [Sacramento County's COVID-19 portal](#). Additionally, the humanitarian crisis of homelessness has clearly not improved as we had hoped, a situation made worse and more difficult by the pandemic. While court cases and federal guidelines have had an impact on what can be done, we continue to treat the situation with the seriousness it deserves. We owe it to our unhoused neighbors as well as our impacted neighborhoods and business corridors

to do better. That is not lost on me – nor is the frustration and helplessness that many of you have expressed to me. For more information on what is being done, visit the [homelessness section](#) on Sacramento County's website.

Beyond COVID-19 and homelessness, I want to point out a few projects I am working on your behalf.

Improved Transparency at the Sheriff's Department

Over the past few years I have been working on creating greater transparency and community review of the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department. Recently at a meeting of the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors, the Board had a an opportunity to discuss the merits of a framework I developed to move this conversation forward, with a proposal to develop a Community Review Commission that would work with the county's independent Inspector General. The proposal received broad support from the Board and will soon return with changes that take into account comments by Board Members and the public.

The mission of the Community Review Commission would be to improve public transparency and accountability with respect to the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department and provide greater community interaction and communication with the Office of Inspector General. The cornerstone of the commission's work is valued community engagement. The commission would provide ongoing analysis and oversight of the department's policies, practices, and procedures, and advise the Board and the Inspector General on those findings. As proposed, the commission would perform its

duties in a thorough, impartial, and transparent manner that promotes credibility, and enhances trust and respect. The commission will welcome community involvement and provide for opportunities for robust community engagement. Developing a commission such as this has been a goal of mine since elected to the Board in 2014. It is important and I believe this framework is a great step in the right direction.

9-1-1 Alternative for Mental Health Calls

During the 2020-21 budget discussions, I proposed an alternative to the 9-1-1 emergency line for those experiencing mental health crisis, or those witnessing someone who is in crisis. Currently many, if not most, calls for services stemming from a person experiencing a mental health crisis go to 9-1-1, which is operated by law enforcement. At the same time a number of resources to help those in need are not aligned with the 9-1-1 system. Using 9-1-1 as our front line response places our law enforcement personnel in the role of mental health social workers. As a result we have a disjointed system that is not providing the most appropriate or timely services. Consolidating services, and providing trained civilian clinicians to answer these calls will fix this while allowing law enforcement to do what they are best equipped to do. It will also avoid many unnecessary trips to overburdened hospital emergency rooms (not an ideal place for those in crisis), or worse: jail.

After considerable public input, County staff is working on a pilot program that will address this need. It is expected to come to the Board for consideration after the printing of this newsletter. The proposal coming forward will be based

upon best practices in communities like Eugene, Oregon and Denver, Colorado. My hope is that the Board adopts, **and funds**, a program that will better provide services for some of our most vulnerable neighbors. Where would these funds come from is up to the Board.

I have proposed that the funding of the pilot come from the budget of the Sheriff's Department. Claims that this is "defunding" the Sheriff's Department are nonsense. The Department is the largest line item from the County's general fund, this program stands to save them time and money, AND this would represent less than .003 percent of the Department budget. I am not looking to "defund" the Sheriff's Department (a phrase that I do not subscribe to); I am looking to better utilize these resources for the people of Sacramento County.

Sacramento County Declares Climate Emergency

Our planet's climate change has reached a level of urgency that requires immediate action. In Sacramento County alone, we see the impacts on our region's public health and safety, most recently with the extended wildfire season and resulting poor air quality and prolonged power outages.

In late 2020, the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors adopted a resolution declaring a climate emergency and identifying the County's efforts to mobilize and contribute toward a safe climate.

The resolution, brought forward by Supervisor Phil Serna and me, declared climate change an emergency requiring urgent action to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030. This is a lofty goal that can only be reached with regional collaboration

involving multiple partners, including the engagement of community-based and grassroots organizations.

Guided by the principles of the declaration, the County's Climate Action Plan will be built on recommendations and analysis from community members and will be driven by science, data, best practices and equity concerns.

Sacramento County Holds Unprecedented Public Budget Workshop

Since I have been on the Board, I have felt that the County budget process is opaque, lacking public participation. This year, at my urging, the County took a step in the right direction to cure that and encourage genuine public participation. On February 4, from 3:00 PM to 8:00 PM, members of the public participated in a virtual workshop aimed at educating participants on the complexities of county budgeting and giving them the opportunity to weigh in on priorities. Staff from the Sacramento County Budget and Debt Management Office kicked off the workshop with a presentation about budget basics, budget content and format, the process of preparing the budget, and the County's current budget and fiscal condition.

After an approximately one and a half-hour presentation regarding the County's budget and budget process, viewers called in with questions and/or input about budget priorities.

There will be other opportunities for public comment on the budget at Board meetings throughout the fiscal year, including a budget policies item in late February, a Board budget workshop in April, and at the Budget Hearings in June.

While I am pleased that the County opened up this process, and I have heard positive feedback from participants, this is not enough. For the 2022 budget, I will push for even greater opportunities for public participation. Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your County Supervisor. While we all recognize that these are difficult times on a number of

fronts, I remain optimistic that better days lie ahead. With great adversity also comes potential opportunities. I remain committed to pushing forward policies and projects that make our County a better place. Please call me at 916-874-5481 or email me at supervisorkennedy@saccounty.net if I can be of service or you just want to bend my ear.

Jaybites: The Best Neighborhood Bakery You've Never Heard Of



By Sean Timberlake
South Land Park Neighbor
SLPNA Communications Committee Member

Bakeries conjure up images of brightly lit cases filled with tempting treats. But right here in South Land Park, Jason Barrows turns out exquisite, delicate baked goods from his home kitchen on Fordham Way.

Barrows and his husband Shannon Smith moved to Sacramento from San Francisco in 2013, and ultimately bought their South Land Park home in 2015. Smith grew up in nearby Wilton, and had fond memories of the neighborhood. This combined with their penchant for Mid-Century Modern design and architecture made the area a natural fit for them.

Growing up, Barrows was always interested in the kitchen, and became drawn to baking as a young adult, ultimately going to culinary school. It was when they moved to Sacramento that Barrows decided to try his hand at making his passion for baking into a business.

He applied for a Cottage Food Class A permit, which allows the person-to-person sale of

certain low-risk food products, including baked goods and confections, made in home kitchens. (California passed AB 1616, the California Homemade Food Act, in 2012, and it went into effect January 1, 2013.) He then filed for his fictitious business name, and Jaybites was born. Barrows derives inspiration from a variety of sources. Some recipes come from his family,





like the shattering, buttery toffee recipe he convinced his aunt to give up. Others come from mainstream sources like King Arthur Flour, Cook's Illustrated, and others, which he then tailors to his tastes.

His goal with Jaybites is to make delicate, sophisticated confections that can be enjoyed with a cup of coffee or tea, and are small enough that you can sample a few different flavors without overindulging.

The business has grown incrementally, relying only on word of mouth to market since he juggles it outside his full-time work. During the holiday season, his busiest time, he accepts online orders at jaybites.com; during the rest of the year orders can be made by emailing him at jaybites@outlook.com.



Exploring South Land Park



By Keith Vedmore
South Land Park Neighbor
SLPNA Communications Committee Member

Hello neighbors! My name is Keith Vedmore and my wife Amy, daughter Zooey, and I moved to South Land Park Hills from Chicago last May. We have really enjoyed exploring Sacramento and our new neighborhood during these strange, COVID-impacted times. It says quite a bit about South Land Park that despite ongoing restrictions,

social distancing, and general uncertainty, we feel welcome and grateful for the openness, friendliness, and tangible sense of community we've found here.

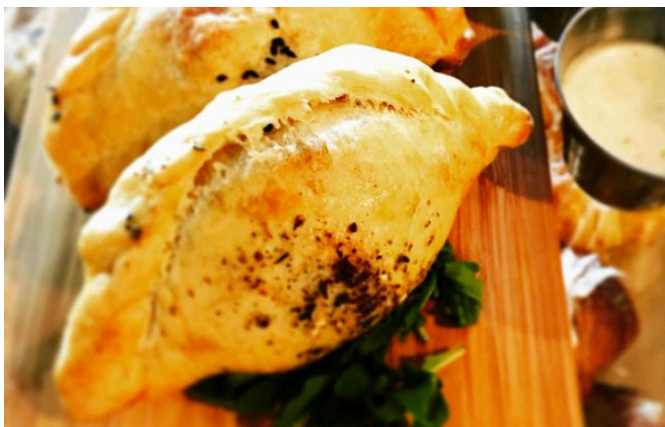
One of my favorite things about being in a new place is the sense of excitement that comes from discovering a new favorite restaurant, coffee shop, park, etc. My family really likes to "support

local" whenever possible, so I thought I'd share some of our discoveries as newcomers to SLP. Hopefully, this list will continue to grow as we explore and get more tips about awesome local businesses. Whether these places are old news or new finds, get out there, take advantage of all that South Land Park has to offer, and support our small businesses.

Barrio Cafe

barriosacramento.com

1188 35th Ave.



Amazing spot for hand-crafted coffees, baked goods, and an ever-expanding menu of lunch and dinner options. Barrio also regularly displays the work of local artists and musicians. baked goods, and an ever-expanding menu of lunch and dinner options. Barrio also regularly displays the work of local artists and musicians.

Land Park Business Services

landparkbusinessservices.com

5960 South Land Park Dr.



One stop for all of your packing, shipping, and office needs. Seriously, if it's business-related, this shop's super helpful, friendly staff will help you get it done so you can get on with your day.

LaBou at the Zoo

labou.com

4400 Del Rio Rd.



Consistently high-quality cafe and bakery with a great selection of sandwiches, soups, salads, and coffees.

Spinners

[instagram.com/spinners_cinnamonrolls](https://www.instagram.com/spinners_cinnamonrolls)

1400 Sutterville Rd.



Legendary cinnamon rolls made fresh daily. Yep, it's in a gas station, but it is also a life-changing experience.

Joseph Reichmuth Park

www.cityofsacramento.org/ParksandRec/Parks/Park-Directory/Pocket/Reichmuth-Park

6135 Gloria Dr.



South Land Park's "Central Park," Reichmuth has lots of green space, soccer fields, playgrounds, tennis courts, basketball courts, a skate park, and a 9-hole disc golf course! A great resource with something for everyone.



MEMBERSHIP / DONATIONS FORM

Join your neighborhood association. Please print out this form, fill it in, and mail it along with your check to the address above. Checks should be made out to South Land Park Neighborhood Association or SLPNA. Your contact information will NOT be shared with any other organization.

Please print clearly.

Dues per person (Check One): ☐ \$10 for 1 year ☐ \$25 for 3 years ☐ \$60 for 3 years - Business
Additional Donation Amount: _____

Please indicate your membership status (Check One):

☐ New Member ☐ Renewing Member ☐ Business Member

Contact Name: _____

Business Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

☐ Yes, I would like to receive SLPNA's quarterly Newsletter via email along with occasional updates about community events, crime, and meetings.

Please tell us what neighborhood issues you are interested in:

Address Check & Mail to:
SOUTH LAND PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
P. O. Box 22903
Sacramento, CA 95822

or use your smartphone
Open your Camera App and scan this code:

We are a 501 (c)(3) Organization – Your Donation is Tax-Deductible



Over the past year, these businesses joined the neighborhood association as business members. We encourage supporting these neighborhood serving, local establishments who support your community.



Crawford's Books

5301 Freeport Blvd #200
Sacramento, CA 95822
www.crawfordbooks.net
(916) 731-8001



6546 Belleau Wood Lane
Sacramento, CA 95822
www.duanesbodyandpaint.com
(916) 424-1616



Steph Baker
REALTOR®

916 775 3447

Steph@SacramentoDigs.com
Dunnigan Realtors CAL BRE #01402254
4215 Freeport Blvd.
Sacramento, CA 95822

DUNNIGAN,
Realtors

Paula Swayne
Paula@PaulaSwayne.com
4215 Freeport Blvd.
Sacramento, CA 95822
(916) 425-9715



Helen Tarasco
Realtor | SAR Master's Life Member
HelenTarasco@yahoo.com
HelenTarasco.remax.com
CA. BRE# 01302455

RE/MAX

web www.slpna.org

email slpna@slpna.org

twitter [@SoLandParkAssn](https://twitter.com/SoLandParkAssn)

fb/insta [@SouthLandParkNA](https://www.facebook.com/SouthLandParkNA)



South Land Park
Neighborhood Association