

South Land Park Neighborhood Association

2023–2024 NEWSLETTER



South Land Park Neighborhood Association

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South Land Park Neighborhood Association 2023–2024 NEWSLETTER

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SLPNA volunteers taking a moment to smile at our Fall Mixer.



South Land Park
Neighborhood Association

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Anthony Jackson, South Land Park Neighborhood Association

Greetings South Land Park (SLP) neighbors and friends! It has been my great pleasure to serve as President in the past year, as we have been able to resume many of our in-person activities! We have worked to increase our community engagement and I would love to share some of our accomplishments with you.

In August, we held our National Night Out at Alice Birney School with record-breaking attendance of hundreds of residents. It was so nice to see our neighbors emerge from the era of quarantine to mingle, and enjoy each other's company. This was followed by a wonderfully fun Fall Mixer in October at Parkside Church, where we gathered for good food and drink, and to strengthen the bonds of our community.

Our board appreciates a good holiday celebration, and last year was no exception. We participated in a Halloween drive-through trick-or-treat, and a Winter Wonderland Holiday event. Batman and Santa Claus even attended the Halloween and Holiday events, respectively, to show some SLP good cheer! South Land Park Neighborhood Association (SLPNA) is mindful of the less-fortunate and we were so fulfilled to continue our partnership with Assemblymember (now Sheriff) Jim Cooper to give away more than a thousand turkeys to the needy at Luther Burbank High School for Thanksgiving.



SLPNA President Anthony Jackson

And speaking of good cheer, we once again worked with Raley's on another successful and hilarious Holiday Pun Contest. As we all know, South Land Park literally lights up with festive spirit, and we were happy to reward two residents for having the best holiday lights in our neighborhood. It's always hard to pick a winner when there are so many bright and beautiful homes!



Holiday Light Winners, December 2022: the McEvilly family on Holstein Way (L); and the Wong family on Fordham Way (R).

We have also awarded our first-ever SLPNA scholarships to two graduating high school seniors from Sacramento New Technology High School. Yazmine Castaneda-Cortes and Aaliyah Wroten received \$500 each. Special thanks go to our generous donors: former Councilmember Jay Schenirer, Supervisor Patrick Kennedy, former Assemblymember Jim Cooper, and SLPNA Board Member Nita Barve.

SLPNA continues to collaborate with City of Sacramento staff on the public art component of one of our proudest accomplishments, the Del Rio Trail. Our Board Member and Parliamentarian, Scott Burns, served on the Phase One Artist Selection Committee. This was followed by remarks from our Vice President, Brian Ebbert, at the Latino Center for Art and Culture regarding the history and evolution of the trail, as well as the importance of community collaboration. To that end, we organized a Del Rio Trail cleanup day with

Councilmember Rick Jennings and Parks Commissioner Devin Lavelle.

Even beyond the boundaries of SLP, we work to foster connection with our fellow community organizations. Three of our board members attended the Land Park Community Association's Annual Meeting and addressed their board about opportunities for cooperation.

SLPNA continues to communicate regularly about critical community matters with Councilmember Jennings and his staff, as well as with Assemblymembers Kevin McCarty and Stephanie Nguyen and their staff. Recently, our newest state legislator Assemblymember Nguyen came to address our board and share her vision for her first term in the State Assembly. Supervisor Patrick Kennedy also attended a board meeting to lay out his nuanced policy priorities.



SLPNA Scholarship awardees Yazmine Castaneda Cortes (L), Aaliyah Wroten (R), and SLPNA board member Brandon Seto.

While we are excited about what we have accomplished, we recognize that there is still more work to do. We continue to work on public safety issues at the South Hills Shopping Center. SLPNA is also committed to improving communication with our Parks Department, so that we may better serve the needs of our community.

I would like to take a moment to thank our outgoing board member and former Treasurer, **Paula Mishima**, for her years of service to our neighborhood. However, we are delighted to have **Jeff Brown** join our board and bring his extensive financial expertise as our newly elected Treasurer. I would like to add my personal gratitude to our Board for once again entrusting me to be President.

SLPNA is a 501(c)(3) nonpartisan, non-profit organization serving the areas between Interstate 5 and Freeport Boulevard, with northern and southern borders at Sutterville and Florin Roads, respectively. We have no staff; we rely solely on volunteers, donations, and membership dues. Please consider starting or renewing a SLPNA membership, or making a donation. You can always keep up with all things South Land Park on our website, slpna.org.

It has never been a better time to live in South Land Park! Our gorgeous community continues to grow and prosper, and we have welcomed new businesses like Buckhorn Grill and Mendocino Farms. We look forward to fruitful relationships with all the residents and businesses that make the wise choice to call South Land Park their home.

Sincerely,
Anthony Jackson
President
South Land Park Neighborhood Association

RALEY'S HOLIDAY PUN WINNERS!



Sales Prices in LAND PARK remain Strong
due to low inventory and high demand.

If you're thinking of selling your home, act now while conditions are
favorable. Call me, your Land Park neighborhood expert. *Helen*

Hi neighbor,

Still trying to decide if now is a good time to sell your home?

The answer is, **it depends**. I'd like to learn more about your plans and offer you my expertise
in selling, buying and relocating.

I am Helen - I live in South Land Park and have been working as a Realtor selling homes
in our area for over 20 years... Always available to answer real estate questions.

Wondering how much your home is currently worth? Call me at (916) 798-7679
or go to: www.SouthLandPark-sacramento.com, input your street address and
receive your free report.*



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size, and condition. Please disregard if your home is currently listed with another Broker or Agent.

THE DEL RIO TRAIL PROJECT MOVES FROM CONCEPT TO FRUITION

Scott M. Burns, SLPNA Del Rio Trail Committee

The much-anticipated Del Rio Trail project is now firmly on the road — pun intended — from concept to fruition. The construction contract for Sacramento's new 4.8 mile bicycle/pedestrian trail was awarded last fall and an official ground-breaking event was held on November 17, 2022. By summer 2024, the derelict railway tracks between Sutterville and Pocket Roads will be revived as an integral part of Sacramento's paved trail system — enabling walkers, runners, cyclists, and commuters to venture from just north of Delta Shores all the way to Folsom.

CONSTRUCTION BEGINS

In January, the prime contractor, Mountain Methods Inc., began clearing the pathway of obstructions previously identified for removal by city arborists. Preliminary work, including cleaning, grubbing, and tree removal began in March, and in early May the contractor began grading and leveling the ground adjacent to the railbed. Around 810 new trees are to be planted before the project is completed. Instead of staged construction at designated locations, the contractor has chosen to perform the work continuously down the trail. Their goal is to finish paving around the end of this year or beginning of 2024, depending on weather and site conditions. Some necessary bridge work has already started, including widening the existing railroad bridge near Sutterville Road that will connect the Del Rio Trail to the existing levee bikeways. Construction on that bridge will continue through September.

There will also be a new bridge to replace an aging trestle at Willow Slough, a small area south of Charlie Jensen Park across from Bing Maloney golf course. This will probably be about a six-month lead time, meaning it should be installed sometime this fall. Other major work includes a realignment of Del Rio Road, where the existing tracks cross just north of 27th Avenue.

The project will also improve pedestrian and bicycle crossings at eight intersections from Sutterville Road to Pocket Road. That work will include several weekend closures or detours. New crossing signals at several designated intersections will hopefully be installed by the end of this year, depending on when equipment arrives. Like many other materials since the pandemic began, there are still supply chain issues and signal equipment is impacted. This means some segments of the trail may not be opened until safe crossings are installed.

PUBLIC ART ON THE TRAIL

While the construction proceeds, a parallel public art project is being managed by the Sacramento Office of Arts + Culture. Thanks to a grant from the California Department of Transportation, \$2.5M has been allocated for public art on the trail. Phase 1 is an "engagement phase" for which 20 Sacramento artists have been awarded \$7,500 each to celebrate and promote the project. The selected artists can produce a visual display of art, a music program, poetry, or other artistic endeavor. These artists were to install or perform their art projects during March–June, 2023, and there have already been several opportunities for neighborhood residents to observe the works in progress. Please keep an eye on SLPNA's Facebook and Twitter feeds to learn about future opportunities. The Phase 1 works also serve as inspiration for seven Phase 2 artists, already selected from among 111 national applicants. There will be five "wayfinding" projects — sculptures to be placed along the trail to help guide users through the route. There will also be two "gathering" projects, where the artwork will help define locations to rest or gather. The awards for each of these seven projects range from \$220K–\$375K. The Phase 2 artists will present their concept designs to the city in July, and have the rest of the year to plan and fabricate their work. Installations should happen

in March–June 2024. Again, there will be opportunities for the public to see and comment on the proposed artworks throughout the process.

The trail is expected to be complete sometime during the late spring or summer of 2024, depending upon site and weather conditions.

We guarantee a public celebration will be planned.

KEEP UP WITH THE DRT

[@SoLandParkAssn](#) [@SouthLandParkNA](#)

delriotrailconstruction.org



South Land Park neighbors and trail supporters enjoy a Walk & Talk on the future Del Rio Trail. The new trail will have less mud and more art.



Phase 1 artists showcase.



The bridge widening has already begun.



Signs announcing construction are up in the neighborhood.

THE SOUTH COMMAND'S PROBLEM ORIENTED POLICE TEAM

Lt. Greg Galliano, Sacramento Police Department

In travel brochures and advertisements, the City of Sacramento is highlighted for its trees and the restaurant scene specializing in Farm to Fork food. Under this exterior, the heartbeat of the city is the diverse neighborhoods and the people that live in them. Residents take pride in where they live and celebrate their unique communities. The Sacramento Police Department's Problem Oriented Police (POP) Teams work alongside their communities to resolve issues and help them flourish.

Developed in the early 1980s, the concept of Problem-oriented policing focuses on community members and police departments working together to find long term solutions to neighborhood problems. The Sacramento Police Department has dedicated POP Teams that are assigned to specific areas in the city.

The South Command's POP Team (SPOP) is contacted daily by residents and businesses regarding concerns within the community. For example, since last fall, officers have worked extensively with South Land Park residents to address package thefts from residences. SPOP worked to identify package thieves using reports, video surveillance, and follow-up interviews. Another tool to address this ongoing issue is the SPOP bait package program. During the holidays, residents were asked to volunteer their front porches for a package with a GPS tracking device inside. Numerous South Land Park residents participated and the program was highlighted in a KCRA 3 News story last December.

To reduce and prevent crime at businesses and apartment complexes, SPOP works with property owners to implement the principles of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED). CPTED is a proven philosophy that utilizes changes

to the built environment to reduce crime opportunities and improve the quality of life. Simple things like better lighting or installing security cameras are some cornerstones of CPTED. After several South Hills Shopping Center businesses were broken into last fall, SPOP officers conducted a CPTED review of the property. Officers then provided information to owners about how to make their businesses less susceptible to crime, while still maintaining the community atmosphere of the shopping center.

While problem-oriented policing is primarily a partnership between residents and the police department, SPOP works with other departments within the city and county. Our main partners are the patrol officers in South Land Park. By talking to community members and patrolling their areas, patrol officers pass along issues to the SPOP team, and help find solutions and monitor effectiveness as these issues are addressed. SPOP also regularly works with these departments within the City of Sacramento: Code Enforcement, Housing and Dangerous Buildings, Sacramento Fire Department, Animal Control, Department of Community Response, and the City Attorney's Office. These partnerships allow SPOP to bring solutions and resources to resolve many different kinds of issues.

The team is staffed with four officers and a sergeant: Ofc. Brandt, Ofc. Flure, Ofc. Littlefield, Ofc. McAuliff, and Sgt. Longanecker. The team works with Sacramento communities south of Highway 50 and west of Highway 99. If there is anything we can ever help with, contact us at 916-808-6001.



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UPDATE FROM ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 10

Assemblymember Stephanie Nguyen, California Assembly District 10

Hello South Land Park neighbors! I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Stephanie Nguyen and I was elected to the California State Assembly in November of 2022 to represent the 10th Assembly District, which includes the South Land Park neighborhood. I couldn't be more proud to represent you in the California State Assembly.

I am now in my third month as your new Assemblymember and I am honored to have been appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly to serve as the Assistant Speaker pro Tempore. I am also proud to serve on the Assembly Committees on Transportation, Public Employees and Retirement, Business and Professions, Aging and Long-term Care, and Accountability and Administrative Review.

As the daughter of Vietnamese refugees who fled the Vietnam War, I grew up in Sacramento's Little Saigon

district. I attended Sacramento schools and I later graduated from Sacramento State University. I know first-hand the struggles of working families, especially those who are immigrants or live in disadvantaged communities. That's what has fueled my desire to choose a life of public service and to give back to our community.

I couldn't be more excited to serve as your state Assemblymember and want you to know that I am available to assist you, so please do not hesitate to reach out if you, a friend, or a neighbor need assistance. My contact information is below.

CONTACT

✉ Assemblymember.Nguyen@assembly.ca.gov

📞 **District** 916-670-7888 **Capitol** 916-319-2010

💻 a10.asmdc.org



SLPNA was excited to help outgoing District 10 Assemblymember Jim Cooper give away over 1000 turkeys at the 2022 Annual Turkey Drive!



UPDATE FROM ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 7

Assemblymember Kevin McCarty, California Assembly District 7

Thank you for choosing me to represent South Land Park as your Assemblymember for District 6. Due to redistricting this year, my district number changed from 7 to 6, and I am honored that our new district now includes a large portion of South Land Park. I am thrilled to continue my work in the Legislature and within our community here in Sacramento.

During my time as an Assemblymember, I'm proud to have supported important projects for the betterment of the district. Since 2018, I have expressed my strong support for the Del Rio Trail project right here in South Land Park. I am thrilled to have witnessed the regional support for this essential community investment and to see it launched.

In March 2022, I was pleased to speak at the Land Park Community Association's Annual Community Meeting where I was able to connect with constituents from both Land Park and South Land Park. I was eager to share my thoughts with the community about District 6 and hear directly from constituents.

The 2023–2024 legislative session has now begun and I am excited to get started on passing impactful legislation. I have introduced several bills that will directly benefit our friends in the South Land Park community:

AB 25 – Debt Free College Expansion

This bill will expand aid to help cover non-tuition costs like housing and books. AB 25 will make college affordability a reality for Californians and increase access to higher education for students who need it most.

AB 1390 – Service Learning Graduation Requirement

This bill would require the CSU administration and faculty to implement community service learning as a graduation requirement. Community service-learning courses promote student learning through active participation in meaningful and planned service

experiences in the community that are directly related to course content.

AB 984 – Financial Literacy Requirement

This bill will require high school students to complete one semester course of a financial literacy class. This course could be an already existing finance class that meets the A-G requirements of the University of California and the California State University, or a locally developed class approved by the school district or charter school.

Additionally, Governor Newsom released his proposed 2023 State Budget which allows California to further invest in critical areas of our future. Due to our prudent budget practices and record reserves, California is prepared for our softening economy. As Chair of the Assembly Education Budget subcommittee, I'm pleased to see our continued focus on expanding early education, funding TK-12 schools at record levels, and increasing access and affordability for higher education.

Thank you for your advocacy on behalf of your neighborhood.

CONTACT

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CITY AND COUNTY WORK TOGETHER ON HOMELESSNESS

Supervisor Patrick Kennedy, Sacramento County Board of Supervisors District 2

We all know that homelessness is the most vexing issue facing our cities, counties, and even neighborhoods like South Land Park. Following months of diligent work by elected officials and staff, the Board of Supervisors approved late last year a partnership agreement to increase outreach, shelter, and services to people experiencing homelessness, particularly within the City of Sacramento's boundaries.

The five-year agreement identifies the roles and responsibilities of the City and County, and demonstrates a shared commitment to reducing unsheltered homelessness through systems-level changes and strategies identified by the recently adopted [Local Homeless Action Plan](#). It includes joint outreach teams, hundreds of additional shelter beds, and a commitment to do "whatever it takes" to meet the behavioral health needs of people experiencing homelessness.

As part of the agreement, the City and County will co-staff 10 new **encampment engagement teams** to provide outreach, service delivery, and shelter placements to people in encampments within City limits. The teams will have behavioral health workers from the County, who will be qualified to provide behavioral health assessments and link people to appropriate mental health and substance use services. Additional services will be provided by the City's Department of Community Response, and through contracted outreach providers funded by Managed Care Plans, part of the CalAIM initiative. As of October 2022, two teams have been mobilized within city limits.

The City has identified initial locations to send these teams, based on camps' health and safety risks. Services such as solid waste removal and code enforcement will be provided. Best practices suggest

that ongoing visits are needed to establish trust with camp occupants, along with real-time access to services and shelter. The teams are dedicated to this level of effort, and will spend the necessary time in each camp to find individualized solutions and develop a plan for each encampment.

County behavioral health workers will conduct behavioral health assessments in the field and in City shelters, and enroll people in appropriate services. They will have the ability to write 5150 holds and petition the court for required outpatient treatment under Laura's Law. While it will take six months to ramp up all 10 teams, City and County teams have already begun working together in top-priority sites.

The County will commit to establishing and funding a new Community Outreach Recovery Empowerment (CORE) Behavioral Health Center within City limits and expanding its substance use disorder residential treatment. The County will also commit to adding 400 shelter beds within 36 months, 200 of those within 12 months. If the City provides a shovel-ready site, the County agrees to operate 200 additional shelter beds within the City. The agreement also has provisions for accountability, with progress reports in open session to both the City Council and County Board of Supervisors.

Together, we will continue to strive for a solution to this humanitarian crisis.

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CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 7 UPDATE

Councilmember Rick Jennings, Sacramento City Council District 7

Last November, it was my honor and privilege to be elected to my third term on the Sacramento City Council. Due to the redistricting process, I now represent South Land Park, and I couldn't be more excited! Over the course of my term, I will do everything in my power to represent you faithfully and make you and your community proud.

Early in March, my staff and I met with representatives from SLPNA to discuss plans for 2023. One of our discussion topics was our schedule of public events for the year, including a jazz concert at Belle Cooledge Park. We hope you join us on July 28 from 6pm–8pm for a free performance by the amazing Virginia Ayers-Dawson and AyerPlay! We had Virginia in the park last year and she brought the house down, and we're excited to see her do it again. I'll be there for the whole show and hope you drop by to say hi! I'd love to meet you.

I would also like to share an update regarding my team. In mid-March, I brought on a new staff member, Jasleen Escobar, whose primary job is constituent services and communicating directly with the District 7 community. Some of you may be familiar with her, as she served South Land Park for several years under Councilmember Jay Schenirer and is already very familiar with the neighborhood. She is looking forward to hitting the ground running and returning to serving your community and addressing neighborhood issues.

Speaking of neighborhood issues, I want you to know that I am always open to hearing your comments, concerns, and questions. For example, last year we heard from numerous South Land Park residents regarding a foul odor coming from the nearby sanitation facility, and my office worked directly with Regional Sanitation to get the issue addressed. We cannot effectively address these issues unless we hear about them, so we extend our gratitude in advance to everyone who is willing to contribute to the

community by letting us know what issues need to be addressed in the neighborhood.

I look forward to us working together to make our community better! For more info on upcoming events, you can find me on Twitter and Instagram. If you have questions or just need support from me or my staff, you can always reach out at rjennings@cityofsacramento.org or 916-808-7007. It is my immense privilege to be your Councilmember, and have a great year!

CONTACT

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📞 916-808-7007

🌐 cityofsacramento.gov/mayor-council/district-7



Councilmember Jennings attended our Del Rio Trail cleanup in June.

JOIN YOUR NEIGHBORS AT THE BELLE COOLEDGE LIBRARY!

Ashley Cane, Belle Cooleedge Library Manager

Visit the Belle Cooleedge Library for fun and engaging activities for children, teens, and families! We'd love for our neighbors to join us at our programs all through the year.

Family Storytime Every Friday 10:00–11:00 a.m.

Join us in the Belle Cooleedge community room for songs, rhymes, and stories designed to build the early literacy skills of young children. This program is for parents and caregivers of young (0–5) children; older siblings are welcome to attend.

Family Night Every 1st Thursday 3:30–5:00 p.m.

Every first Thursday of the month, attend a hands-on program for the family. Explore new and familiar artistic skills in this month's free, no registration required program. The activities will be geared towards children ages 5–12.

Teen Space 2nd and 4th Thursdays 1:30–3:00 p.m.

Sometimes you just need a place of your own! Meet other teens and enjoy games, snacks, crafts, and related activities. For ages 12–18.



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