



## Beresford/Hillsdale Neighborhood Association

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[www.beresfordhillsdale.org](http://www.beresfordhillsdale.org)

September 2013

### September General Meeting – Caltrain Electrification

#### Caltrain Electrification Process Casey Fromson

Tuesday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2013  
7:30 PM

Beresford Recreation Center  
(28<sup>th</sup> & Alameda)

*note: member votes may be taken*

At our September general meeting, Casey Fromson from the Office of Community and Government Affairs for the Caltrain Modernization Program will speak about the present status of the project.

The Electrification Project includes the electrification of the train corridor between San Francisco and San Jose, safety improvements and the replacement of current trains with high performance electric trains. Ms. Fromson will tell us about funding sources and the roles of the various participants in the project. She will update us on the status of the Environmental

Impact Report, and describe how citizens' comments and input have impacted the project. The purpose of a 2012 agreement for a "blended system" for Caltrain and High Speed Rail will be a topic, as will be the timeline for the project.

You won't want to miss this meeting, so bring your neighbors, friends, and your questions to this informative presentation.

*BHNA general membership meetings are every 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month, 7:30pm-9pm*

### Upcoming BHNA General Meeting

**October 15<sup>th</sup>** –Meet the City Council Candidates: In the November 5<sup>th</sup> City Council Elections five candidates are running for three seats. Incumbents David Lim and Robert Ross will be joined by Joshua Hugg, Joe Goethals and Karen Schmidt. Don't miss this opportunity to hear from your prospective representatives.

### Meet Your Neighbors and Learn Something New at a BHNA General Meeting

In July, we topped off our year-round series of monthly general meetings with the annual Summer Social. Members enjoyed cake and ice cream from local merchants while socializing with old and new friends. As has now become tradition, the Tarabytes played hits from the 60s and early 70s and challenged members' memories with questions about the songs. It was a fun night for all! Thanks to board member Stephanie Alley for her work in chairing this year's Summer Social.

Over the course of the last year, BHNA presented a series of interesting and educational speakers at its general meetings. In September, Greta McElroy from the San Mateo County Elections Office discussed many pertinent aspects of the local elections. In October, we learned about San Mateo's finances from Dave Culver, the City's Finance Director, and in November the topic was Health Services in San Mateo. Mayor David Lim kicked off the new year in January with a discussion of the City's improvement projects.

The February meeting featured Mike Jamieson, the historian of the Peninsula Golf and Country Club, who shared historical data and some little known details about this local treasure. The Bay Meadows Redevelopment project was the March topic. In April, BHNA members got first hand updates on the then imminent introduction of the "Bring Your Own Bag" ordinance from Sheri Costa-Batis of the City's Department of Public Works, and also were treated to a slide show about the history of the San Mateo Garden Center. The Hillsdale Mall Renovation Project was introduced to members at the May meeting and promises to be a topic of great interest for the foreseeable future. In June, the delightful Filoli Mansion and its gardens and public programs were most enticingly presented by Filoli docent Donna Mollenhauer.

The upcoming year promises many equally entertaining and instructive events. Don't miss the opportunity to learn something about issues vital to your community and to meet your neighbors.

### **Upcoming Events**

**September 7<sup>th</sup>:** The San Mateo Garden Center holds a plant sale from 10 AM to 4 PM. Cacti, succulents, and drought-tolerant plants will be available.

**September 21<sup>st</sup>:** 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Bayfront Cleanup, from 8 AM to 12 noon at Ryder Park. Help keep your community in good shape by picking up litter around our bay. A "Volunteer Thank You" barbecue will follow the cleanup.

**September 28<sup>th</sup>:** Chamber of Commerce's Bacon and Brew Festival, 12 noon to 6 PM, at the Central Park Baseball Field. A family-friendly event featuring live music, local vendors, and unique artisan crafts.

### **BHNA Helps Develop Oversize Vehicle Ordinance**

Two years ago, BHNA members, along with engaged residents of other San Mateo neighborhoods, applied the "push" for improved safety that led to the new Oversize Vehicle Ordinance. BHNA documented the need for the ordinance by providing examples of the obstructions and hazards created by large vehicles parked for long times in residential neighborhoods, and tirelessly advocated for the necessary changes. Our thanks to all who worked so hard on this ordinance, which went into effect on September 1st. It is now illegal to park most oversize vehicles (RV's, boats, trailer, trucks, etc.) in residential neighborhoods. You have probably seen the required signs at freeway off ramps. Details are on the city website, [www.cityofsanmateo.org](http://www.cityofsanmateo.org). Call the SMPD, 650-522-7700, for enforcement.

### **Update on the Hillsdale Mall Renovation Project**

Since May, we have been advising BHNA members on the environmental impact assessment process for the proposed Hillsdale Mall renovation. The project covers 12.2 acres of land. Present plans include the installation of a Target store in the former Sears location and the addition of an 860-seat luxury movie theater. The purpose of the environmental impact study is to identify the project's effect on the neighborhoods and roadways in the area. The assessment process formally began in July with a scoping meeting and initial comment period. The public is invited to continue to participate by submitting comments during two further public comment periods, scheduled for October – December 2013 and January 2014. Visit <http://www.cityofsanmateo.org/index.aspx?NID=2589> for additional information on the timeline of the project, or contact project planner Tricia Schimpp, [tschimpp@cityofsanmateo.org](mailto:tschimpp@cityofsanmateo.org) or 650-522-7244, if you have questions.

## Consider Joining the BHNA Board

Every January, we elect our Board members for the upcoming year. While that is still some months away, now would be a good time for you to think about volunteering for a position. We are looking to fill several slots and welcome your inquiries. Please call any current officer, or email the President, Sue Rowinski, at [president@beresfordhilldale.org](mailto:president@beresfordhilldale.org), to discuss how you can help in 2014. BHNA is a volunteer organization, which stays strong when members pitch in.

## How Are Our Recyclables Processed?

RethinkWaste, the joint powers authority of twelve local public agencies that collects and handles our refuse, will hold an open house on September 19. Check <http://development.rethinkwaste.org/shoreway-facility/tours/public> for more information about this event and the services RethinkWaste provides.

## Visit Our Website

You can find archived newsletters and more information about BHNA and the area we cover at [www.beresfordhilldale.org](http://www.beresfordhilldale.org).

## Favorite Merchant

Jack's Car Wash, located at El Camino Real and 37<sup>th</sup> Avenue, is a wonderful place to pamper your car, and yourself! Jack's recently reopened under new management, with all new equipment and great service. Each wash costs \$20 - \$30. You can even stay in your car to ride through the washer! Stan, 30<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

**If you have a favorite shop or business in our neighborhood, let us know. Call or email the newsletter editor (see below).**

### 2013 BHNA Officers & Directors

President	Susan Rowinski	650.522.8584	president@beresfordhilldale.org
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***If you picked up this newsletter at one of our neighborhood locations, or a member shared this with you, we invite you to contact an officer to join our association.***