



## Beresford/Hillsdale Neighborhood Association

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

March 2014

### **Darcy Forsell City of San Mateo Senior Planner**

**Tuesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2014  
7:30 PM**

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

*note: member votes may be taken*

### **March General Meeting**

To complement our February speaker, Kenneth Chin from the Department of Public Works, who presented information about "Complete Streets; Green Streets", our March meeting will host Darcy Forsell, Acting Zoning Administrator/Senior Planner with the City of San Mateo. Darcy has been working on planning issues in the Bay area for over 17 years, and has served the City of San Mateo for almost 11 years. She has primary responsibility as the project planner for the 84-acre Bay Meadows transit village. Darcy is

particularly interested in facilitating high density, mixed use infill development near transit stations, and in bicycle and park planning.

In addition to Bay Meadows, several other major projects are of interest to BHNA, including the Hillsdale Shopping Center North Block, two developments on South Delaware near the Event Center, and the Hillsdale Terrace Mixed Use proposal (including the former Taxi's site). Darcy will be available to answer your questions. Please come to the March General Meeting to hear about these important developments.

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

### **Upcoming BHNA General Meetings**

**April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014** – Sheila Canzian, director of San Mateo Parks & Recreation, will address the upgrade at Beresford and other parks in our area.

**May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014** – Michael Svanevik, CSM professor, historian and publisher of many books about our area will speak about the history of San Mateo.

**June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2014** – San Mateo Police Department representative.

### **February Meeting Recap**

At our February meeting, Ken Chin spoke about the history of transportation in San Mateo and the Sustainable Streets Project. He explained that our city started as a stagecoach stop centered around a mission. The 1906 earthquake brought many new citizens to San Mateo, and improvements of transportation along El Camino Real and the addition of a trolley service to San Francisco resulted in further growth. At the end of WWII, increased demand for housing that could accommodate cars contributed to the "car culture" in our area.

The city is now in the process of finding a balance between "car culture" and more environmentally friendly options. Ken defined the Sustainable Streets Project as two-pronged: Complete Streets, which are safe, comfortable, and convenient for cars, bicycles

and pedestrians, and Green Streets, which are safer and more aesthetically appealing through incorporation of green infrastructure such as storm water management. Many of the plans for this project are already under way. Ken also mentioned the "Taste and Talk" program, which invites citizens to become involved in the Sustainable Streets project. For more information about the Sustainable Streets project, go to [www.sustainablestreetssanmateo.com](http://www.sustainablestreetssanmateo.com), or contact Ken Chin at (650) 522-7313.

### **Be Ready, Be Safe, Be Involved Campaign**

The San Mateo United Homeowners Association, of which BHNA is a member, the City of San Mateo and San Mateo Police Department are sponsoring the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Be Ready, Be Safe, Be Involved campaign during the month of March. The purpose of the campaign is to actively engage ordinary citizens and first responders to join together to improve routine safety and to be prepared in case of a disaster. The goals of Be Ready, Be Safe, Be Involved include forming more Neighborhood Watch blocks of committed concerned residents, which is important in combating crime, and training more people in Get Ready basic disaster preparedness or in an extensive training for a Community Emergency Response Team. This training can mitigate minor issues so first responders focus on the big problems in the event of an emergency. More information can be found at [www.cityofsanmateo.org](http://www.cityofsanmateo.org).

### **San Mateo Police Activities League**

Your San Mateo Police Department (SMPD) and the City of San Mateo believe that public safety and a safe and productive future for our city are closely tied to the successful growth and development of our youth. SMPD and the Parks and Recreation Department provide targeted prevention and intervention to youths that live, work, or attend school in San Mateo through the award-winning Police Activities League (PAL) program. PAL builds the bond between cops and kids every day with activities that offer mentorship, guidance and positive role models. PAL representatives visit each 6th grade class in San Mateo's middle schools with their GREAT (Gang Resistance Education and Training) program. PAL is supported by a dedicated board of directors, sponsors, and community partners, without whom it could not offer its programs to at-risk and underprivileged youths.

### **Sidewalk Project Update**

You may have noticed that the city recently put in new sidewalks and crosswalks along Hacienda Street, between Louise Lane and 31st Avenue (an area also known as "The Lanes"). This project was in response to concerns expressed by people living in the neighborhood that speeding vehicles and a lack of sidewalks made the three-block stretch unsafe for pedestrians. Besides being a route for school children, many pedestrians regularly walk this street to get to the mall, library and adjacent parks. The installation of the new sidewalks narrowed the width of Hacienda in this "Lanes" vicinity, making safe parking impossible. In mid-February, the city therefore installed "No Parking" signs along this stretch of Hacienda. The city also hopes that a narrower road will encourage drivers to slow down.

### **San Mateo Garden Center**

There will be a workshop on bonsai, given by the Sei Boku Bonsai Club, at the San Mateo Garden Center on Saturday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, from 1-3 PM. It will include a bonsai demonstration as well as a talk on the repotting and care of bonsai.

If you like being outdoors and working with and among plants, please consider volunteering at the San Mateo Garden Center, which is located at 605 Parkside Way. The Garden Center is open Monday to Thursday from 9 AM to 1 PM and on Friday from 9 AM to 12:45 PM. You may pick the day, the hours, and the particular tasks, which could include planting, watering, fertilizing, grooming, and pruning potted plants; sweeping, raking, and many other garden activities. Contact Kaye at (650) 574-1506 for more information.

## Laurel Elementary School Electronic Waste Collection Fundraiser

On March 15, between 9am-3pm, you can support your local school by dropping off your unwanted or obsolete monitor, computer, cell phone, laptop, TV, keyboard, computer mouse, printer, fax machine, scanner or small appliance. Laurel school is located on Hacienda St. and 36<sup>th</sup> Ave. Contact Karen at [kchriste@sonic.net](mailto:kchriste@sonic.net) for more information.

## Get Paid to Transform Your Landscaping

The Bay Area Water Supply and Conversation Agency (BAWSCA) Lawn Be Gone! Program provides rebates to approved customers that convert water thirsty lawns into water-efficient landscapes. For more information call (650) 349-3000 or visit [bawasca.org/water-conservation/residential-water-conservation-programs](http://bawasca.org/water-conservation/residential-water-conservation-programs).

## Upcoming Events

**March 25<sup>th</sup> and April 29<sup>th</sup>:** These are the next two dates for Dishcrawl San Mateo, a celebration of food and a chance to try out the best downtown restaurants. Go to [facebook.com/SMBestFood](https://facebook.com/SMBestFood) or [dishcrawl.com/peninsula/](http://dishcrawl.com/peninsula/) to learn more and to buy tickets.

**April 10<sup>th</sup>:** Sustainable Streets Taste and Talk: "Completing the Transportation Network by Seeing the Bigger Picture" at the Oak Room in the Public Library (55 W. 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave, San Mateo) from 6 – 7 PM.

## Support Our Neighborhood Merchants!

BHNA's area includes opportunities for neighborhood shopping at the Laurelwood Center, on 37<sup>th</sup> Ave., and at the Bel Mateo (41<sup>st</sup>, 42<sup>nd</sup>, and 43<sup>rd</sup> Ave.) retail area. The 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue shops are also popular with our members. We encourage residents to "shop local" to keep small merchants a successful part of our neighborhood.

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

### 2014 BHNA Officers & Directors

President	Lisa Taner	650.504.8181	president@beresfordhillsdale.org
Vice President	Andrea McCutchin		vicepresident@beresfordhillsdale.org
Treasurer	Ellen Wang	650.773.3053	treasurer@beresfordhillsdale.org
Secretary	Jan Prisco	650.341.9519	secretary@beresfordhillsdale.org
Newsletter Ed.	Monika Lee	650.572.0821	newsletter@beresfordhillsdale.org
Newsletter	Claire Jensen	Intern	newsletter@beresfordhillsdale.org
Directors: Monika Lee, Andrea McCutchin, Heinz Plischke, Jan Prisco, Susan Rowinski, Kaye Sharma, Lisa Taner, Ellen Wang			

***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.***