



Beresford/Hillsdale Neighborhood Association

www.beresfordhillsdale.org

January 2016

January General Meeting

San Mateo Mayor

Joe Goethals

Wednesday, January 20, 2016

7:30 PM

Council Chambers, City Hall,
330 W 20th Avenue

note: member votes may be taken

At the first General Meeting of 2016, on **Wednesday**, January 20, BHNA will be hosting San Mateo's new mayor, Joe Goethals. The new year will see a number of significant developments and the continued implementation of the City's established agenda. Our new mayor will give an overview and speak about his plans for the City of San Mateo. (Due to his schedule, this meeting will **not** be on the usual 3rd Tuesday.)

For the first time in BHNA history the traditional meeting with the new mayor will be on his home turf, City Hall. If you have never been to the Council Chambers, take this opportunity to see first hand where our City government

takes place. If you are an "old hand" at City Hall, you know how impressive this setting is. We hope to see many of you there!

BHNA members also will be electing Directors and Officers for the year 2016. It is not too late to get onto the slate and to make good on your resolution of becoming more engaged in your community in the new year. Exciting things are happening in San Mateo, and citizen engagement is need more than ever to help address the many challenges facing the City as a result of the strong economy and huge demand for housing in our area. Please contact any of the board members listed on the back page if you are interested in joining the BHNA Board of Directors.

BHNA general membership meetings are every 3rd Tuesday of the month, 7:30pm-9pm

Upcoming BHNA General Meetings

February 2016 – To be announced. Check the February newsletter for details.

November General Meeting Recap

At our November General Meeting we learned about progress in the electrification of Caltrain and about the revised plans for the north block of Hillsdale Mall.

Casey Fromson, Caltrain's Government Affairs Officer, reported that 62,000 riders, including 6,000 bike riders, use Caltrain daily, with 60% commuting northbound and 40% travelling south. Usage

has increased significantly since 2010, and Caltrain has purchased additional cars, which will help alleviate some of the over-crowding. Federal regulations require that improvements to prevent human error and enhance safety through a smarter gate system be completed in 2016, and Caltrain is on track. 2020 is the deadline for going live with new electric trains, which will attain 79 mph, allow six trains/hour per direction, and start and stop faster than the current diesel trains, permitting more stops as well as more trains.

Bob Webster, President of Bohannon Properties, provided an update on the Hillsdale Mall Project, which was first considered more than nine years ago. Two major goals for the current Hillsdale Mall plan are sustainable design and the creation of a community that cannot be found on the internet. Consequently, a major focus will be entertainment and food. There will be a Luxury Cinema, a bocce ball/bowling alley venue, and a fitness club. Plans also include four or five full service sit-down restaurants and a central plaza with outdoor dining and a fountain.

The traffic situation will be improved by a roundabout instead of the five-way stop that is now at 31st and Edison. 31st Avenue will be narrowed into one lane each way, and the sidewalks will be widened. Green features will include a grey water system, solar system, LED lighting, high efficiency HVAC, and electric vehicle charging stations.

Ice Rink Update

On December 8 the Planning Commission held a meeting at which the future of the Bridgepointe Ice Rink was discussed. Four BHNA Board members attended, and public attendance was huge. The large number of speakers left no doubt that the ice rink has significant community support. Members of the Planning Commission asked pointed, thoughtful questions. In the end, the Commission voted 5 to 0 to keep the zoning designation of the Bridgepointe Ice Rink and to reject the plan proposed by the developer, SPI Holdings, under which SPI would pay a \$3 million recreation fee in exchange for abandoning the ice rink and constructing a retail facility in its place. However, the final decision will be with the City Council, which will consider the matter on Monday, March 4, 2016 at 7:00 PM. You can find more information at <http://savesanmateorink.wix.com/savebridgepointe>.

Did you know

that the San Mateo City Ordinance prohibits smoking in public "Service Areas," which include public dining areas, ATM and ticket lines, bus stops and taxi stands?
<http://www.cityofsanmateo.org/documentcenter/view/47538>

Membership Dues for 2016 – Online Renewal Now Available

All members of BHNA received a membership renewal slip for 2016 with the November newsletter. If you have not yet renewed, there will be another renewal slip in this edition of the newsletter. Only \$12 per household keeps you enrolled! For the first time this year, you also can renew online at the BHNA website. Go to <http://www.beresfordhillsdale.org/>, and on the home page click to sign up for membership registration. BHNA accepts major credit cards.

City Services Academy

The City of San Mateo City Services Academy is an outstanding opportunity to learn about the challenges facing municipal government today and to interact with City staff. Eleven City departments are involved (including City Council, City Manager, Community Development, Public Works, Parks & Recreation). Taught by City staff, the Academy provides an interactive learning experience through case studies, site tours, and class discussions. The program is open to anyone 18 or older, who works or resides in San Mateo and has an interest in City government. Participants must be willing to devote Wednesday nights for 12 weeks.

Sign up early for this FREE opportunity to understand, and participate directly with, our City leaders by contacting Laurie Strange, lstrange@cityofsanmateo.org, to be added to the mailing list. Applications will be available Spring 2016.

Celebrate the Super Bowl with Wounded Warrior Game at CSM

On Saturday, February 6th, noon to 3:00 PM, College of San Mateo will open College Heights Stadium to the undefeated Wounded Warrior Amputee Football Team (WWAFT) in a moving match against San Francisco’s NFL Alumni. The WWAFT is made up of men and women who lost a limb while serving in Iraq or Afghanistan. Its first game against the NFL Alumni was played prior to Super Bowl XLVI in Indianapolis. This year’s game in San Mateo will be their fifth appearance during activities leading up to the Super Bowl. Learn more and buy tickets (\$10.00) at <http://woundedwarrioramputeefootballteam.org/team-info/team-calendar/>

Traffic Concerns Outreach Forums

From January through the end of May, the Public Works Department will hold bi-weekly public forums to gather feedback and suggestions from the community regarding traffic concerns throughout the City. Each meeting starts with a PowerPoint presentation, after which small working groups will allow participants to share their views on how to improve their neighborhood’s traffic. <http://www.cityofsanmateo.org/index.aspx?NID=3128> has the full schedule.

Upcoming Events

January 14th: Traffic Concerns Outreach Forum #1 (study area: 19th Ave Park, Central, Sunnybrae), 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM at Sunnybrae Elementary School

January 23th: FREE Family Concert by the Quartet San Francisco, San Mateo Main Library, Oak Room, 3:00-4:00 PM.

Favorite Merchant

Many of us will never get to visit Cuba, but we can sample some of its cuisine by having a meal at Cuban Kitchen, opened in 2015, and located at 3799 So. El Camino (East side). Try yucca fries and plantain maduros with pickled onions for sure. Kaye, Del Ray St.

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

2015 BHNA Officers & Directors

President	Lisa Taner	(650) 504-8181	president@beresfordhillsdale.org
Vice President	Andrea McCutchin		vicepresident@beresfordhillsdale.org
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Directors: Andrea McCutchin, Jan Prisco, Robert Sellers, Lisa Taner, Anne Wilson; Directors Emeritus: Monika Lee, 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 or visit our website at http://www.beresfordhillsdale.org/?page_id=15 to join our association.