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UCCA talks one on one with Councilmember Kent Lee

universitycitynews.org

UNIVERSITY CITY... more than just a neighborhood!

University City

NEWS

One & One with District 6 Councilmember Kent Lee

by Diane Ahern

Last month, Jemma Samala facilitated the second in a series of One & One talks. This time the event was a discussion with D6 Councilmember Kent Lee. There was a standing-room-only crowd at the UC Library on Governor Drive, as Councilmember Lee responded to a series of questions and concerns posed by area residents who had submitted questions in advance and who brought up additional topics throughout the evening.

Topics included budget concerns such as funding for libraries and parks, infrastructure, and public safety. Residents also had questions about the status of local DIF (development impact fees). That have been collected and not yet spent on the community. Councilmember Lee mentioned the recent selection of a new police chief and the current recruitment of a new fire chief, emphasizing the need to find qualified candidates who know the needs of our communities and neighborhoods. Other topics of concern and interest included the status of utilities undergrounding, Costa Verde demo and re-construction, and the Pure Water project.

Jemma transitioned to questions and concerns about the community plan update. Councilmember Lee mentioned that the proposed plan lacks adequate plans for more parks, schools, and infrastructure that would be needed to support a growing population; and that he felt higher density in the area north of Rose Canyon was appropriate. He indicated he was not supportive of the townhouse idea for Governor Drive.

His office was receiving more concerns about reducing lanes and adding bike lanes on Governor Drive than any other single issue related to the community plan update. He indicated that his office is striving to get more data before commenting on any specific traffic calming measure.

Councilmember Lee's office also has received many concerns about the possibility of increased density at the two shopping areas on Governor Drive, seeming to indicate that he favors zoning that supports higher density, but he wouldn't commit to what level.

Audience members brought forward additional concerns including the number of short-term vacation rentals (STVR) in the area which impacts housing inventory, affordable housing, dog parks, evacuation planning and egress in the event of a fire emergency, and traffic calming at the Governor Drive / Genesee intersection.

For those who missed the One & One with CM Kent Lee, a is available on UCCA's website at: universitycitynews.org/UCCA/CMKentLeeApr22

DISTRICT 6
CITY BUDGET
Town Hall

Join the offices of Councilmember Kent Lee and the Independent Budget Analyst for a City Budget Town Hall to learn about San Diego's 2025 Proposed Budget.

WHEN: MAY 15, 2024 AT 6 -8PM
WHERE: 9605 SCRANTON RD, SAN DIEGO, CA 92121

To RSVP and submit questions or concerns in advance, please email BudgetandFinance@sanidieago.gov

COUNCILMEMBER KENT LEE
 SAN DIEGO CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 6

Office of the Independent Budget Analyst

CITY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING • 202 C STREET • SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92101



May General UCCA Meeting
 Wednesday, May 8, 2024
 5:30pm
 University Community Library
 4155 Governor Drive

UNIVERSITY CITY COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

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Be the Eyes and Ears of UC: The University City Community Association Newsletter is comprised of information sent to the editor. The association does not have reporters, photographers or staff. You are welcome to write and submit articles and story suggestions that pertain to community and residents.

Guidelines:

1. Your article should be approximately **250 words or less**, sent in a **Word document** and attached to an email (not within the email).
2. Include who, what, why, where, and how.
3. Be as brief and concise as possible. Editing may result in errors.
4. **DO NOT** send articles in a pdf formats.
5. UCCA does not guarantee publication.
6. Submitted materials may be published on the Internet.
7. The Editor reserves the right to edit articles as needed.
8. Articles or ads considered to be political will not be accepted.
9. Attach photos separately in a picture format at high resolution or straight from camera as a jpeg or png.
10. Send to UCCAeditor@gmail.com or jemmasamala@gmail.com.

Deadline for the JUNE 2024 issue: MAY 16, 2024

Please send your submission as early as possible. The deadline for the June issue is **May 16, 2024**, but the newsletter can fill up before the deadline. Articles and news items are reviewed as they are received. Priority may be given to UCCA members and time sensitive material. Articles may also be edited for allowed space. UCCA does not discriminate against nor endorse all information in the monthly newsletter. The UCCA Newsletter receives information and advertising from a variety of sources. UCCA cannot and does not guarantee the accuracy of the information or the complete absence of errors and/or omissions, nor does UCCA assume responsibility for the same. Publication does not constitute an endorsement.

2024 UCCA Board Members

Executive Board

President: Jemma Samala, president@universitycitynews.org

Vice-President: Jim Beshears

Secretary: Katie Rodolico

Treasurer: Phil Fowler

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Beautification Chair: Merle Langston

CASA Liaison/Corresponding Secretary/Newsletter Chair/Publicity

& Promotion/Webmaster: Diane Ahern

*Holiday Lighting: Darlene Ventimiglia

Membership: Julie Nydam

Neighborhood Watch: Barbara Gellman

*Newsletter Distribution: Don Hotz

*Newsletter Ads: Terri Day

*Newsletter Editor: Jemma Samala

North UC Liaison: Bill Beck

Parliamentarian/SD Network of Town Councils: Mack Langston

Past-President: Diane Ahern

*Special Events: Barry Bernstein

*UCPG Liaison: Katie Rodolico

*Non-Voting Position



Above: Tunnel construction is now ongoing in the center of Genesee Avenue and in the Marian Bear Park Genesee Avenue parking lot.

Pure Water Construction Begins on Nobel Drive

The University City area is currently abuzz with construction as part of the Morena Northern Pipelines & Tunnels project, a significant section of Pure Water San Diego Phase 1 development. As of early April 2024, approximately 13,000 linear feet of pipeline and 430 feet of tunnel have been installed.

Nobel Drive construction begins this month. On Friday, May 3, traffic changes and construction will begin on Nobel Drive between Genesee and Towne Center. In this segment, the following changes will take place:

- Single-lane traffic will move into the eastbound lanes
- Construction will start in the westbound lanes in phases
- "No Parking" signs will be placed around the traffic control area on both sides

Two-way traffic will be maintained, and flaggers will help direct traffic as needed. Crews will work during daytime hours from Monday through Friday and occasionally on Saturdays through Summer 2024. Please note that construction schedules may change.

Construction crews are also working hard around the following locations:

- South of Governor Drive: Pipeline installations are complete, with ongoing restoration work. Additionally, plans are being made for steel casing and pipeline installation in the SR-52 area.
- North of Governor Drive: Construction is progressing from Centurion Square to Luigi Terrace, with daytime work continuing through Fall 2024.
- On Towne Centre Drive, construction crews are wrapping up pipeline installation and making their way toward Nobel Drive.
- Tunnel construction continues at the launch shaft on Genesee Avenue, near Marian Bear Memorial Park and SR-52. Alternative parking is available at 5233 Regents Road. Additionally, tunneling work is ongoing at the I-805 shaft near Executive Drive and will soon begin in Rose Canyon near UC High School.

As the Morena Northern Pipelines and Tunnels project progresses, timely construction updates are online at: utc.purewatersd.org. For more information about the Pure Water program, please contact us via email: PureWaterSD@sandiego.gov or phone: 833-UTC-PWSD (833-882-7973)



UCCA President Jemma Samala

Wow, April was a month filled with meetings every week – primarily about the plan update. One thing we, and the city, has learned is that the residents of University City pay attention to the issues that affect our neighborhood. Thanks to all who attended our UCCA meetings in person or watched online. And although the plan update comment deadline will have passed by

the time you read this, thanks to all who did submit comments – let's see what the city does with all of them.

May is also when we celebrate Mother's Day – which is really every day, right moms! I'm lucky to have my mom living with me, and she gets to take care of her grand dogs – they keep her company and don't talk back. And in UC we have a lot of mothers. Shout out to all the moms that act as room parents, scout leaders, and team moms. Then we are fortunate enough to have the moms whose children have left the comforts of home, but still feel the need to be caregivers in their own way, by taking care of others. Like the mighty women I highlight below, who spend time, money and emotions in caring for homeless families – strangers at first, but now part of their hearts. Make sure to say thanks to all the women and men, who have become our community moms.

Later this month we have our Memorial Day holiday weekend, the unofficial start of summer. We remember those who have served our country, and we should. We salute them. I especially remember my dad, who had a brief stint in the army, but also it's around his birthday and we miss him.

Continue to keep informed and attend our next UCCA General meeting, Wednesday, May 8, 5:30pm at the UC Library on Governor Drive. And share memories of moms, dads, past service members, and of old UC with me at my next Open Hours on Saturday, May 18 from 9:00–11:00am at the Starbucks on Governor Drive.

Thank you moms and dads of UC, we're lucky to have you watch over us all.

Jemma

Thinking Locally, Acting Neighborly

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT SUPPORTING THE HOMELESS

University City residents volunteer for many groups, not just for those in UC. One group came to my attention because they were highlighted by Mayor Todd Gloria. They are a small group of senior UC residents who work together to bring food and basic necessities to the homeless living in the Jewish Family Services (JFS) safe parking lots. When the Rose Canyon lot was opened, they asked to volunteer there and work with the families living on 12 trailers provided by San Diego, and others living in their own cars.



They provide monthly meals, birthday cakes, hygiene products, and shelf stable grocery items. The on-site hut houses microwaves, small burners, and shared cooking utensils. They also get donations of books, toys, games (there's a play space in the hut); plus in the winter, they purchase pajamas, jackets and blankets.

Volunteer Deanna Dorvillier says they "spend time listening to the families, trying to find out how we can be more helpful. The children know us. They are happy little people with mile-wide smiles on their faces, grabbing us around the knees for big hugs, showing us what new things they have learned since our last visit. How can we not care about them?"

The small but mighty group could always use more volunteers. They need people with time and concern to see our local homeless move forward (many adults have jobs, but not enough income to rent). They would love to have you donate your time, and/or funds to help them continue their work. To volunteer, please contact Rita Shafer at shafer.lily@yahoo.com or Deanna Dorvillier at ddorv.ca@gmail.com.

Pictured above from left: Deanna Dorvillier, Rita Shafer, and Sharleen Sherwin

If you know of a longtime, behind the scenes volunteer for a future spotlight, contact jemmasamala@gmail.com.

Calendar

May 2024

ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

WILDFIRE AWARENESS MONTH

CINCO DE MAYO

Sunday, May 5

TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

Monday, May 6 to Friday, May 10

UCCA GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, May 8, 5:30pm

UC Library on Governor Drive

MOTHER'S DAY

Sunday, May 12

UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP

Tuesday, May 14, 6:00pm

9880 Campus Point Drive, Third Floor

Zoom available

Info: planuniversity.org

UC CELEBRATION 4th of JULY

COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, May 15, 6:30pm

Standley Rec Center

CITY BUDGET TOWN HALL

Councilmember Kent Lee

Wednesday, May 15, 6:00-8:00pm

9605 Scranton Road

RSVP and submit questions to
BudgetandFinance@sandiego.gov

JEMMA at STARBUCKS on SATURDAY

UCCA's President Open Hours

Stop by to discuss UCCA and University City

Saturday, May 18, 9:00 to 11:00am

Starbucks on Governor Drive

PEOPLE FOR A CLEAN UC

Sunday, May 19

7:15-7:30am – meet & greet

7:30-9:00am – work

Cleanup volunteers meet at Starbucks
3203 Governor Drive, supplies provided

STANDLEY PARK COMMUNITY REC GROUP

Thursday, May 23

For meeting details, call: 858.552.1651

MEMORIAL DAY

Monday, May 27

RENEW YOUR UCCA
MEMBERSHIP FOR 2024

GO TO UNIVERSITYCITYNEWS.ORG, OR MAIL
IN MEMBERSHIP FORM ON PAGE 14

Northern Division SDPD Successes

by Barbara Gellman

In February of 2024, officers responded to a burglary caser call in the area of Toscana Way. Officers contacted two individuals matching the description of the suspects (one male, one female). One of the suspects was found to be on probation and found to be in possession of narcotics. The female was found to be in possession of various identity theft related items. Both were arrested for their respective offenses.

In March, 2024, Northern Investigations and Beach Teams conducted an Organized Retail Theft Operation in the La Jolla Village shopping center. Four suspects were arrested for theft related charges during the operation. Another March incident; a suspect stole clothing from the Macy's at UTC with a concealed 12" knife in his waistband. When a loss prevention employee attempted to confront him outside the store, the suspect swung the knife and him and missed. The suspect fled the scene on foot and was apprehended by officers a short distance away. He was arrested for felony charges.

In April, 2024, Northern Investigations identified a retail theft suspect that was responsible for numerous retail thefts throughout San Diego County Costco Stores to include the Costco located on Morena Blvd. The suspect would fill shopping carts full of items and flee through an emergency exit with the items. The suspect was apprehended.

The San Diego Police Department is moving towards enforcement of the Vehicle Habitation Ordinance (VHO) as our outreach partners bring on vehicle intake coordinators during the evening intake hours at designated Safe Lots. Once that component is in place, trained Patrol Officers along with Neighborhood Policing Division will be able to conduct wider enforcement of the VHO.

For any graffiti that is noticed in the community, please complete a Get it Done report and email to Community Relations Officer Anderson Brown at Anbrown@pd.sandiego.gov and he will coordinate with our Graffiti Team.

These are some of what keeps our officers busy on our streets even though staffing is low, they are out there trying to keep us safe and need us to continue reporting issues that concern us. Being part of Neighborhood Watch provides extra eyes and ears since they can't be everywhere and they don't read Nextdoor for information. A big "thank you" to Capt. Manansala for this detailed information.

SOCKS FOR SAFETY BUYS SIGNS

Neighborhood Watch signs that are in poor condition, will be replaced thanks to the donations to our Socks for Safety program. Take a few minutes to check all styles available for children, men and women: sports, foods, gardening, dogs, cats, games, whimsical, you will find a match for anyone. Go to universitycitynews.org, click on Neighborhood Watch or send an email to bggellman@yahoo.com for the latest flyer of styles, including pickleball. Include your name, phone number, quantity, style, description and color. All are in stock but don't get left out, they move fast. Suggested donation is \$5 for each pair. Purchasing new signs, that remind us to be observant and report suspicious activity, is just one of the many projects that falls under the Socks for Safety program and we thank you.

Deception Behind the Computer Screen: Phishing, Tech and Banking Scams

by District Attorney Summer Stephan

The average person believes they would never fall for a scam that would rob them of their life savings and their dignity, but the truth is that in San Diego County, deceptive schemes trick consumers into giving up banking, credit card information and other personal data every day. Bad actors often use sophisticated methods to mimic legitimate businesses that consumers deal with regularly. Before you click on an unsolicited link that appears to be urgent, stop to think it through. You could be dealing with a scam. Common phishing scams:

- A delivery notice purporting to be from Amazon, UPS or FedEx saying a delivery is late or can't be made.
- A utility shut-off message from SDG&E saying services are scheduled to be shut off.
- A computer pop-up or email message saying your anti-virus subscription, such as McAfee, has expired and must be renewed.
- Pop-up ads purporting to be from Microsoft warning your computer has been hacked.

These scams trick innocent people into going to phony websites that look legitimate, leading unsuspecting victims to click on links that download malware and give access to private information. This could lead to extortion, identity theft and financial ruin. Another relentless scam begins as a tech scam and quickly turns into a banking scam. Ways this scam works:

- It starts with bad actors sending phony Microsoft pop-up ads warning that the user's computer has been hacked.
- This quickly turns into a banking scam, with the same bad actor pretending to be from a financial institution.
- They trick victims into believing their bank accounts have been compromised and they must pull out their money to keep it safe during the 'investigation.'
- Criminals convincing victims that their financial advisors are under investigation and cannot be trusted.
- The victim is coaxed into giving their money to the fraudster for safekeeping.
- The fraudsters warn the victim not to say anything or risk being harmed or going to jail.

In a local case that robbed a San Diego senior out of \$200,000, the scammers were part of a transnational criminal network that use couriers to pick up money from victims. Several times a week, couriers come into San Diego County to collect funds from elderly victims who are scammed out of their life savings. The criminal network uses ride share companies to pick up fraudulently obtained funds. Couriers most commonly pick up money from victims and deliver it to another person in the network, or they convert the cash to cryptocurrency and send it out of the country. In most cases, once the money is sent by the victims, it cannot be recovered.

If you or a loved one receive a message prompting you to click on a link, stop. Do not click on unsolicited links and do not deal with the person sending the message. Instead, contact your financial institution or the company the bad actor may be impersonating. Don't click, call or answer if:

- You get a phone call you didn't expect saying there is a problem with your computer.
- You get a message that a foreign spammer attacked your system and you need to pay to protect your banking information.
- If you are asked to make payment in Bitcoin or wire transfer.
- Never, under any circumstances allow anyone to install remote access software onto your computer or device.

To report a consumer complaint, call 619.531.3507 or email consumer@sdcdca.org. If you have been the victim of elder abuse, report it to Adult Protective Services: 800.339.4661.





SD County Mobile Crisis Response Teams Work

*by Terra Lawson-Remer
Supervisor, County of San Diego, District 3*

Our push three years ago to implement countywide Mobile Crisis Response Teams (MCRT) is working! In case you are not familiar with the program, MCRTs are made-up of a case manager, clinician, and peer support specialist that respond to non-violent calls to 911 or 988 to help a person experiencing a mental health crisis.

In April of 2021, my first year on the Board of Supervisors, I co-authored a policy to increase services levels and fund a public information campaign about MCRTs. Today, we have nearly four dozen teams servicing residents countywide, 24-hours a day, seven days a week. As the San Diego Union Tribune recently reported, between July of last year and January of this year, there was a 43% rise in service from the prior six months, and a 20% increase from 2002. People in our region are using this service, and it's helping to ensure residents in need get the care they need, when they need it.

Mobile Crisis Response Teams are protecting people from falling deeper into a state of mental health crisis and substance abuse. Individuals, and/or their families are recognizing the County of San Diego is here to help, and they are taking advantage of this vital resource.

If you or a loved-one is in need of help, please call the County of San Diego Access and Crisis Line at 9-8-8 for assistance. To learn more about other work we've done to deliver better mental health and substance abuse services, visit: supervisorterrallawsonremer.com/content/d3/us/en/priorities-policy/delivering_mental_health_treatment.html



e-Bike Safety Training (AB 2234) Moves Forward

by Assemblymember Tasha Boerner, 77th District

In April, I presented #AB2234 on E-Bike Safety Training to the Assembly Committee on Transportation. AB 2234 is an opt-in pilot program for San Diego County that would ban children under the age of 12 from riding e-bikes. If a child is cited with a violation (valued at \$25), they can pay the fee or opt to take an online traffic class on e-bikes. Thank you to

Scott Chadwick, City Manager of the City of Carlsbad (pictured at right with me and Assemblymember Chris Ward, 78th District), for being my witness at the committee hearing. For more information, visit: a77.asmdc.org

District 6 Councilmember Kent Lee

Hello University City Neighbors,

It's Spring and there is a lot of activity in our community and at City Hall! Recently, San Diegans came together to mark the week of Passover and I want to extend warm wishes to all who celebrated! My family and I also had the pleasure of celebrating Thai, Lao, and Cambodian New Year throughout the last month, which takes us into May as we recognize Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month.

Spring also marks the next stage of the City's annual budget process – and we encourage you to keep reading below to learn how you can share your priorities for this year's critical budget cycle. Looking forward, we have an array of exciting events lined up coming up across the city, I hope to see you out in the community!

First off, thank you to UCCA for hosting me recently as part of their ongoing "One-on-One" series. It was great to see so many members of the community in attendance and to be able to discuss everything from parks and libraries to public safety and, of course, the UC plan update.

We recently had the pleasure of hosting the 2nd graders of La Jolla Country Day School at City Hall as part of their experiential learning of government branches program. We are proud to have La Jolla Country Day School in District 6 and can't wait to see what the future has in store for these bright students!

As a Board member of the North County Transit District (NCTD), I'm happy to share that the proposal to continue as well as expand the Sorrento Valley COASTER Connection (SVCC) service routes was unanimously approved. Starting June 10, 2024, NCTD will take over the SVCC service by implementing 5 routes in Sorrento Valley East, Sorrento Mesa, Carroll Canyon, Torrey Pines, and University City/UCSD. This expansion will help improve mobility needs for District 6 and serves as a critical connection for those who commute daily to UC's vibrant economic corridor as well as the Blue Line Trolley.

Lastly, as chair of the city's Budget & Government Efficiency Committee, I want to ensure you know about an opportunity to make your voice heard for this year's budget process. I encourage everyone to participate in our office's upcoming Budget Town Hall on May 15, where we will be joined in the District by the Office of Independent Budget Analyst. Your input and engagement are invaluable to creating a fair, responsible, and balanced budget.

The Budget Town Hall will take place on May 15 from 6:00pm to 8:00pm at 9605 Scranton Rd, San Diego, CA 92121. To RSVP and submit questions or concerns in advance, please email BudgetandFinance@san Diego.gov. Additional public hearings will take place at City Hall on May 1 and 8 at 6:00pm. More information on the full budget review process can be found at www.sandiego.gov/citycouncil/cd6/budget.

All the best,

Councilmember Kent Lee

As always, if you have any concerns our office can help you with, please feel free to contact me or my University City representative, Zach Burton, at ZBurton@san Diego.gov

University Community Branch, 4155 Governor Drive, San Diego, CA 92122: 858.552.1655

sandiego.gov/public-library/locations/university-community-library

North University Community, 8820 Judicial Drive, San Diego, CA 92122; 858.581.9637

sandiego.gov/public-library/locations/north-university-community-library

Library Hours and programs are subject to change. Call to confirm hours and events.

Local libraries are currently open on Monday and Tuesday from 11:30am to 8:00pm; and Wednesday through Saturday from 9:30am to 6:00pm. University branch closed Sundays; North University branch open Sundays 1:00-5:00pm.

Libraries will be closed on Monday, May 27, in observance of Memorial Day.

What's Happening at the Libraries?

North University Community Library

ALL AGES

AAPI Heritage Month Celebration: Kuchipudi Performance: Saturday, May 18 at 3:00-3:30pm. In honor of Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month, we will host a 20-minute performance of Kuchipudi, a traditional dance form originating from the Andhra Pradesh region of India.



YOUTH PROGRAMS

Left: Librarian Johanna Enciso and Library Assistant Lily Li will lead Bilingual Spanish and Mandarin storytime events in May.

Bilingual Storytime: Starting Sundays at 2:00pm on May 5 (Spanish), May 12 (Spanish), May 19 (Mandarin), and May 26 (Spanish).

"NuMuZ" Music Club for Teens and Tweens: Friday, May 3, 3:45-5:00pm. Teens are encouraged to bring their musical instruments for a jam session.

Jewish American Heritage Toddler Craft: Monday, May 6 at 11:45am-12:15pm.

Jewish American Heritage Storytime: May 8, 10:00-11:15am.

Ballerina Storytime: Saturday, May 25, 10:00-11:00am. Join City Ballet of San Diego for "A Book and a Ballerina!" Enjoy listening to a read-aloud, hearing from a professional ballerina, and learning some basic dance steps. This hour-long program is an introduction to the world of classical ballet for kids in grades Pre-K through 5.

ADULT PROGRAMS

Movie Screening: Crossing Delancey (1988): Friday, May 10 at 3:00-5:00pm. In honor of Jewish American Heritage Month, we will host a movie showing of Crossing Delancey (1988), directed by Joan Micklin Silver. Crossing Delancey is a romantic comedy about Isabella, a single independent woman and bookseller who gets caught in her grandmother's matchmaking schemes. Rated PG. Run time: 1 hour 37 minutes.

Lecture Series: Frida Kahlo and her Art: Saturday, May 11 at 1:30-3:00pm. The San Diego Independent Scholars organization presents a Monthly Lecture Series event. This lecture explores the life of Frida Kahlo and her art.

Page to Screen: Tuesday, May 14 at 5:30-7:30pm. We will screen *Rebecca* (1940) directed by Alfred Hitchcock.

Pakiramdam/Feeling (Asian American Pacific Islander Mental Health Workshop): Saturday, May 18 at 4:30-5:30pm. Join us for an engaging and interactive discussion on AAPI mental health and wellness practices. In this workshop, we will define and interpret the term "Pakiramdam"/Feeling and identify ways to apply this practice to better support ourselves as we move through our daily routines.

Celebrity Memoir Book Club: Tuesday, May 28 at 6:00-7:30pm. Title: *Enough Already* by Valerie Bertinelli.

University Community Library (Governor Drive)

ALL AGES PROGRAMS

Free Comic Book Day: Saturday, May 4. Pick up a free comic book and enjoy crossword puzzles and other crafts at the activity table. While supplies last.

Friends of the Library Book Sale: Saturday, May 11 from 10:00am to 4:00pm. CASH ONLY. We are looking for two strong volunteers to help move boxes of books from 9:00-11:00am and again from 3:00-5:00pm. If interested, contact Branch Manager Melissa Martin.

Beginning Vegetable Gardening: Saturday, May 18 from 10:00 to 11:30am. Learn the ins and outs of growing your own vegetables from a San Diego County Master Gardener.

Paint and Sip: Wednesday, May 29 from 2:30 to 4:00pm. Enjoy refreshing *nonalcoholic* beverages and snacks while a craft leader guides you through creating a lovely piece of art on canvas. Ages 10 and up. Online registration begins May 6.

CHILDREN/TEEN PROGRAMS

Toddler Storytime & Craft – Wednesdays, 10:30am

Children's Take-Home Craft: 2nd Tuesday of the month

Coming to UC Library: D&D Club for teens. The Library will hold a special meet-up for teens to create their own D&D characters. Teens can use these characters to participate in quests as part of a new D&D club led by Phil. Details soon.

ADULT PROGRAMS

Qi Gong: Thursdays, 9:30-11:30am; 2nd Saturday, 9:30 to 11:30am (next class May 11, meets outside on the lawn). This newly added class meets the 2nd Saturday of every month.

Great Decisions: 3rd Fridays 1:00 to 3:00pm. The Great Decisions global affairs discussion group is looking for one or two new members. The group meets on the third Friday of every month (March through October). Participants read through a guided curriculum (book provided) and are encouraged to do additional reading to bring discussion points to the table. For more info, please contact Branch Manager Melissa Martin.

Therapeutic Arts with Ms. Saeda: Tuesday, May 14 at 12:30-2:00pm. If you miss Zentangle or enjoy creating art in a peaceful environment, give Ms. Saeda's class a try!

Self-Defense for Seniors: Thursday, May 16 at 1:00 to 2:30pm. Come for this informational talk and learn how to be more aware of self-defense techniques and how to avoid becoming a victim. Find out about the pros and cons of pepper spray, how to use household items as improvised weapons and how to use a cane to defend yourself, called "Cane Fu." Watch as a volunteer helps demonstrate techniques to defend against the type of attacks most likely to occur during an assault: wrist grabs, chokes, holds, etc. Whatever your age or physical ability, these techniques are simple to learn, easy to remember, yet effective enough to incapacitate an attacker.

Sign-ups begin May 1 for the following classes:

Watercolor for Beginners (4-class series): Fridays, 11:00am-1:00pm (5/24, 5/31, 6/7, 6/14)

Introduction to American Mahjong (4-class series): Saturdays, 9:30am-12:00pm (6/1, 6/8, 6/16, 6/22)

San Diego OASIS classes and the Watercolor and Mah Jongg series from February through June 2024 are funded with generous support from District 6 Councilmember Kent Lee.



UC Girl Scouts Spring Campout

by Ioana Bulbas

A “GIRL-Mazing Race” at Mission Trails Park. Puzzles and challenges, like the dreaded broccoli smoothie station. And of course, s’mores. These were some of the fun activities that UC Girl Scouts who gathered at Kumeyaay Lake last month for their annual KODA Camp were able to enjoy.

Traci DeMarco put together the successful “GIRL-Mazing Race” for the 5th-8th graders. Then in the afternoon the older girls helped run the race stations for the K-4th graders. Teams of two raced around the campground solving puzzles and performing physical challenges. Saturday evening everyone gathered at the campfire for s’mores, skits and songs. Pictured above, the fun weekend ended with a closing friendship circle. Koda means “friendship” in the Dakota language.

Early bird registration for the new fall Girl Scout year is happening now through May 31. New signups and returning girls receive a special Early Bird patch. Check out sdgirlscouts.org and ucgirlscouts.weebly.com for more info.

UC Library Friends Update

by Helen Lebowitz

Mark your calendars for The Friends of the UC Library big book sale on Saturday, May 11, from 10:00am to 5:00pm in the library Community Room. Adult and children’s fiction and non-fiction, DVDs, CDs and puzzles and games will all be for sale at rock bottom prices. Cash only sales, so come prepared.

The Friends would like to thank the community for the generous donations of both money and materials for our sales we have received this year. Every dollar spent by you stays right here at our branch. The Friends also contribute to the City’s Matching Fund program when requested by the branch manager, Melissa Martin. Funds from the Match pay for programs, such as the Summer Reading Program, materials and equipment throughout the year.

The Mayor’s proposed budget has been made public recently and again the libraries will see a shortfall in funding. The Library Ordinance goal is 6% of the General Fund annually and is presently at only 3.45%. This translates to unrealized funding for libraries of over \$640 Million in the past 22 years! There is now over \$50 Million in deferred maintenance alone. We are well behind the County and many urban areas throughout the country on per capita funding. More cuts next year will impact staffing, programs, etc. We know you love your library and realize how important it is to the University City community. Please contact your City Council member and the Mayor and have your voices heard.

Local Kids Win SD County Comic Competition

by Erika Bird

Four University City residents who each entered this year’s third annual Financial Literacy Superheroes Competition won for their entry encouraging healthy financial literacy habits. All four were honored with the other winners from across San Diego County at an Awards Ceremony held at the Comic-Con Museum on April 13. Hosted by the San Diego Council on Literacy, this annual competition invites local kids ages 4-17 to submit graphic art entries that are comic-book themed and include a financial literacy or money management message.

“Getting kids excited about financial literacy can be challenging, but it’s incredibly important to an individual’s long-term success, so we developed this competition with a fun focus on mediums that families love – comics and superheroes,” said, Jose Cruz, CEO of the San Diego Council on Literacy. “Through this artistic approach, we can spark family conversations on key critical money management skills, like the importance of saving or borrowing wisely.”



UTC residents Katherine Schlossberg won in the category age 4-6 (above right); Lauren Schlossberg won in the category ages 7-10 (above left); Henry Jiang won with his father David Jiang in the category 11-17 with a parent; and Kevin Jiang took the Solo Winner prize for the age category 11-17 (right).



COMMUNITY SHORTS



24th ANNUAL COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE – Saturday, June 1

Get ready to shop everyone! Maps, addresses and descriptions of what is being sold will be available at 7:00am at Coldwell Banker UC, 3959 Governor Drive. If you would like to participate with a garage sale, contact your Coldwell Banker UC agent or email coldwellbankeruc@gmail.com by May 29.

COMMUNITY ROOM AT EXHIBIT

During may to July 2024, the Community Room at the UC Library on Governor Drive is showing: Pastel Art. An exhibit of works by students of Rochelle Bradford. Enjoy the variety of subjects in works of art done by students who range from beginners to those with ten years or more of experience. The Opening Reception is Friday, May 17 at 4:00pm.

UCUC NEIGHBORHOOD FOOD DRIVE

Sunday, May 5 – 11:30am to 12:30pm

2877 Governor Drive, Parking lot off of Gobat Avenue

The food drive is for the benefit of Community Christian Service Association (CCSA). Thanks to the generosity of members and neighbors, UCUC exceeded the April goal of collecting 60+ cans of fruit and vegetables to commemorate the 60th anniversary of UCUC worship. Appreciation abounds. Further details about the invaluable services CCSA provides, may be found at ccsasandiego.org. Info about UCUC: ucuc.org

FRONT PORCH PANDEMIC JAZZ BAND

May 2 will be a celebration of International Jazz Day, as well as the 4th anniversary of the band, with the original four musicians and a rotation of guest musicians still happily jamming away. They continue to play two hours every Thursday starting around 4:00-4:30pm at 5626 Bloch St. Seating is around the neighborhood, bring your own chairs, blankets, and picnic dinner. Plus, the concerts are always FREE!

SAN DIEGO BLOODMOBILE ON MAY 11

The UC Blood Champs, the UCUC San Diego Blood Bank Bloodmobile will be at the Sprouts Marketplace on Governor Drive on Saturday, May 11 from 8:00am to 1:30pm. If you're 17+, healthy, and want to help people anonymously, you can sign up at: musdbb.org or call 619.400.8251. Appointments are encouraged. Shout out to early signers: Gerald S. and Julia C. Remaining 2024 dates: July 13, September 14 and November 16.

LA JOLLA FRIENDLY VISITORS

La Jolla Friendly Visitors originated in 2013, as a free sister program to La Jolla Meals on Wheels. Our objective is to provide companionship to our in-home neighbors by matching them with an appropriately screened and trained volunteer who shares similar interest and background. We are continuously looking for clients and volunteers to participate in this program. We ask our volunteers make a commitment to visit their senior, one to two hours per week. Our goals are to reduce isolation that may come from being homebound, to increase our clients' quality of life, and to give them a broader experience of community. If you are interested, please visit us on our website: www.lajollamealsonwheels.org.

SAVE THE DATE: CONCERT IN THE DRIVEWAY

Greg Zinser and his guest musicians continue their Concerts in the Driveway at 3385 Willard Street. The next scheduled concert is Saturday, June 9 from 3:00 to 5:00pm. Also, bring your chairs, blankets, picnics for the free neighborhood concert. Another FREE community event!



Memorial Day at Miramar National Cemetery Remembering the 80th Anniversary of D-Day

by Diane Ahern

On Sunday, May 26, at 1:00pm, gather at the Miramar National Cemetery Amphitheater for a special program to honor and remember over 1.2 million American men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice defending our country.

At Miramar National Cemetery, there are 30,000 veterans and their families interred. While on the hallowed grounds, attendees will be able to visit the Memorial Walkway, POW Liberation Memorial, and Veterans Tribute Tower and Carillon. Several local WWII D-Day Veterans will be in attendance. Keynote speaker is Dr. Gregory A. Daddis, U.S. Army (Ret.). Dr. Daddis is the Director of the SDSU Center of War and Society.

The ceremony is open to the public, free to attend, and there will be plenty of free parking. For more information, visit: miramarcemetery.org/event/memorial-day-2024

UCUC CELEBRATES 60 YEARS

by Sally Buffington

Hallelujah! UCUC is 60! The "taco temple" (as some have called it) at the corner of Governor Drive and Stresemann Street, University City United Church continues to thrive. Since its first meeting at Marcy school in 1964, UCUC has offered spiritual nurture, music, and community, guided first by founding minister Rev. Douglas Koehler and his wife Betty, then Rev. Curt Fuller, and now Rev. Iona Dickinson. UCUC is also home to the UCUC Preschool, a distinguished community for young children based on Reggio-Emilia principles.

A member of the United Church of Christ denomination, UCUC is an open, friendly, and progressive church. We take the Bible seriously but not literally, offering Christian Education to all ages with a focus on



loving and inclusion. We especially welcome children in worship and Sunday School. UCUC is a wonderful church for those who are searching; none of us claims to have all the answers, but we follow Jesus' teachings and work to love and care for one another. Also, UCUC is proudly Open and Affirming, incorporating our denomination's outreach to the LGBTQ+ community.

UCUC is a founding member of the Community Christian Service Agency (CCSA); every month we hold First Sunday Food Collection for CCSA in our parking lot from 11:30am to 12:30pm. UCUC also sponsors refugee families. To everyone, we say, "No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here." Visit us at UCUC and let us get to know you! Learn more at www.ucuc.org.

Help Wanted for UC Celebration

by Diane Ahern

Planning is underway for the annual UC Celebration on the 4th of July at Standley Park. Many volunteers are needed to help make this community family event a huge success. If you and your family plan to attend, please also plan to contribute your time and energy. Registration for booth rentals, volunteers, sponsorships, and more is now open at: uccelebration.com.

The next meeting of the UC Celebration committee will be on Wednesday, May 15, at 6:00pm at Standley Recreation Center, 3585 Governor Drive. This is a public meeting and anyone with suggestions and an interest in the UC Celebration is urged to attend. The Celebration planners are seeking event sponsors, and help with vendor booths, set up and take down, and volunteer coordination. Please contact Randall Tonini for meeting and other information: randalltonini@icloud.com



Photo courtesy Tom Cartier

ZONE 0 Your Home's Wildfire Safety Buffer

Adapted from information provided by
Cal Fire and San Diego Fire

Do you live on or near a canyon? Are you in a very high fire hazard severity zone? Is your home vulnerable to fire? The answer is probably yes if you live in University City.

Defensible space is crucial for your home's wildfire safety. It's the buffer zone you create between your property and the surrounding wildland area. This space is key to slowing or stopping wildfire spread and protecting your home from embers, flames, or heat. It also gives firefighters a safer area to defend your property.

Zone 0 extends 0- 5 feet from your home, focusing on reduction of fuel adjacent to your home to protect it against ember attacks. While not legally required yet, Zone 0 is key for wildfire defense and preventing fires from spreading to your home. Here are the current guidelines:

- Use gravel, pavers, or concrete instead of combustible mulch
- Clear dead weeds, grass, and debris; check roofs, gutters, and outdoor areas
- Keep branches trimmed 10 feet away from chimneys and stovepipes
- Minimize combustible items like furniture and planters on decks
- Move firewood and lumber away from Zone 0 for safety
- Replace combustible fencing and gates with fire-resistant materials
- Shift garbage and recycling containers to a safer area outside this zone
- Relocate boats, RVs, and vehicles away from this zone to reduce fire risks

For more info, visit: readyforwildfire.org. For more info about the University City Fire Safe Council, contact president Lou Rodolico at: lourodolico@yahoo.com.

Summer in University City sounds good! Save the date for these fun and family friends events at Standley Park.

- Summer schedules at area Recreation Centers and Pools begin during May and June. For the most up-to-date information, visit: sandiego.gov/park-and-recreation/centers
- Summer Movies in the Park begin with Sandlot at Standley Park on Saturday, June 1. The complete schedule is available at: summermoviesinthepark.com
- UC Celebration at Standley Park is Thursday, July 4. The volunteer information and more is available at: uccelebration.com

Summer Concerts at Standley Park begin Sunday, July 14 and continue through August 25. When available, the complete schedule will be available at: universitycitynews.org/summer-concerts-in-standley-park

Friends of the Library Book Sale

Stock up on children's books, fiction for all ages, find a great cookbook, puzzles, bookmarks and so much more—all at great prices.

Proceeds benefit the UC Library.

Saturday
May 11
10:00a-4:00p

UC PEOPLE: GREG ZINSER

by Vince Reardon



Greg Zinser, formerly the CEO at the helm of the distinguished Vista Hill Foundation, has now turned his leadership to a more melodic mission – cultivating the seeds of musicality in UC’s young minds. Through his Music123 program, Zinser orchestrates a future rich in tunes and tempo for thousands of elementary school students. His initiative is more than education, it’s a stage set for a crescendo of learning and personal growth.

Zinser’s journey into music education advocacy began in the early ‘90s when he, alongside his sons, provided the musical entertainment for Taste of the Triangle fundraisers supporting EdUCate!, a foundation providing supplementary funds for UC public schools. It was through EdUCate! that he became aware of the need for a music program in the UC elementary schools and created an interactive musical curriculum in 2018. It was originally a six-week program for grades 1 through 3, but in 2023, popularity of the program resulted in the creation of a second six-week program and the addition of grades 4 and 5. His structured sessions – 45 to 50 minutes of musical exploration once a week for six weeks in each of the two programs – have become a hallmark of his educational suite.

Zinser’s goal rings clear: to install a lifelong appreciation for music’s rich tapestry. His impact echoes through the halls of elementary schools throughout San Diego County where he has reached over 3,000 students in over a dozen schools including Spreckels, Doyle and Clairemont Canyons, to name a few.

Wielding a conductor’s baton and driven by a profound vision, Zinser is not just teaching notes and chords; he’s crafting a legacy. Since its inception, the program has been offered completely free of charge, aiming to remove financial obstacles and make the gift of music accessible to all. For more details about the Music123 program, including how interested schools can get in touch, please visit Greg’s website at www.music123.org.

His efforts resonate beyond mere academia, transforming UC’s vibrant classrooms into arenas where music becomes the language of possibility, inspiring a perennial love for the arts in San Diego’s future generations.



UC GARDEN CLUB GETS COLORFUL

by Jemma Samala

UC Garden Club members gathered together on April 20 in the colorful backyard of Brett and Alan Lutze. Much of the mosaic garden artwork was created by Alan, and he designed the fountain table as well. The garden art is interspersed with beautiful succulents and flowers, with every corner filled with an artistic delight for the eyes. One hidden corner offered a painted bin transformed into a koi pond.



Since the date was on 4/20, it wouldn’t have been a complete garden club meetup without a discussion on growing cannabis. Paula and Greg Geyer made that presentation and discussed the medical benefits in helping alleviate aches and pains, including providing a good night’s sleep and reducing those midnight trips to empty your bladder.

Future topics include: Growing from seed, making Cyanotype prints, roses, and herbal uses. The May meetup will be at the home of Jim Beshears. To get on the UC Garden Club list, send an email to: jemmasamala@gmail.com.

EARTH DAY IN UNIVERSITY CITY



UC DEL SOL CLEANS UP

On April 21, UC Del Sol celebrated Earth Day by hosting a field cleanup at Standley Fields. Players and their families came together as a community to clean up litter on the fields, organize the batting cage, pull weeds, clear overgrown landscape, and level the playing fields. Thanks to all who volunteered!

UC Del Sol's Closing Day is Saturday, May 4, and then the teams turn to the tournament season. For more information about UC Del Sol, go to ucdelsol.com.



CLEAN SCHOOL BUSES ARRIVE AT UC HIGH SCHOOL

Congressman Scott Peters joined students at University City High School to discuss a recent \$12.4 million grant to fund 30 new clean, zero-emission buses that will replace diesel buses. The grant was funded through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law that he and President Biden authored in 2021. They were joined by administrators, student leaders, members of the bus fleet maintenance team, and EPA Regional Administrator Martha Guzman, who has been a wonderful partner in the effort and in fighting the cross-border sewage crisis.

Information released by Congressman Peters office.



SPRECKELS 2nd GRADERS LEARNS TO UPCYCLE

by Summer Haines

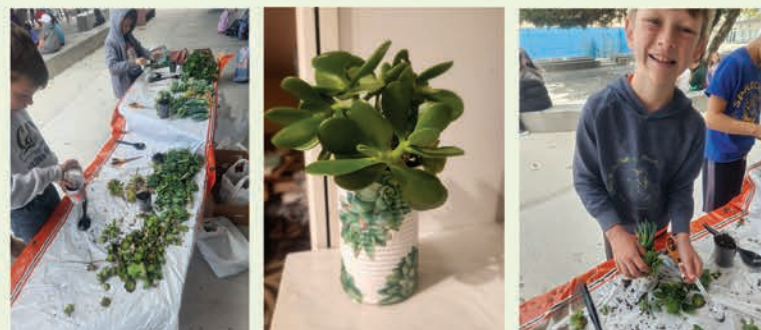
At Spreckels Elementary, every day is Earth Day! As parents, we are very proud of the lessons taught and the examples set by the teachers, administrators, and staff at Spreckels around recycling, repurposing, and reusing. With inspiration and direction from a dedicated parent volunteer, Mia Yoon, the second grade class celebrated Earth Day with a little help from our UC neighbors.

This project repurposed soup cans as planters for native species succulents. A fantastic idea that required 125 cans and quick! Hello, UC Buy Nothing! Cans, boxes, rocks, and succulent cuttings were all donated to help provide for the 5 second grade classes. Thank you, neighbors!

Students spent the first day learning how to decoupage using Spring themed napkins; some repurposed from leftover baby showers and Easter brunch. Parent volunteers took this opportunity to ask students questions about Earth Day values. We are pleased to report that our children get it. Thank goodness!

Then, it was time to be one with the Earth and get a little dirty. Surrounded by repurposed materials (Rubio's serving spoons, plastic cups, grocery bags, boxes, Halloween tablecloth) 3 x 3 the children filled their finished cans and made their succulent selections. They absolutely loved the varieties and each garden was as unique and creative as the students.

What started as an idea a mother and daughter wanted to share with their class, morphed into a grade level project with a community's support. We love our Spreckels and UC Communities and we love our Earth! 🌍



Community Plan Update Subcommittee

Zoom Meeting Held on April 16, 2024

*by Katie Rodolico, CPUS Member,
UCCA Secretary and UCPG Liaison*

Agenda and supporting documents for this meeting, and previous meetings can be found at www.planuniversity.org/. **Andy Wiese** UCPUS chair opened the meeting explaining that three areas of focus would be discussed: Land Use/EIR, Mobility, and Parks. After that open discussion on topics outside these three areas would be available.

Non Agenda Public Comment:

Barry Bernstein: Asked if the large DIF fund could be used in the plan for support of public services in all UC (i.e. libraries/rec. centers)

Diane Ahern: Announced the one & one meeting with Kent Lee.

Agenda

Andrea Contreras, an attorney hired to review the draft EIR presented her findings. She reported that the draft EIR doesn't consider the impacts of the reduced lanes on Governor. Doesn't consider existing conditions. Inadequate analysis of emergency access. Draft EIR concludes the impact is less than significant but is based on current conditions. CEQA allows for multiple alternatives, but only the High Density (HD) alternative was included in DEIR. Did not include the community preferred alternative from the discussion draft. The DEIR is inadequate as an informational document. Feels there are significant deficiencies in the draft EIR.

Land Use and PEIR discussion:

- concern about Level of Service (LOS) on Governor Drive if there are lane reductions.
- Request to reduce density at Sprouts to 29 dwelling units/acre (du/acre), 40' height limit, 30' setback, 80% of ground floor retail to be community retail. Request to reduce density at Vons to 54 du/acre, 50' height limit, 30' setback, 80% of ground floor to be community retail.
- EIR does not address impacts from increased population on open spaces. Doesn't analyze full buildout of project, and states the High Density (HD) alternative is not feasible, yet concludes HD alternative is environmentally superior.
- City should not have used the HD map as the alternative. Should have instead used the community preferred map from the discussion draft.
- Since offsite inclusionary is allowed, city should eliminate in-lieu alternative for alternate compliance.
- Proposed density in plan area is greater than forecast for entire city. Should be shared across city.
- City's presentation at UCPG was Hutzpah.
- School district states new elementary school needed, but city fails to locate a school location.
- High tech jobs have transitioned to remote work since plan was started. With seat sharing and flex arrangements less office space needed than what was assumed at beginning of plan. Currently a large amount of available sf of office and biotech space.
- Property owners should be notified if their parcel is being converted to open space.
- CirculateSD wants plan that addresses both housing and climate crisis. Prefers HD option.
- Transition slope of high rise near residential and wildlife should be 45 degrees. Setbacks near wildlife should be 50' with limitations on noise, lights in setback area.
- Project at Nobel and Genesee is only providing 3% inclusionary housing. City should analyze inclusionary units that will come online with new map, complete communities, and density bonuses.
- University is the region's largest employment center. Deed restricted inclusionary housing will reduce new housing being built.

Discussion on Mobility:

- Need to look at emergency egress if lanes are restricted on Governor.
- Need to look at emergency response if lanes are restricted on Governor.
- Sprouts should not have increased density since only one bus goes by this route.
- Traffic analysis in appendix A is a draft document. No egress routes identified.
- Likes new intersection layouts, thinks they should happen before new development, not wait on new development.
- Plan does not address parking. Need parking structures that also support EV charging.
- 62 stops on trolley line, density should be spread out along trolley. Need real world transportation analysis.
- DIF funds were removed, who will pay for street upgrades. Buffered bike lanes are expensive.
- City hasn't completed approved bike lanes on the books.
- Governor should stay 4 lanes with sharrows (shared lanes with bicycles).

Discussion on Parks:

- Proposed parks in North Torrey Pines and Eastgate are in non-residential areas.
- In-lieu fees for amenities allows developers to avoid putting in required amenities.
- Privately owned public accessible park amenities should be 10% of land, not 5%.
- Membership should not be required for any private owned amenities that qualify as public amenities.
- Available hours for privately owned public amenities should be broader than 8:00am to 8:00pm.
- City should evaluate the decrease in parks per capita as population increases. Show the deficit in acres, not just park points.
- Park points system offers only 1/6th of previously required parks.
- Parks deficit looks bad for the city. Future residents underserved.
- JCC should become publicly accessible when lease is up. Should be in plan. Gliderport offers more park amenities than currently recognized.
- Parks plan requires 20% of the points be from land acquisition.
- Look at former golf course for joint use opportunity. Add raised walkway adjacent to Eastgate Mini park 2 to provide educational opportunities to view wildlife such as vernal pools.
- Proposed overlook parks should be run by the parks department.
- Parks should be places kids can run and kick a ball. Should be within 15 minutes walkable for quality of life.
- Lack of traditional parks will put pressure on canyons such as Rose Canyon.

Open Comments:

- Plan should explain and evaluate how plan's land use works with other planning projects such as density bonuses and complete communities.
- Takes 1 hour 20 min to get downtown from south UC by bus. You need to drive to take the trolley.
- Previous plan had community goals. Why were those stripped out?
- All new and in process community plan updates have park deficits, even with reduced requirements under the new points system.
- Ageism is built into plan. Can't expect a senior to ride bike to cardiologist appt.
- There should be shuttles that have stops to pick up school kids to take them to school.
- Several requests for an action plan and next steps.

Andy Weise requested that people submitting comments send them also to himself and Chris Nielsen (UCPG chair).

UCPG meeting will meet on May 14 at 6:00pm, 9880 Campus Point Drive, Third Floor, to vote on the UCPG response to the draft plan update. Zoom option will be available. Info at planuniversity.org.

Public Comment on University Community Plan Update Draft Has Now Concluded

*Submitted by the City of San Diego
City Planning Department*

The City of San Diego's City Planning Department recently released the draft University Community Plan for community feedback, which closed on April 29, 2024. During the comment period, the City Planning Department met with a range of community members, including the University Community Planning Group to present and discuss the draft University Community Plan. A recording of the presentation, alongside the draft University Community Plan, is available to view online.

Since the public comment period ended, the City Planning Department has been reviewing community input received and incorporating feedback into the final draft plan. This final draft plan will go through the public hearing process, where community members will have additional opportunities to provide feedback. They will ultimately be presented to the City Council for consideration later this summer.

The next public meeting will be the Planning Commission, which will be held on May 30, 2024. Information on how to engage with and attend the Planning Commission meeting is available on the City's website. As part of the draft Blueprint SD, which is a refresh of the General Plan, the City released a draft Environmental Impact Report for public comment which addressed the draft University Community Plan. The draft Environmental Impact Report analyzes the environmental impacts that could occur with future development. A final Environmental Impact Report will be published prior to the City Council hearing later this summer.

We thank community members in for sharing their time and thoughts throughout the process so far and look forward to engaging more throughout the public hearing process.

UCCA SPECIAL MEETING:

University Community Plan Update Draft

April 6, 2024 at UC Library

by Katie Rodolico, UCCA Secretary and UCPG Liaison

On April 6, I presented information to the community about the Draft University Community Plan and the Draft EIR that were released on 3/14/24 at the University Community Library. The room was at capacity. I reviewed where to find the documents and where to submit comments, as well as the deadline for comments (4/29/24). I reviewed what was in the proposed plan. The land use in the proposed plan is similar to the denser land-use map from the previous discussion draft. I discussed the proposed changes to Governor Drive, reducing it from 4 lanes to 2 lanes from Stresemann to Greenwich. I reviewed the known deficits in parks and the city's proposals to reduce the deficit but still leave a large deficit.

In reviewing the EIR I pointed out that that the alternate plan evaluated for CEQA was the extremely dense land use alternative, first presented by city planning in April 2022, and replaced by the city in July 2022 after public outcry. I went over known shortfalls in schools, as identified by SDUSD. I pointed out that both the proposed plan, and the high density alternative, have significant environmental risks that cannot be mitigated, and despite this the CEQA analysis concluded the High Density alternative was considered environmentally superior. I reiterated the importance for people to submit comments on specifics to the planning department and the CEQA department of the city.

UC Planning Group Meeting Update

by Chris Nielsen, UCPG Chair

There were two important community meetings in April about the community plan. The first was the regular UCPG meeting on April 9, and the second a Plan Update Subcommittee meeting on April 16, to receive comments on the revised community plan update and draft Environmental Impact Report.

At the April 9 UCPG meeting, we welcomed new Resident 2C board member Daren Esposito. Daren replaced long-time board member Isabelle Kay. The board thanks Isabelle for her long service. The board elected new officers with Chris Nielsen as chair, Fay Arvin as Vice Chair, Anu Delouri as membership secretary, and a rotating group to take minutes. All members of the board must take training provided by the city.

This meeting featured a presentation by the city on the community plan update and the Draft EIR, followed by a Q&A session with city staff, including City Planning, Transportation, and Parks & Rec. Comments from the public on the revised University Community Plan Update must be submitted on or before April 29, 2024, at planuniversity@sandiego.gov. A recording of this meeting may be found at planuniversity.org under "Meetings".

The Draft Environmental Impact Report was also presented. The DEIR consists of a series of sections that are part of the citywide Blueprint San Diego Project EIR, a section that is specific to the University Community, and a section that is specific to part of the Hillcrest area. Comments on any part of the Draft EIR must be submitted to planningceqa@sandiego.gov by April 29, 2024. Comments should be phrased like "On p. xxx of the DEIR it states that ... Put your objection or comment here".

On April 16, 2024, the UCPG's University Community Plan Update Subcommittee held a meeting on Zoom to receive comments from the Subcommittee, UCPG, and members of the public on the revised community plan and the Draft EIR. The meeting began with three presentations: Andrea Contreras, lawyer for UC Peeps, presented her analysis the DEIR, Charles Frazier, UC resident, presented about the conversion of Governor Drive from 4 travel lanes to 2 travel lanes with continuous bike lanes, and Andrew Barton presented revisions to the city proposals for the two south UC shopping centers, followed by many additional comments. Among points made:

- The DEIR does not adequately identify the existing conditions for Governor Drive as a four-lane major arterial. The level of service analysis shows that Governor Drive is rated B with 4 lanes, and F as two.
- Inadequately analyzes emergency egress from the community.
- No school sites are proposed in the draft Plan, while there is an identified need for at one more elementary school.
- The Sprouts center should be 29 Dwelling Units / Acre (DU/AC) with a 40-foot height limit, 30-foot setbacks, with 80% of the built ground floor area reserved for community serving retail.
- The Von's center should be 54 DU/AC, a 50-foot height limit, with 30-foot setbacks and 80% of the ground-floor area should be dedicated to community serving retail.

The recording for this zoom meeting may be found at planuniversity.org under Meetings. Coming up in May, the UCPG will finalize its comments on the revised Plan Update and DEIR and submit them to the city the next day, May 15.

Thank You to Renewing and New UCCA Members

Individual

Carole Doherty
Jim Grover
Rebecca Prater

Supporter

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Elisa Parker
Anne and Rodney Shapiro
Dorit Yates

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Sandra Groeber
Lisa Richards
Sandy Rosenthal
Greg and Cheri Zinser

Donor

M. Robert Breslauer
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UCCA Membership dues help fund the printed University City NEWS. To help continue publication, please consider being a paid UCCA member and/or making a contribution by sending in the form below, or going to universitycitynews.org. Thank you!

San Diego OASIS Classes in May at UC Library on Governor Drive

Monday, May 6 at 12:30pm: The Gospel of John and the Historical Jesus
Tuesday, May 7 at 12:30pm: Walter Anderson
Monday, May 20 at 12:30pm: Vermeer
Tuesday, May 21 at 12:30pm: Browsing Around a Bountiful Garden – the use of plants to support wildlife in zoos

San Diego OASIS Classes @ the Library



Watercolor Hangout Fridays, May 24—June 14
11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Rediscover the artist within you. Using various watercolor and ink techniques, Eddie Omens will show you how to create a stunning work of art. All levels welcome. All materials provided.

Registration opens May 1 for both classes.



Intro to American Mah Jongg Saturdays, June 1—June 22
9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

This class will help you learn the rules and nuances of American Mah Jongg and give you plenty of time for real game play. All materials provided. Limit 12 players.



University Community Branch Library
4155 Governor Dr., San Diego, CA 92122 • 858-552-1655
facebook.com/UniversityCommunityLibrary



University City Community Association 2024 UCCA Membership Application*

___\$100 Gold | ___\$75 Angel | ___\$50 Supporter | ___\$25 Individual | ___\$500 Donor/Corporate



\$_____ Additional Donation Enclosed



Please print Name(s) _____

Address _____

Business/Corporate name (optional) _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

We prefer checks; please make your check payable to UCCA; mail to UCCA, 3298 Governor Drive, #22574, San Diego, CA 92122.

Payment is also accepted on UCCA's website at universitycitynews.org/join-ucca-today

Your UCCA membership dues (and optional additional donation) make a big difference in our community. These funds help support worthwhile local organizations, as well as many local projects, events, and activities.

Your membership dues also support UCCA's University City News print newsletter, and UCCA's website and social media sites.

Would you like to volunteer? We welcome your time, talent, comments and suggestions.

Please let us know by emailing us at: UniversityCityNews@gmail.com

*This membership is valid for the 2024 calendar year. UCCA is a 501(c)4 organization and membership dues are not tax deductible.

Thank you for joining UCCA. For the latest University City News, visit our website at: UniversityCityNews.org



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University City - 2024 1st Quarter Market Update

ADDRESS	BD / BA	EST SF	SOLD PRICE	COE DATE	ADDRESS	BD / BA	EST SF	SOLD PRICE	COE DATE
3052 Ducommun Ave	4 / 2	1,400	\$1,200,000	2/27/24	6015 Charae St	5 / 3	2,339	\$1,642,000	3/13/24
3748 Governor Dr	3 / 2	1,064	\$1,300,000	3/29/24	6027 Charae St	5 / 3	2,169	\$1,690,000	3/5/24
6622 Radcliffe Dr	4 / 2	1,638	\$1,356,450	3/12/24	4944 Maynard St	4 / 3	3,070	\$1,700,000	1/16/24
3075 Sandburg Ct	4 / 2	1,994	\$1,394,800	1/3/24	5474 Sandburg Ave	4 / 3	2,303	\$1,750,000	2/21/24
5818 Honors Dr	3 / 2	1,296	\$1,400,000	2/21/24	3280 Welmer Place	5 / 2	2,514	\$1,799,000	1/29/24
5920 Scripps St	3 / 2	1,309	\$1,470,000	3/22/24	2642 Lange Ave	4 / 3	3,426	\$2,000,000	1/5/24
4154 Raya Way	4 / 2	2,320	\$1,500,000	2/15/24	4145 Combe Way	6 / 3	2,716	\$2,036,553	2/16/24
4606 Pauling Ave	5 / 3	1,856	\$1,600,000	3/29/24					
5917 Eton Ct	3 / 2	1,826	\$1,640,000	2/23/24					
					Averages	4 / 2	2,078	\$1,592,425	

COE = Close Of Escrow



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