



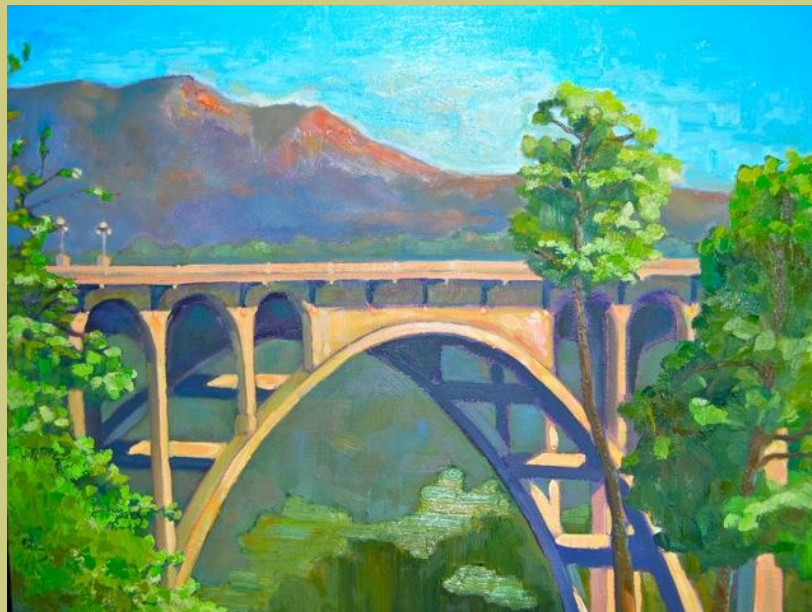
Spring 2018 SRNA Newsletter

Vol 7, Issue 1

Contact: info@srnapasadena.org
On the web at www.srnapasadena.org

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MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

SRNA General Meetings

WHEN: FIRST WEDNESDAY EVERY MONTH

WHERE: CHURCH OF THE ANGELS
CHURCH HALL

1100 AVENUE 64
7 PM

Next Meeting

April 4th, 2018

SRNA GENERAL MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

**UPDATE:
SUICIDE PREVENTION CHANGES
COLORADO STREET BRIDGE**

After a series of public meetings with much public comment and the assistance of a community advisory group, Public Works Director Ara Maloyan announced in January plans to implement suicide prevention modifications to the Colorado Street Bridge.

If approved by the Public Safety Committee and the City Council in early April the work will start with the removal of the chain link fencing that closes off every alcove on the bridge.

Following are the **proposed recommendations for modifying the bridge:**

1. Full length barriers of steel rods will be installed from one end of the bridge to the other end at a height of 7'6" to 8'. These long rods and poles, anchored without footholds, will make it very difficult to climb over to the outer ledge.
2. End treatment installations at both ends of the bridge will block access to the outer ledge of the bridge.
3. Camera installations, self-help signage and suicide prevention hotline contact information will be located at various spots on the bridge.

At this time no decision has been made for modification of the 6-inch outer ledge or the planting of trees under the bridge.

If you have any comments or questions pertaining to the proposed changes to the Colorado Street Bridge please contact:

Ara Maloyan: Director, Pasadena Department of Public Works, 626-744-4233.

Robin Salzer

SAN RAFAEL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

**100 Years in the Neighborhood
1918 - 2018
Gifting for Education**

San Rafael Elementary School has a waiting list, and it does not advertise.

Funding arrives from the state, per pupil. The Governor's new education funding formula allocates more dollars to qualified "high needs" students.

<http://edpolicyinca.org/projects/lcffrc>

San Rafael Elementary School ranks low in "qualifications" for state funding. Consequently, state allocations have dropped off while the school continues to strive to maintain its ascendency.

The school now is celebrating 100 years of education in the neighborhood (1918-2018) with a "100 Club" donor drive to help fund physical education, arts and music programs, field trips and instructional aids.

Please consider a tax-deductible contribution to San Rafael Elementary School to help cover these needs. Gifting of \$100 or more will be memorialized on a "100 Club" display plaque in the front hallway as a "thank you" to those who contribute to the success of the school.

If you wish to give at any level, please do so by April 13, 2018:

To donate:

Make check payable to PEF with "San Rafael Elementary School" in the memo line.

Mail to:

San Rafael Elementary School
1090 Nithsdale Rd.
Pasadena, CA 91105

Or, go to:

<http://weblink.donorperfect.com/SRAFCentennial>

Reminiscing on School Traffic Nightmares

Effective Solutions for San Rafael Elementary School?

Both of my children attended McKinley School from K-8 grades. When we first started there, the traffic in front of the school during morning drop-off time was terrible. The combination of kids streaming into the building, parents and others hanging around the sidewalk - blocking visibility - and cars pulling up at various speeds, stopping for variable amounts of time to help kids out of the car and other "regular" traffic heading down the street in both directions made for **a traffic cocktail that would not end well.**

To address the significant safety issues, a number of parents worked with the school administration AND the Police Department (at the time, it was PUSD's own police force) to fashion a solution that required focused parent volunteer efforts and administration commitment.

To our relief, it **worked very well and provided peace of mind** for the school population and the local community. Following these very simple basic steps will go a long way to ensuring the SRES school community stays safe:

- 1) **Identify two key volunteers** who will take responsibility for the program. Two are needed in order to rotate shifts and/or cover when one is gone;
- 2) Contact the Police Department and have them provide basic traffic safety training for drop-off/pick-up situations. **They should be well-prepared to review the current situation, assess the issues and provide a very specific traffic flow solution for SRES;**
- 3) Contact each classroom - both the teacher and the classroom parent lead if there is one - and **have each room own a specific week of the calendar**. For that week, that classroom will need to provide at least two parent volunteers for each morning of the week to show up, don the orange vests, put out the orange cones and direct traffic flow per the solution established by the Police; presumably SRNA members would be allowed to volunteer;
- 4) Key volunteers **show up each morning about 30 minutes before the heavy traffic begins**; they get with the classroom volunteers, put on vests, put out cones and do a simple review of roles, etc.
- 5) The "crush" lasts for about 45 minutes. In addition to waving traffic along, helping kids out of the car, and keeping watchful eyes out for danger, **the volunteers are also encouraging proper "drop-off behavior" so that things flow smoothly AND safely**. After a while, parents learn to have their kids ready on the drop-off side of the car. They know to have their kids back-packs, etc., ready to go. They know NOT to get out of the car to help. They learn to simply open the door and let the volunteers help their kids out. These are small things, but as everyone follows the rules, the system moves well. If there ARE parents who do not follow the rules, it is up to the school administration to intervene and address the issue directly.
- 6) The whole effort takes about 45 minutes before vests and cones are put away and everyone can go on their way.

This effort is not hard but requires commitment. The pay-off, however, is high.

Ken Chawkins, PUSD Parent (Ret.)

PENSIONS: Moving Toward a New Normal?

Recent lead editorials by the editorial board of the Pasadena Star-News question the sustainability of the California Rule governing public employee retirement benefits. Reading these editorials is a first step in supporting prudent decisions by the Pasadena City Council when addressing thorny issues affecting city solvency and services.

<https://www.pasadenastarnews.com/2018/03/17/pension-rules-must-change-to-keep-california-solvent/>

<https://www.pasadenastarnews.com/2018/03/19/californias-pension-problems-are-far-from-over/>

To review salaries and benefits of public employees of both the City of Pasadena and the Pasadena Unified School District, see here:

<https://transparentcalifornia.com/>

The Arroyo Seco



The City of Pasadena made the pages of the New York Times in 1903 with a gold-key invitation to President Theodore Roosevelt to add a city stop to his Great Western Tour itinerary.

The eye-catching invitation from the "crown of the valley" was enthusiastically accepted. With an outsider's first glimpse of the magnificence of the Arroyo Seco, **then-President Roosevelt urged city leaders to maintain the site as a natural park. City leaders began acquiring acreage in the Arroyo Seco eight years later.** (see link below for expanded account)

The historic presidential advisory of 1903, **a wake-up call to more fully appreciate the natural environment winding through the city**, remarkably rolls-over from one century to another - accompanied by the exasperations of managing and governing for both preservation and use.

Recent efforts by outside consultants to harness rival ambitions for the area have been **alarming in their focus on commercialization and revenue.** Concepts for governance, accountability and management intentionally have been determined a lesser priority to the "envisioning" of projects and the raising of money.

Given the bruising from recent embezzlement activity at city hall it would seem that governance, accountability and management strategies for aggressive new

proposals in the Arroyo Seco should be a matter of supreme importance for city management and city council.

Jurisdiction

The Arroyo Seco is public land with public assets loosely governed by the **city's three master plans** designed for the unique purposes of each the upper, central and lower Arroyos.

Additionally, the City of Pasadena shares **varying levels of jurisdiction with a long list of agencies and NGO's**, all having a uniquely vested interest in the Arroyo Seco.

Lee Zantesson, LVAA board member, assembled an **extensive directory** of these federal, state, county, city, NGO and foundation interests, listed at the end of this article.

A ccountability

The City of Pasadena presently has three municipal "enterprise" operations, public assets run by general managers and overseen by city council-appointed boards. Chief among these enterprise operations is the Rose Bowl in the Central Arroyo, the other two being the Convention Center and KPAS-Media.

The "public benefit of knowing" is the regulatory priority of these public asset operations and their foundation entanglements, with requirements generally adhered to by Pasadena city management.

(GASB Statement 39, <http://www.gasb.org/st/summary/gstsm39.html>)

When in compliance with government accounting standards each is a "discretely presented component unit" and each is a legally separate organization for which the city council is financially accountable.

Annual financials are reported in the city's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). Properly formed fund-raising foundations affiliated with these public enterprise operations are sub-section component units and must file side-by-side annual financials for public review.

All of the above are safety valves intended to keep public assets public, i.e., for the public benefit of knowing, under the open direction of an elected city council liberated from chronic worries of pay-to-play scandals from special interests.

Management

The 2017 launch of the ONE Arroyo concept under the Arroyo Advisory Group (AAG), intended to knit together what is common among the upper/central/lower Arroyos seems to have **spun sideways under the weight of "grand ambitions" and the absence of structure needed to logistically consider so many legitimate interests and check-points.**

The consultant report from the Arroyo Advisory Group is tentatively expected in June. It would be **prudent for city council to consider operational structuring** to guide the "grand ambitions" expected in the report.

It also may be wise for city council to direct the incorporation of a fourth enterprise operation, no less equal in stature and strength to the Rose Bowl Operating Company (RBOC), to represent the diverse claims to the Arroyo Seco - for both preservation and use not presently granted the stadium.

Notably, the above is a recommendation made by GASB and is consistent with recommendations made in the city's own 2012 Urban Land Institute Report (ULI Report) on the Rose Bowl and Central Arroyo.

<http://uli.org/wp-content/uploads/ULI-Documents/2012PasadenaReport.pdf>

Like the RBOC, which was incorporated in 1994 as a Discretely Presented Component Unit (GASB 39) and 501c3, the Arroyo Seco operation would be **accountable to the city council - for the movement of money, the spending of money on projects, and the tracking of money. Sub-section foundations established for fund-raising necessarily would be publicly accountable in the same way, as must those already established for the Rose Bowl - the city's best known public asset.**

We urge city council and city management consideration of the above.

Mary Dee Romney, President - SRNA

Account of President Theodore Roosevelt's Pasadena visit in 1903:

http://pasadenapio.blogspot.com/2009/06/mystery-history-solved_17.html

List of Arroyo participants with varying claims of jurisdiction:

US

Army Corp of Engineers, US National Park Service, US Forest Service, State of CA Dept. of Water Resources, LA County Dept. of Public Works, LA County Flood Control District, City of Pasadena

Human Services and Recreation, Public Works, Water and Power, RBOC, Transportation, Arroyo Advisory Committee, Hahamongna Watershed Park Advisory Committee; NGO,s:

Arroyo Seco Foundation, Arroyo and Foothills Conservancy, Audubon Society, Sierra Club, Rose Bowl Riders, Native American Groups, Hahamongna Native Plant Nursery, Tournament of Roses, AYSO, Tom Sawyer Camp, Pasadena Casting Club, Rose Bowl Aquatics Center, Move a Child Higher (MACH 1), Kid's Space, Pasadena

Roving Archers, Rose Bowl Legacy Connections, Rose Bowl Legacy Foundation

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month

For those who missed last year's sexual assault training course sponsored by SRNA and the Pasadena Police Department and want professional personal safety training (physical and psychological), please contact:

IMPACT Personal Safety

<https://impactpersonalsafety.com/>

or

UFC Gym, Rosemead

<https://ufcgym.com/rosemead>

Each of the above offers invaluable safety training classes tailored for individuals, groups and youth.

BACKGROUND:

The California state legislature passed a concurrent resolution last year (2017) declaring the month of April "Sexual Assault Awareness Month."

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180ACR56

Excerpt:

"....WHEREAS, In 2015, California rape crisis centers provided direct crisis intervention services to 32,931 individuals, provided 7,533 sexual assault forensic examinations, and provided community education for almost 20,400 people . . ."

SRNA expresses deep appreciation to the Pasadena Police Department for so quickly promoting a community focus on this important training.

Asian Tiger Mosquitos

This year, in particular, the news is filled with reports of illness ranging from the flu to West Nile virus. Unfortunately, the San Gabriel Valley has an Asian Tiger Mosquito infestation problem. This mosquito is a variety that carries a variety of diseases such as Zika, Dengue Fever and Chikungunya.

A few facts...they first arrived in Texas in 1985 via tire imports from South East Asia. The San Gabriel Valley began seeing them around 2011, when they hitched a ride in money tree plants. Now in many southern and southwest states, they have some unusual characteristics that make them very hard to contain or eliminate.

- They are **extremely small**, 1/8" long
- Eggs can overwinter & live through dry spells.
- The eggs are viable for 1 YEAR and hatch once exposed to water.
- **In CA, they lay eggs all year long along the inside walls and edges of containers**, not on the water's surface like other mosquitos. For example pot saucers, animal water dishes, buckets, birdbaths, landscaping drains are ideal breeding grounds.
- They love being indoors, their "**season**" could begin as early as **February**, and they are attracted to shady, moist areas.
- 7-10 day period from egg to adult and in the San Gabriel Valley, **they lay eggs all year long**.
- Invasive Aedes mosquitoes are aggressive daytime biters and one will bite you repeatedly, making you feel as if you are being attacked by many.
- **Aedes albopictus mosquitoes can grow in as little as a tablespoon of standing water**. Common breeding sources include: drains holding water, containers holding water, plants that are continuously watered, stored items that are not stacked properly and capable of holding small amounts of water, over-watered moist dirt.

COMMUNITY RESPONSIBILITY is the only solution to contain infestations in our neighborhoods. The best way to reduce the population is to eliminate the containers of water they need to grow. They don't fly more than 1200-1500 feet from their hatch site, so community action is imperative to contain this pest.

The best practice is to look around your yard and practice "**Dump & Drain**" and "**Tip and Toss**". For example, after a rain or landscape watering, survey your property for places that contain water such as the edge of an overturned recycling bin or depressions in plastic containers. You'll be surprised how many areas you will find!

- Please throw away or store any containers that may hold water in a dry place. Eliminating pot saucers is best.
- Containers that have been outside need to be scrubbed out to remove existing eggs. The eggs are laid singularly and look like tiny specs of dirt.
- Drain and scrub bird baths and fountains weekly
- Screen off outdoor drains, recommended mesh #22, but if you cannot find, double up on regular mesh.

If you suspect mosquito activity coming from another yard, talk to and advise your neighbors. If you live in Pasadena email SGV Vector Control Leslie Conner:

lconner@sgvmosquito.org or call (626) 214-0734.

A free inspection can be arranged through her office.

For more information from the CDC, please see: <https://www.cdc.gov/zika/vector/range.html>

Roving Archers Related Court Case

Stewards Of Public Land v. City Of Pasadena

Back in February 3, 2015, Pasadena City Council voted 5-3 to approve a staff recommendation to enter into an agreement with the Pasadena Roving Archers (PRA) for continued use in the Lower Arroyo.

Hundreds of correspondences were received on this issue including a petition with over 3,000 signatures supporting the Archers in the Arroyo. A motion to approve the staff recommendation was made by Councilman Masuda, seconded by Vice-Mayor Robinson. Mayor Bogaard, [then] Councilmen Tornek and Madison voted no.

Stewards of Public Land filed a CEQA lawsuit against the City in Los Angeles Superior Court case #BS154299, James Chalfant Presiding.

The case was decided in favor of the City of Pasadena on Aug. 12th 2016

On Sep. 26th, 2016 Stewards of Public Land appealed the decision to the California Court of Appeal, 2nd Appellant District, case #B277996.

A panel of three judges heard oral arguments on Jan 25th 2018.

The Pasadena Roving Archers have retained counsel and filed Real Party in Interest briefs with the court.

A decision is expected soon.

To view SRNA's website article click: <http://srnapasadena.org/?s=archers&submit=Search>

Spring/Summer Watering Schedule



In Pasadena, the following instances of water waste are prohibited:

- Outdoor watering is limited to Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday in the spring/summer (April 1- October 31); and is restricted to one day a week on Saturday in the fall/winter (November 1 - March 31), and must be done before 9 a.m and after 6 p.m
- All property owners must fix leaks, breaks, or other sprinkler system malfunctions when they find them, or within 72 hours of receiving a notice from PWP.

Exemptions

These restrictions do not apply to the exemptions outlined in the Pasadena Municipal Code, which include:

- Landscape irrigation zones that exclusively use low flow drip type irrigation systems where no emitter produces more than 2 gallons of water per hour;
- Watering or irrigating by use of a hand-held bucket or similar container, or a hand-held hose equipped with a water shut-off nozzle or device;
- Watering for very short periods of time for the express purpose of adjusting or repairing an irrigation system;
- Maintenance of trees as necessary to sustain their health and viability;
- Maintenance of vegetation, including fruit trees and shrubs, intended for consumption;
- Maintenance of landscape for fire protection

For more information go to: <https://ww5.cityofpasadena.net/water-and-power/wateringschedule/>

SAN RAFAEL WEEKEND WARRIORS

MANHATTAN HAS LEGENDARY BASKETBALL GAMES AT RUCKER PARK

PASADENA HAS "RUCKER PARK WEST"

SOUTH SAN RAFAEL AVENUE

CALLING ALL NEIGHBORHOOD WEEKEND WARRIORS!

**SUNDAY MORNING
PICK-UP BASKETBALL GAMES**

*DO YOU WANT A GOOD WORKOUT THAT BEATS THE MONOTONY OF WALKING UP AND
DOWN THE STREET?*

ARE YOU AGE 25 TO 70 AND STILL LIVING-OUT YOUR HIGH SCHOOL FLASHBACKS?

JOIN YOUR NEIGHBORS

FROM 8AM - 10AM

**FOR A FUN AND FIT GAME OF BASKETBALL
ANY ABILITY IS OK AND PLAY AT YOUR OWN PACE**

**60 S. SAN RAFAEL
ROBIN SALZER - SRNA BOARD MEMBER
626-616-0585**

KIDS & FAMILIES WELCOME TO CHEER YOU ON

JOIN OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP WITH SRNA

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS:

Member	\$	20.00
Household	\$	35.00
Sustaining	\$	100.00
Patron	\$	250.00
Benefactor	\$	500.00

You may send your check by mail to:

**San Rafael Neighborhoods Association
PO Box 92617
Pasadena, CA 91109**

[SRNA 2018 Membership Form](#)

OR

**Join us at our website at
www.srnapasadena.org and click the tab "Join Us"**

Debit and credit cards accepted.

Sign up for our News and Notices:

<http://srnapasadena.org/join-us/>



The mission of the San Rafael Neighborhoods Association is to enhance and maintain the character and quality of all San Rafael neighborhoods through advocacy and an activated community.

SRNA is a California exempt non-profit 501 c 4 corporation and registered with the City of Pasadena/Neighborhood Connections office.

Membership Dues/Donations are Not Tax Deductible.

