

President’s Message

Ray Shortridge, President, TRNA

First, many kudos to Dave Waters who is stepping down after serving for two years as resident of TRNA. His dedication to the neighborhood and its interest, sacrifice of time to attend innumerable meetings on behalf of our neighborhood, and commitment to advancing the interests of our neighbors is an inspiration to us all. Fortunately, Dave will lend us counsel as we move forward in the years to come.

Second, I'd like to thank the board in entrusting me the gavel for the next year as president of TRNA. We have an excellent legacy of community activities to continue, including flea markets, scholarships to students in the neighborhood, crime prevention street patrols, and park/walkway cleanup and beautification initiatives.

Third, I'd like to advance my personal agenda item to that notable list -- homeowners and renters quality of life and property values issues.

In the past, far-seeing members of the Albuquerque community have instituted planning regulations designed to preserve the quality of life and the property values of the west side -- notably the Big Box Ordinance and the Coors Corridor Plan. The west side of Albuquerque is unique in America for its vistas of the Rio Grande Bosque, the cityscape, the view of the Sandia Mountains, and the hiking/ biking/ walking trails along the river. The planning regulations are intended to safeguard those precious aspects of our community.

As president, I intend to protect the natural heritage each of us in the TRNA community enjoys and cherish against ill-conceived development. We all want the real job growth that results from fundamental economic development to the west side and must exercise due diligence in approving projects that bring sustainable job growth to our neighborhoods.

president@trna.org



TRNA Easter Egg Hunt

Rae Phillips, Editor

What a great day we had at this year's gathering in Mariposa Park! This may have been the largest crowd ever, with all the usual games being enjoyed by all the kids, young and old. The highlight was of course the arrival of the Easter Bunny, Tweetie, Sylvester, and other costumed characters — thanks to the ABQ Fire Department providing their transportation to the park.

As over 5000 eggs were scattered in the field for the various age groups, it was fun watching the kids waiting anxiously for their turn at collecting. So many of our members donated a lot of their time in the planning (thanks especially to Ken & June Newman) & preparation (filling all those eggs!), in manning all the booths, in conducting the games, in cooking the food (Brett Lopez is a fixture behind the grill), and ensuring everyone had a great time. Too many names to try and remember, but please know you are ALL appreciated!

Without volunteers, Taylor Ranch would not be the great place to live that we all enjoy so much. Without TRNA, we might not even have Mariposa Park in our neighborhood!



(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)



THANKS to Our Contributors

Ken Newman, Social Committee Director, TRNA

We appreciate all the contributions from the following merchants and organizations that supported our TRNA Easter Egg Hunt. Support those who support us!

Albertson's — 6200
 Coors and Coors/Central
 Cliff's Amusement Park
 CVS
 Dion's
 Hinkle Family Fun Center
 Home Depot
 Little Caesar's
 Smith's Food & Drug
 Starbuck's, Riverside Plaza
 Village Inn
 Walgreen's
 ABQ Parks & Recreation
 AFD HQ & Station 18
 APD Westside Command
 Don Newton-Taylor
 Ranch Community Center
 LBJ School
 Optimist Club



Outgoing President's Message

Dave Waters, TRNA

This will be my last letter to our members as the President of TRNA. I am very proud of the fact that you allowed me to serve as president for the last two years. It has been an honor. We are very lucky indeed to have someone as accomplished as Ray Shortridge to replace me as the new president. Also, the remaining and new board members

are great people who volunteer their time and effort to advance our causes during the next several years. Jolene Wolfley and Dan Shaw are very involved with the Walmart opposition and Jane Webster, as an ex board member, will be a welcome asset to TRNA. Rae Phillips continues on for now as the editor of the Mesa Messenger and we just can't do it without her. Thanks Rae.

We have accomplished quite a lot in the last two years and the best example of that will be obvious with a northbound drive on Coors Blvd. from I-40 to the Coors bypass. Once past St Josephs Rd. the view opens up and the big signs go away only to return after Paseo Del Norte. This isn't by chance. The board fought vigorously to prevent LED signs in Taylor Ranch and we negotiated with the new CVS pharmacy to reduce the size of their sign. We also fought to keep the art object on Coors, by the entrance to the Open Space facility, fully funded. That was the first public art on the Westside that I am aware of and we almost lost it.

Rene Horvath, because of her knowledge of the Coors Corridor plan and other ordinances, has kept us informed of these issues as we find our quality of life is constantly under attack. The big box at Coors and Montano is only the latest issue, albeit a large one.

Last but not least. I cannot thank the board enough for their support and help. Felix Franco and I will be leaving the board but both of us express a desire to become involved again after a break to decompress.

Thank you again for the privilege to serve our community.

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TRNA Land Use Fund

Terri Spiak, Treasurer, TRNA

The Taylor Ranch Neighborhood Association established a separate checking account, named the Land Use Fund. The Land Use Fund will provide a means by which TRNA will effectively manage designated monetary support to use for the opposition to the Walmart application pending before the City of Albuquerque Planning Department.

Here is a recounting of events that have taken place so far. Beginning last year, several meetings were held at Don Newton Taylor Ranch Community Center. Attended by approximately 100 residents, it was determined that residents did not support the proposed Walmart. Two facilitated meetings were held last fall in accordance with city policy. January 19th the first EPC hearing was held.

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All three meetings were well attended by Westside residents. The EPC voted to continue the matter on March 15th. The applicant asked for a deferral, in order to revise their plans. The EPC granted a continuance. Next hearing was set for May 17th, but as of this writing this is being deferred again due to additional issues coming up.

TRNA has received overwhelming support of our efforts aimed at defeating the application for the Walmart. The TRNA Board voted to hire an attorney to represent TRNA in this matter. The Board also voted to establish the Land Use Fund to provide the designated funds from which legal fees and other necessary expenses could be paid.

The Board secured approval by members attending the March 28th General Meeting, in accordance with Article IX, Section 4, of TRNA's bylaws, to disburse necessary amounts from the Land Use Fund account designated for the particular purpose of land use advocacy first in the matter of the Walmart application at Coors/Montano. Any remaining funds will be retained for future land use advocacy for properties within the TRNA boundary area. The funds will never be used for general or administrative purposes, or any other purpose than the designated purpose of land use advocacy.

PLEASE NOTE: TRNA is a 501(c)(4) Non-Profit Corporation and is categorized as an "Other-Social Welfare Organization" in the rules of IRS. **As such, donations made to TRNA are NOT deductible on personal income tax returns as a charitable donation.**

If you would like to contribute to TRNA's efforts to defeat the application for the Walmart, then please consider making a donation to the Land Use Fund! The form can be found on a link on the www.trna.org website or I can email it to you with instructions. Contact Terri Spiak, Treasurer, at treasurer@trna.org.

treasurer@trna.org

TRNA General Meeting

Rae Phillips, Editor

Several new board members were elected at the general membership meeting held on March 28th. Re-elected to serve another two-year term are Rene Horvath, Ken Newman, and Hanna Sorrells. New board members elected were Jolene Wolfley and Dan Shaw. Jane Webster was elected to finish out the second year of Felix Franco's term. Current board members Terri Spiak and Derald McPherson will be serving their second year of their two-year term.

Social Committee Chairman Ken Newman presented the TRNA Scholarships to two outstanding students selected:



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Alexa Kellett and Robert Mackay Schaap (see separate article).

Two Rangers from Petroglyphs National Monument spoke on ongoing programs, including Junior Ranger Day coming up on April 28th. There are many ongoing and special events held at the monument. Coming up this month are pottery demonstrations, Navajo rug sales, book signings, nature explorations, and the Solar Eclipse viewing on May 20th (buy ticket in advance). Call for additional info 899-0205, or check out their website nps.gov/petr.

The TRNA annual budget was presented by Treasurer Terri Spiak, and after discussion on several items, was approved by the membership. She thanked Mr. Rich of Taylor Ranch for providing us a storage unit at no charge, and Digitech for printing our newsletters each month at no charge; both of these provide significant budget savings. She also told of the need for a "Land Use Fund" and after discussion this too was approved. (See separate article on page 1.)

Dan Shaw, new TRNA Board member and Co-Director of Bosque Environmental Management System, spoke on the projects being done by school children to learn about and protect the Bosque. Twenty-seven field sites are located in several areas, including two behind Bosque School. (See separate article by Dan Shaw.)

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Continued from page 3

City Councilman Dan Lewis spoke on the redistricting and creation of a new district which basically divides Taylor Ranch; Ken Sanchez represents half now. The west side now has 3 representatives.

Dr. Joe Valles, President of Westside Coalition of Neighborhood Associations, spoke at length on the Walmart issue (Coors/Montano), relating the history of what happened with development at I-40/ Coors and how critical it is for us to stay on top of this project.

APD Westside Commander Warfield spoke on crime issues within our area, and how well the Citizen Patrol is working in keeping Taylor Ranch safe. There is a spike in "victimization" — 70% of burglaries happen due to negligence on our part: keys left in ignitions, doors unlocked, leaving laptops on patios, etc. Many are marauders just cruising the streets, checking doors, even taking BBQ tanks and siphoning gas from cars. He urged us to "make sure you are not making it easy" for them. Speeding complaints are up in all areas. Commander Warfield stated that we "are the eyes & ears" for the police department, and it's up to us to communicate what we see and hear to them.

Stephanie Russo from U.S. Representative Martin Heinrich's office spoke on the many federal services available for our benefit, including mortgage assistance. Student internships are available in Albuquerque offices also. Go to heinrich.house.gov for more info.

Bill O'Neill, House Representative Dist 15, spoke on the Wal-Mart issue as well. He was in favor of Senate Bill 9 would have required big box stores to pay corporate taxes to our state. We are one of only 2 states who do not presently tax corporations based in other states. The governor vetoed this bill, but he is working with Senator Worth on this issue to reduce corporate taxes on NM corporations but collect taxes based elsewhere. We now have a new District 16, represented by Mo Maestas, which includes the south part of Taylor Ranch.

Library Update

Ceil van Berkel, Library Advisory Board

Taylor Ranch Library

5700 Bogart St. NW

Albuquerque, NM 87120

(one block west of Unser Blvd and two blocks south of Montañó Road)

505-897-8816 taylorranch@cabq.gov

Lillian Richardson, Area Manager

Hours: Mon. – Thurs.: 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Fri. – Sat.: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Sun.: 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Featured Databases: (you'll need your library card number and pin to login at <http://libguides.cabq.gov/eresources>):

Reference USA: A quick and easy way to find detailed information (including phone numbers and addresses) on over 12 million U.S. businesses and 102 million U.S. residents.

Small Business Reference Center: Provides up-to-date information on starting a business, operations management, sales, and growing or rescuing a business.

Roadrunner Food Bank: Taylor Ranch Library is a Roadrunner Food Bank donation location. Donate non-perishable food items in the bin in the entryway.

May Special Programs:

Lego Club: Sundays, May 6th and May 20th, **3:00pm - 4:30pm**

Love Legos? Come to Taylor Ranch Library on the first and third Sunday of every month from May to August and build with friends! Every meeting, we'll have a new inspiration, and some creations will be displayed at the library!

Master Gardeners: Saturday, May 12th, 10:00am - 3:00pm

Master Gardeners will be at Taylor Ranch from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. to answer your gardening questions.

Funding Update:

The City of Albuquerque is holding meetings this month on the proposed operating budget for FY 2013 (starts July 1, 2012). Currently the budget for the Library is flat. No further cuts are proposed for the coming year, but none of the positions cut last year have been restored. The Library has not cut hours because each year the city has provided enough one time funding to pay for contract temporary library workers to keep the doors open. But our permanent staff are so busy training temporary workers that they have less time to serve us, the customers. Also, we are not able to get help as easily, since the temporary workers are not as knowledgeable about our library system as the permanent staff are.

Let your city councilor and the mayor know that you need well-trained, dedicated library staff to meet your family's needs and that you want the city to restore the permanent positions that have been cut over the years. Over the last eight years the Library has lost 17.5% of its full-time

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complement, while the city as a whole has only been cut 7.5%. We have to restore these disproportionate cuts.

Bernalillo County will propose a Library General Obligation Bond in November. If you have a chance to speak with our Commissioner, Michelle Lujan Grisham (468-7027, BCCDistrict1@bernco.gov) you could encourage her to include \$2.3 million for library materials and automation in the County General Obligation Bonds for November.

In 2010 the Commission proposed a \$1.5 million Library bond to the voters, and over 70% of the voters said “yes.” If we can increase that amount this year, it will help compensate for the lower state bond funding that has been proposed over the past 9 years and help adjust the Library purchasing budget for higher purchasing costs. The library has to purchase many different formats of materials today: not only paper books, magazine and newspaper subscriptions, DVD’s and CD’s, but also audio books, e-books (for kindle, for nook, for generic readers) and database subscriptions. The library also needs to increase the number of public computers and update them because of the increasing demand for them.

To learn more about how our library is funded, visit [http:// SupportABCLibraries.org](http://SupportABCLibraries.org) , where you can also sign up to receive email updates about current library funding activities.

Preserving the Value of Our Community and Landscape

Dan Shaw, Secretary, TRNA

Taylor Ranch has a power of place. As our neighborhood nestles between the black basalt of the petroglyphs and the green ribbon of the bosque it becomes more than just a group of houses. These landscape features create cultural amenities, recreational sites, and ecological delights within our city. Our neighborhood is host to a set of features that both sets us apart from other areas of Albuquerque and creates destination opportunities to bring together visitors from near and far. Petroglyph National Monument, the Rio Grande State Park, City Open Space, and adjacent lands add aesthetic and financial values to our homes. We get to both enjoy and be stewards of these treasures.

As we move into late spring and early summer both the bosque and uplands are alive with change and birth. The year’s first baby rabbits have been spotted. Flowering plants took the tiny bit of moisture we have received and started the struggle of staying alive in a drought layered on

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top of a desert. Great horned owls have already hatched some new owlets that can be seen at the western edge of the bosque and along the Corrales Return Drain. All throughout Taylor Ranch Woodhouse toads are taking advantage of any standing water they can find, even small puddles, to mate and lay eggs. Our neighborhood is rich with wildlife.

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Baby Rabbits in the Bosque

2012 TRNA Scholarship Winners

Ken Newman, Scholarship Committee Chair



Robert Mackay Schaaup

Attends Volcano Vista

GPA 4.35

National Honor Society

Football Team Captain

Many other honors in sports

Seen here with his parents, Robert is an Eagle Scout, involved with his church, assists others in anything they need such as cleaning up peoples yards for them, delivering Thanksgiving dinner to the needy. Helped erect a flag pole, visited the elderly in the Beehive Assisted Living Facility.

He plans to attend BYU, studying Physical Therapy & Personal Training.



Alexa Kellett

Attends Volcano Vista

GPS 4.28

National Honor Society

German Honor Society

Key Club

Seen here with her Mom, Alexa enjoys teaching children and is currently coaching gymnastics. She assists in Vacation Bible School and Sunday School. Her career goal hasn't changed since 7th grade: she plans to study biology & chemistry in college and then go on to advanced degree in Forensic Anthropology.

Preserving the Value *(continued from page 5)*

On the 50 acres of land just west of the bosque and adjacent to the proposed Wal-Mart over 122 vertebrate species have been identified. This includes roosting bald eagles and the federally listed endangered southwest willow flycatcher. In recent public meeting the attorney representing the Daskalos family through their Silver Leaf development company argued that their proposal to build a Wal-Mart is outside the bosque and beyond the 100 foot buffer west of the Corrales Return Drain. That is true. However she failed to state that because the land of this proposal is east of Coors. Blvd. and west of the Rio

Grande it is in fact, within the "Bosque Interface/ Bosque Transition" zone as defined in the Westside Strategic Plan (pp. 207-208). City regulations therefore require environmental protection of that property.

In recent public meeting the attorney representing the Daskalos family through their Silver Leaf development company argued that their proposal to build a Walmart is outside the bosque and beyond the 100 foot buffer west of the Corrales Return Drain. That is true. However she failed to state that because the land of this proposal is east of Coors Blvd. and west of the Rio Grande, it is in fact within the "Bosque Interface/ Bosque Transition" zone as defined in the Westside Strategic Plan (pp. 207-208).

We the citizens, working with our elected officials through a democratic process, have established designated areas for conservation. Other areas, such as the land at Coors at Montano where a Walmart is proposed, have restrictions requiring lower intensity commercial development. Our City has regulations providing protection of transition zones between development and important ecological resources. The Rank 1, Albuquerque/ Bernalillo County Comprehensive Plan states, "The natural and visual environment, particularly features unique to Albuquerque, shall be respected as a significant determinant in development decisions. (p II-67)."

The Daskalos-Silver Leaf-Walmart group does not get to pick and choose which city regulations they will follow. We have a right to stand for our property values and demand that the city's regulations be followed to protect the Bosque Interface/ Bosque Transition. Treasuring our heritage and protecting the multi-million dollar public investments in Open Space is our responsibility. Plopping a big box store into bald eagle habitat is not an option.

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Westside Coalition Report

Terri Spiak, WSCNA Representative for TNRA

The monthly meeting of the Westside Coalition of Neighborhood Associations board was held on April 4th.

Government Officials: **Doug Lutz**, Mayor's office, reported that a volunteer coordinator has been hired. Also, Roger Newall has joined the City in Veteran's Affairs and is actively pursuing employment of veterans within the City. **Ken Sanchez**, one of our three City Councilors, gave updates on new library construction at Central & Unser, and new firehouse at Central & Atrisco at which a ladder truck for the west side will be located. Councilor Sanchez reported that 63% of building permits issued thus far for 2012 are from the west side.

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WSCNA Report *(continued from page 6)*

Michelle Lujan Grisham, Bernalillo County Commission District 1 gave brief comments on regulations affecting mostly rural areas regarding testing and repair/ replacement of aging septic systems in order to protect groundwater.

UNM Hospitals Community Report, Misty Salaz, Community Relations: The UNM Hospital website has a link to a very interesting report. Did you know that UNMH is the only Level-One trauma center in New Mexico? UNM rates very high on “Process of Care Measures” as compared with the national average, however wait times are very high in the ER, which was a concern mentioned by some at the meeting. Partial funding of \$89M for UNMH is a 6.4 mil levy approved by Bernalillo County voters in 2008.

West Side Sewage / Odor Problem: Mark Holstad, PE, Water Reclamation Collection System Mgr., ABCWUA. Customer service objectives, along with the technological methods and efforts to reduce sewer gas odors were the main topic of discussion. Members presented concerns that the sanitary sewer collection system is in urgent need of improvements, and the area of Yucca and Central is an area that has been especially impacted by nuisance odors. Further discussion will take place between west side residents and Michelle Lujan Grisham, County Commissioner.

Large Retail Facilities (LRF) Issue: The membership of WSCONA unanimously voted to join TRNA in the appeal of the Declaratory Ruling in the City Zoning department. For more on this, see Rene’ Horvath’s article!

West Route 66 Sector Development Plan: Members voted unanimously in favor of Louis Tafoya’s motion that WSCONA support the project and his filing for a 90 day deferral on the deadline for comments and input to this plan. ®

Land Use Update

René Horvath, Land Use Director, TRNA

1. Walmart/ Declaratory Ruling/ May 17th EPC Hearing - Postponed:

We just learned that the Planning Department will be requesting a 60-day continuance for the May 17th EPC hearing. The reason for requesting a continuance is based on TRNA and the Westside Coalition appealing a Declaratory Ruling made by the City’s Acting Code Enforcement Manager. The Declaratory Ruling

interpreted the access requirements for a Large Retail facility (LRF). This access issue came up during the January 19th EPC hearing, where Ms. Garcia, Acting Code Compliance Manager, tried to define whether the proposed Walmart met the access requirements for a LRF. After the hearing, our Attorney wrote a letter requesting an official Declaratory Ruling from Ms. Garcia. Ms. Garcia issued the Declaratory Ruling on March 23rd, stating that: *the EPC has the authority to determine if the Walmart site is in compliance with the LRF regulations. "If a site does not meet this particular standard, EPC still has the authority to approve the request."* We appealed the Declaratory Ruling because, as it stands, it will have negative city-wide consequences.

The LRF regulations (Big Box Ordinance) which was approved by the City Council in 2007 requires big box stores to have full and primary access to major streets to ensure that the adjacent major streets could safely handle the traffic and would not generate additional traffic through residential neighborhoods and developments. The Code Compliance Manager’s interpretation would, in effect, 'water-down' the access requirements in the Zoning Ordinance by allowing the EPC to approve projects which are not in compliance with the access requirements.

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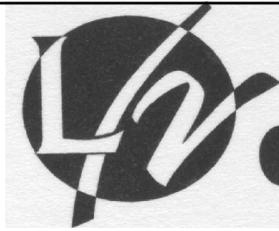
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block fences
stucco

Land Use Update *(continued from page 7)*

Carmen Marrone, one of the City Planners working on the Walmart case, said that because of the appeal, the EPC hearing will have to be postponed until final action is taken by City Council on the Declaratory Ruling. She included in her e-mail: *Section 14-16-4-4(B)(5) of the Zoning Code that states: "A permit [or site plan for building permit] dependent on a decision described in division (A) of this section shall not be issued until an appeal is decided..."*

The appeal hearing of the Declaratory Ruling is scheduled to go to the Land Use Hearing Officer (LUHO) on **June 4th**. The Hearing Officer will have 10 days to make a decision. It will then go to the City Council who will either accept or reject the LUHO's recommendation. City Council takes a break during July, and will meet again in August. It is highly unlikely based on the information we have just received that there will be an EPC hearing on May 17th. If anything changes we will certainly let you know by e-mail or the TRNA sign boards. We will make every attempt to provide you updates on this issue. Thank you!

2. LUHO hears TRNA's appeal of 5 year site plan extension, April 4th:

On April 4th the Land Use Hearing Officer (LUHO) heard TRNA's appeal of the Coors/Montano 5-year site plan extension. This is a separate issue from the Declaratory Ruling, but still related to the Coors and Montano site. The EPC had approved the extension of the site plan at the January 19th EPC hearing. The neighborhoods were unaware of the extension request until it appeared in the staff report one week before the EPC hearing. We had not expected the EPC to approve the extension, separating it from the other 2 requests that were being reviewed. TRNA decided to appeal the extension to make sure that

the site plan received a thorough evaluation by the EPC. Jolene presented TRNA's appeal. TRNA wanted the extension request to be remanded back to the EPC for three main reasons. 1) Insufficient notification was given to the neighborhoods to alert them to the proposed extension prior to the January 19th hearing. 2) EPC did not discuss the requirement that an updated Transportation Impact Study (TIS) be provided to determine if there are off-site improvements needed that were not previously required, and 3) the EPC did not check to see if the site plan met the requirements of adopted city policies that have been passed by City Council since the adoption of the original plan.

In addition to the three items mention above, another issue came up immediately before the April 4th LUHO hearing. We discovered a letter in the 700 page case file that the City supplied to us. The letter was from the Planning dept. stating that a Zoning Enforcement Official had recently discovered that the 5 year extension request was unnecessary, because a major amendment had taken place on June 18, 2009 concerning the site development plan. The EPC approved a major amendment of the site development plan to carve out 48 acres for the Bosque School, which was finalized by the DRB on August 21, 2009. Therefore, the 7 year clock actually began on August 21, 2009 which means the site development plan expires Aug. 2016, not Sept. 2012. The Zoning Enforcement Official suggested that LUHO and City Council remand it back to the EPC so that the request for extension be withdrawn. The Hearing Officer asked Ms. Henrie and Ron Bohannan representing the applicant, if they would consider withdrawing their request for a 5 year extension because of this information.

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Of Public Interest

Kiwanis Kite Fiesta

Sunday, May 20, 2012, 10 am to 3 pm

Mariposa Basin Park



Bring your kite and come join us for this fun family event! There will be games, contests with prizes, a Key Club Bake Sale and more! This is one day we should hope for windy weather ... but not too windy! Want to volunteer to help? Email Jim Cross, West Side Kiwanis Club, crossroadsx@juno.com

City of Albuquerque FY2013 Budget

The City Council conducts hearings to receive public input on the proposed budget for fiscal year 2013. All hearings are held at 5 pm in the Vincent E. Griego Chambers. The first hearing was held April 26th, the next is May 10th. May 21st at the regular city council meeting public comment will be taken before the final adoption of budget.

Mothers Day Historic Home Tour

Sunday, May 13th, 11 am to 3 pm

Come tour some of the oldest and most beautiful houses in Albuquerque, sponsored by the Downtown Neighborhoods Association. Eight homes will be on the tour. Architectural styles range from Queen Anne to Victorian to bungalow. Food and drinks will be available for purchase by some of the best food trucks in town at Mary Fox Park (13th St and Roma Ave NW). Tickets for the tour are \$15.00 and go on sale at Mary Fox Park starting at 10:30 AM or buy them early online for \$12.50 at www.abqdna.com. Price includes a coupon to the restaurant bRgR for a free burger. For parking and more information visit our website at www.abqdna.com or call Lindi Anderson at 238-8291.

Exploring Mother Earth on Mothers Day

10 am—12:30 pm at the Volcanos Day Use Area, a Petroglyph National Monument tradition, and perfect opportunity to get mom and family out and about.

Taylor Ranch Reported Crimes April 1-24, 2012

Fred van Berkel, Patrol Coordinator, TRNA

-   Assault
-   Burglary
-   Disturbing the Peace
-   DUI
-   Fraud
-   Motor Vehicle Theft
-   Theft/Larceny
-   Vandalism
-   Vehicle Break-In Theft
-   Multiple crimes at one location



Land Use Report *(continued from page 8)*

After they discussed it among themselves they said they were not interested in withdrawing the extension request. They also felt that there was adequate public notification for the neighborhoods through the classified section of the newspaper and that they had requested the 5-year extension to tie up loose ends, so the site development plan would not expire in Sept. 2012.

After 2 hours of discussion the Hearing Officer closed the meeting. He said he would review the record and render a decision. Fifteen days later the Hearing Officer recommended that the appeal be denied. He addressed the TIS in his report: While the ordinance does say *"If a site development plan is approved for additional 5 years by the Planning Commission an updated Transportation Impact Study (TIS) shall be required to determine if there are off site improvements needed that were not previously required,"* LUHO says the updated TIS can be submitted after the extension is granted and notes that there will be a review of the substance of any updated TIS prior to final approval needed for any construction. He did not feel that the EPC erred in their decision, and that the newspaper notification was sufficient under the zoning code. LUHO did not consider whether the site plan complied with City goals and policies. The Planning Department took the position that this requirement applies to the adoption of the site plan not to the extension of an adopted plan. LUHO did not focus on the issue that there was a major amendment to the site development plan in 2009 and that the plan will not terminate until 2016. This issue is not before the City Council in this appeal. It will now go to City Council on May 7th. TRNA can write comments and send to them to the City Council 4 days before the City Council meeting. Much appreciation goes to Jolene who did an outstanding job with her presentation at the LUHO hearing.

3. Curbside Chat March 27th City Council Chambers:

Chuck Marohn is a Civil Engineer from Minnesota. He gave a very interesting presentation in the City Council Chambers on building financially strong cities. His presentation looked at growth and the cost of maintaining the infrastructure. While the property owners have a right to develop their property, the taxpayers are responsible for maintaining the infrastructure once it is built. Initially it looks like a good deal when new development creates a new tax base, but the cities have to agree to maintain the infrastructure. U. S. Cities are now having trouble keeping up with the cost of maintenance. It is not cost effective to sprawl out. Maintenance costs are continuing to balloon.

We are incurring more debt and losing services to keep up with the maintenance cost. We should keep this in mind as we look at land use issues.

4. Volcano Heights/ Open Space: On March 27th the City Planning Department held a meeting at the Taylor Ranch Community Center to look at ways to preserve open space in the Volcano Heights area. They proposed acquiring open space through providing incentives to the property owner. These incentives include transfer of development rights, conservation easements, or building height bonuses. Incentives such as height bonus encourage open space donations by allowing property owners to build taller buildings. While incentives are good, it is still important that there is adequate funding for open space land acquisition. The Open Space Dept. relies on Capital Improvement Bonds, which unfortunately, failed to adequately funding open space in the last Bond cycle. More money needs to be set aside in the Capital Improvement budget for open space land acquisition. I should also note that Gateway Planning plans to do a traffic study for Volcano Heights with emphasis on the Unser and Paseo area.

5. Unser public meeting/ April 13/ Taylor Ranch Community Center:

A public meeting was held at the Taylor Ranch Community Center on April 13 to discuss the segment of Unser between Dellyne and Montano. The City wants to make road improvements in that area to provide connectivity and safety for all users. First they plan to narrow the Unser median between Dellyne and Montano in order to add bike lanes along each side of Unser. They plan to widen the bicycle/ pedestrian trail at the Library park which runs next to the dog park, and to build a side walk on the east side of Unser between Dellyne and Montano. At the Unser/Montano intersection, there are plans to add dual left turn lanes for southbound Unser commuters to turn east on Montano. Also they will build left dual turn lanes on westbound Montano to turn south onto Unser. There will be one right turn lane added to northbound Unser to turn east onto Montano. Bogart and Flor del Sol, residential streets that connect to Unser will not be able to make a left out onto Unser once the improvement are made. They will only have a right in and right out, and a left in to the neighborhood. City representatives would like to contact property owners that back up to Unser which also have driveway access onto Unser. For those of you that back up to Unser with drive ways please contact Eric Froberg at 247-2646 or Kevin Eades at 242- 5700.

land@trna.org



Taylor Ranch Neighborhood Association Membership Registration

Name: _____ Phone #: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____ E-mail address: _____

- Active Participation Sustaining Member (Not able to work on committees at this time)

I'm interested in working on the following:

- Beautification Board of Directors Crime Prevention/Patrol Education
 Environment Land Use Membership Newsletter
 Parks & Recreation Social Activities Transportation/Traffic Other _____

Renewal and New Member Rates:

- Resident: \$18.00 (Thru Dec 2012) \$34.00 (Thru Dec 2013) \$48.00 (Thru Dec 2014)
 Business: \$50.00 (Thru Dec 2012) \$90.00 (Thru Dec 2013) \$125.00 (Thru Dec 2014)



**Please mail this form with your check made out to TRNA to:
 TRNA Membership, P. O. Box 66288, Albuquerque, NM 87193-6288**

5/2012

TRNA Board of Directors and Other TRNA Contacts

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| President: | <i>Ray Shortridge</i> | 604-3908 | president@trna.org |
| Vice-President: | <i>Jolene Wolfley</i> | | vicepresident@trna.org |
| Secretary: | <i>Dan Shaw</i> | 275-5984 | secretary@trna.org |
| Treasurer: | <i>Terri Spiak</i> | 879-4995 | treasurer@trna.org |
| Director/Land Use: | <i>René Horvath</i> | 898-2114 | land@trna.org |
| Director/Westside Coalition: | <i>Terri Spiak</i> | 879-4995 | wscn@trna.org |
| Director at Large : | <i>Hanna Sorrells</i> | 294-7042 | director@trna.org |
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| Director at Large: | <i>Derald McPherson</i> | 898-6489 | director.2@trna.org |
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| Membership List Administrator: | <i>Carol Waters</i> | 897-5771 | memberdata@trna.org |

Upcoming Events

- May 9th—TRNA Board Mtg
- May 20th— Kite Fiesta
- May 21st—City Council Mtg on Budget FY2013

DIGITECH OFFICE EQUIPMENT

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xtecsinc@msn.com

Michael & Lily Andrews

*Thank you for printing this newsletter
 each month!*

Send your items of community interest to the Mesa Messenger! Submissions must be received by the 22nd of the month.

Newsletter Email Address: editor@trna.org

Web Site : http://trna.org - ID: member

PW: 99trna4

