

ALTA VISTA

Neighborhood Association Newsletter

Alta Vista is bounded by Hildebrand on the North, San Pedro on the East, the Union Pacific railroad tracks on the west, and Myrtle on the South

NEXT MEETING

April 30th, 6:30 PM

Mark Twain Middle School

Cafeteria

Topic:

AVNA Architecture

2014 MEETING

SCHEDULE

May 28th

September 24th

November 19th

CONTACT US

- avna@ymail.com
- altavistasa.com
- facebook.com (search for "Alta Vista Neighborhood Association")
- District 1 Field Office
210.207.0900

NEXT SAN PEDRO SPRINGS PARK PUBLIC MEETING

On Tuesday, May 6 at 6:30PM, the Transportation and Capital Improvements Department (TCI), in cooperation with the Parks & Recreation Department and the Consultant, BeatyPalmer Architects, will receive comments on the plans for the San Pedro Springs Park 2012 Bond Project. This meeting will be in the Russell Hill Rogers Theater at The Playhouse in San Pedro Springs Park, 800 W. Ashby.

AVNA 2014 Membership Form

Residential - \$10/year
Business - \$20/year (includes one business card sized ad in newsletter for one month)

Name(s):

Address:

Phone(s):

Email(s):

Fill out and return with a check to:

Alta Vista Neighborhood Association
PO Box 15033
San Antonio, TX 78212

NEW!

Pay online at altavistasa.com

Want Quiet? Write to UP Now

By Peggy Howe, Claudia Guerra, & Erin Zayko

We have been notified by the Office of Councilman Diego Bernal that Union Pacific (UP) has made additional crossing modifications a prerequisite for implementing a quiet zone (QZ) in Alta Vista.

UP is requesting additional crossings to comply with a Federal Railway Administration rule that horns must sound a quarter-mile before any non-QZ crossing. Fredericksburg Rd. is the first crossing beyond the proposed QZ, less than a quarter mile from the last QZ crossing at Hickman. According to UP, trains will have to blow their horns before Hickman to meet the quarter-mile horn rule for Fred Rd. and they have requested the addition of Fred Rd. and these other consecutive crossings (Culebra, Laurel, Lombrano, W. Poplar, Rivas and Delgado) because a quarter-mile or less separates each of them as well.

SAMPLE LETTER/EMAIL

Dear Sirs:

As a resident of the Alta Vista neighborhood of San Antonio I respectfully ask that you move swiftly to implement a quiet zone within our midtown area.

We are concerned that Alta Vista residents were not made aware of any complications associated with the "quarter-mile" rule. On the contrary, just earlier this year we were led to believe that we would have a quiet zone no later than April 2014.

That additional modifications outside of our boundaries are presently being requested is confusing and frustrating.

Myself and my neighbors thank you for your consideration of our health and happiness.

Sincerely,

[Your Name, Address and Zip Code]

cc
Congressman Lloyd Doggett

April Meeting - Name That Architectural Style

By Claudia Guerra

Have you always wondered if there's a name for that strange little curvy slope on the roof of your porch? Do you know the difference between a bungalow and a craftsman home? Come to our April meeting to find out answers to these questions and other intriguing information about Alta Vista homes.

This meeting will start off with an engaging presentation by Architectural Historian Nicholas Fuqua, a planner with the

city's Office of Historic Preservation. He will give a slide show presentation of houses in Alta Vista and lead us through their architectural history. He will be happy to field questions about your particular house as well. If you have particular questions, please send them to Claudia Guerra at Guerra@syncrostudio.com in advance. Also, please send a photo if possible.

matter's importance.

Thanks to our neighbors for working to make this positive change happen!

Joe Garcia, Union Pacific
Manager Industry and Public Projects
1711 Quintana Road
San Antonio, Tx 78211
jagarcia@up.com
(210) 200-3622

Ivan Jaime, Union Pacific
Director, Border and Community Affairs
1711 Quintana Rd.
San Antonio, TX 78211
ijaima@up.com
(210) 200-3656

Councilman Diego Bernal
1310 Vance Jackson
San Antonio, TX 78201
(210) 207-0900
district1@sanantonio.gov

Congressman Lloyd Doggett
217 W. Travis
San Antonio, TX 78205
Phone: (210) 704-1080
info@votedoggett.com



What's the arch called?



What style is this house?

ALTA VISTA

-A Neighborhood Conservation District-

We Make Good Neighbors!



Join us for a one-hour Spring Street Ride from Beacon Hill's Community Garden, meandering through the neighborhoods and ending at Outlaw Kitchens where light refreshments will be provided. More info at altavistasa.com & on the AVNA Facebook page.



ROCK OPERA FOR A ROCKIN CAUSE

Great fun for a good cause on Saturday, August 23. Contact any AVNA board member or email AVNA@ymail.com to buy tickets (\$28 each) for the rock opera *Tommy* at the San Pedro Playhouse.

Pick up your tickets at a private reception before the show and stroll with your friends a half block to the theatre. It's a blast and proceeds will help fund other neighborhood community activities.

2014 AVNA Board

President
Erin Zayko

Vice President
Ben Judson

Treasurer
Alma Noriega-Sothiros

Secretary
Claudia Guerra

Members at Large
Peggy Howe
Maricel de Leon Stephen
Elizabeth Allen

March Meeting Recap - Public Safety

By Erin Zayko

At the March meeting we continued our neighborhood discussion with the third general assembly-identified priority, Public Safety. Issues submitted in this category include neighborhood crime, graffiti control, police presence, traffic, student loitering, and code compliance. Here's a recap of the discussion:

Neighborhood crime: We reviewed a year's worth of crime history within Alta Vista's borders. Crimes occurring the most are: Theft 44 (e.g., stolen bikes/tools/potted plants); Vandalism 26 (includes graffiti); Burglary from a Motor Vehicle 26; Burglary Residential 12; and Motor Vehicle Theft 8. There were zero homicides and no cases of arson. Various neighborhood watch efforts have come and gone over the years and the assembly voted to explore creating a new one. If you're a nosy neighbor like me and interested in bringing neighbors together on your block to help prevent crime, contact avna@ymail.com.

Graffiti control: Diligent reporting of graffiti helps police identify repeat offenders. File a report as soon as possible by contacting the police non-emergency num-

ber 207-SAPD or 311. Take a picture of the graffiti for homeowner's insurance and/or the police report then remove it from your property within 24-48 hours. Free paint may be available from the City's paint bank located at the Household Hazardous Waste Facility, 7030 Culebra Rd. Elderly and disabled citizens can request graffiti removal assistance by calling 207-2833. Neighbors can also use the handy San Antonio 311 app for smart phone to report graffiti. Catch an act in progress? Call 911. Finally, if you're the volunteer to organize a "paint out" day in Alta Vista, please contact avna@ymail.com.

Police Presence: Recently SAPD reconfigured its service areas to provide equity of workload to the six police substations and to decrease service call response times. The size of our area, the central service area, increased just slightly. Additionally, residents can request a "patrol-by" from SAPD to increase police presence, regular patrols for a certain period of time, when going on vacation or when experiencing criminal activity or other potentially unsavory behavior.

Student loitering: Those in attendance at the Gen-

eral Assembly meeting hadn't experienced a problem with this. It was noted as a rule of the public school system that an administrator presence is required as long as students remain on campus after school hours. Neighbors experiencing problems with student loitering should contact avna@ymail.com

Traffic: Speeding is an oft-heard concern in our neighborhood. The board plans to work with the General Assembly to identify three priority streets for traffic calming. Then the next step is to work with District 1 to obtain from Public Works a traffic study for the identified streets. The implementation of any subsequent recommendations from the traffic study will be contingent on general assembly approval and availability of funding.

Code Compliance: Have a code compliance issue? Send an email to avna@ymail.com and we'll forward the issue onto our Code Compliance Committee Chair, Hector Cardenas, who can help you make contact with our code compliance officer for quick resolution of the problem.



Special May Meeting to Discuss Alta Vista's Future

By Claudia Guerra

The workshop to discuss Alta Vista's plan for the future is tentatively scheduled for either May 17th or May 31st. We will take a vote at this month's general assembly

We will consider historic designation and other tools to help us shape our neighborhood

meeting to see which date works best. The special meeting will be hosted at the new EcoCentro facility at 1802 North Main. This workshop is not designed to decide

whether we will be designated historic or not, this meeting is to envision what we want our neighborhood to look and feel like. We will then explore the various "tools" available to help us reach our goals. We plan for

to make their neighborhoods sustainable and thriving, and there will be plenty of opportunity for your input and questions.





STRAY CATS

Feral cat problem?
For help, contact our Pet Committee at avna@ymail.com