

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

LAST GENERAL MEETING of 2014

November 19th, 6:30 PM

Location TBD

Topics:

Board Elections, Bylaw Revisions, VIA Smart Move Initiative

SEPTEMBER MEETING RECAP:

- General meetings **every other month** (excluding summer) approved for 2015
- Input on traffic issues gathered for possible study by the City
- Quiet Zone back on track

CONTACT US

- avna@ymail.com
- altavistasa.com
- facebook.com
- District 1 Field Office
210.207.0900

SAN PEDRO BRANCH LIBRARY

Offers childrens' activities every Wednesday at 4PM thru December 20th.

Books, crafts and activities recommended for school-aged children. Younger children welcome when accompanied by an adult.

The LEGO Club meets the first Wednesday, 4PM, of every month. All kids welcome, TONS of LEGOS!



2014 AVNA Board

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Alley Etiquette 101

By Mario Ruiz & Krystal Jones

Recently, the AVNA board has received questions and complaints about unmaintained alleys. City of San Antonio regulations hold home or lot owners responsible for keeping alleys clean. To properly maintain your alley, mow it to its center and keep it free of debris and other obstructions. Your neighbor is responsible for maintaining the other half of the alley. Code requires a clearance of at least 14 feet high by 15 feet wide for vehicles to enter and the alley bed must be reasonably free of debris and passable to vehicles.

Alley maintenance tips:

Transport and Recycle Brush: Bitters Recycling Center (1800 East Bitters Rd.) and Nelson Gardens Brush Recycling Center (8963 Nelson Rd.) accept brush, leaves and grass clippings. For hours and fees visit <http://www.sanantonio.gov/swmd/Brush/BrushRecyclingCenters.aspx> or call (210) 207-6428

Be Considerate: If you share an alley with a neighbor, be attentive to your half of the alley. You and your neighbor can make a difference in the overall appearance and safety of our neighborhood.

Inform Yourself: For more

information on alley maintenance, visit the City's website:

<http://www.sanantonio.gov/ces/responsibilites.aspx> or call 311.

Finally, if you live adjacent to the railroad tracks, contact Union Pacific before clearing brush and debris from behind your home, lest you be fined for trespassing. It is Union Pacific's responsibility to maintain their property, which can extend 25 to 100 feet from the center of the track.

Union Pacific:
402-501-4241



Trick or Treat Here This Year

Don't forget to grab your Alta Vista **Trick-or-Treat Treasure Map** and keep it spooky in the 'hood on Halloween night. Follow the X's, look for the "totems" and BOO! - get the best candy in the neighborhood! You can get your map at the Great Pumpkin Party the Saturday before Halloween. We'll also email it out. Let's BOOOOO this! ★

Webmaster Needed

Know WordPress? We're in need of a volunteer for website maintenance, 3-5 hours a month. Contact avna@ymail.com ★

The First Annual Alta Vista

GREAT PUMPKIN PARTY!

Saturday, October 25th

7PM - 9PM

2919 N. Flores @ Magnolia

Hey Blockheads!

You're invited to a neighborhood party for the kids of Alta Vista in celebration of their favorite spooky holiday! Bring your kids in costume for:

APPLE BOBBING * POPCORN & CIDER * PUMPKIN HUNT * PUMPKIN DESIGN
A BIG SCREEN SHOWING OF "THE GREAT PUMPKIN"

PLUS! ▾

'TRICKSTER' GROUP PHOTO · 7:30pm *
COSTUME CONTEST · 8:30pm



hosted by Paul and Peggy Sartory
sponsored by the AVNA

Walking to this event is encouraged. Our nearby neighbors will thank you!

ALTA VISTA

-A Neighborhood Conservation District-

We Make Good Neighbors!

Alta Vista Traffic Concerns Outlined

By Elizabeth Allen

Traffic issues were identified as a neighborhood priority at the beginning of the year, and discussed in more detail at the September meeting. At a future meeting, we'll condense our priorities and share the top 3 with District 1 for further study and possible resolution.

One idea is to address school traffic congestion around

Mark Twain Middle School by making Breeden between Mulberry and Summit one-way, heading north. The idea behind this is to make it safer for kids crossing the street (hazards only approaching from one direction) and also reduce the gridlock that sometimes forms with double parking and cars trying to go in opposing directions in one lane. The city has prohibited parking on one side of the street during certain hours, but it is only a partial solution and creates another problem: two dwellings in that short stretch that have no other place to park.

Speeding: Several people brought up the problems that go with unobstructed thoroughfares - wide streets with no stop sign between San Pedro and Flores. Neighbors said the wide streets and lack of stop signs encourage speeders on Magnolia, Russell and

French. Craig is not as wide, but people note of the same problem.

Flores has a speeding problem as well. One idea for Flores, with its mixed uses, is to apply the Complete Street concept. Complete Streets are designed to enable safe access for all users, regardless of age, ability, or mode of transportation. They can include a variety of measures to discourage speeding.

On the other hand, some neighbors complained of the congestion on Elsmere, a narrower street with parking on both sides, and seek some solutions to ease that.

Another issue mentioned that has come up before is Woodlawn - its one lane but easy to treat as two lanes, making for hazardous driving (and crossing). One solution could be to make the parallel parking already designed in to Woodlawn more obvious and attrac-

tive with parking stripes. That could ease parking complaints, align cars into one travel lane and slow traffic.

Neighbors also mentioned that there are several intersections in the neighborhood where views are obstructed at the corners with shrubbery - hazards could be reduced if the shrubbery is trimmed.

Traffic is also a barrier to more neighborhood use of San Pedro Springs Park. Ashby is a well-used cross street with plenty of speeding, few stop signs, and no cross walks at the main points of connection with the largest part of the neighborhood - where Breeden and Flores meet Ashby from the north. Pedestrian crossings with flashing lights and possibly another stop sign would make it easier for people to access the park safely.

Please submit your traffic concerns to AVNA@ymail.com



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