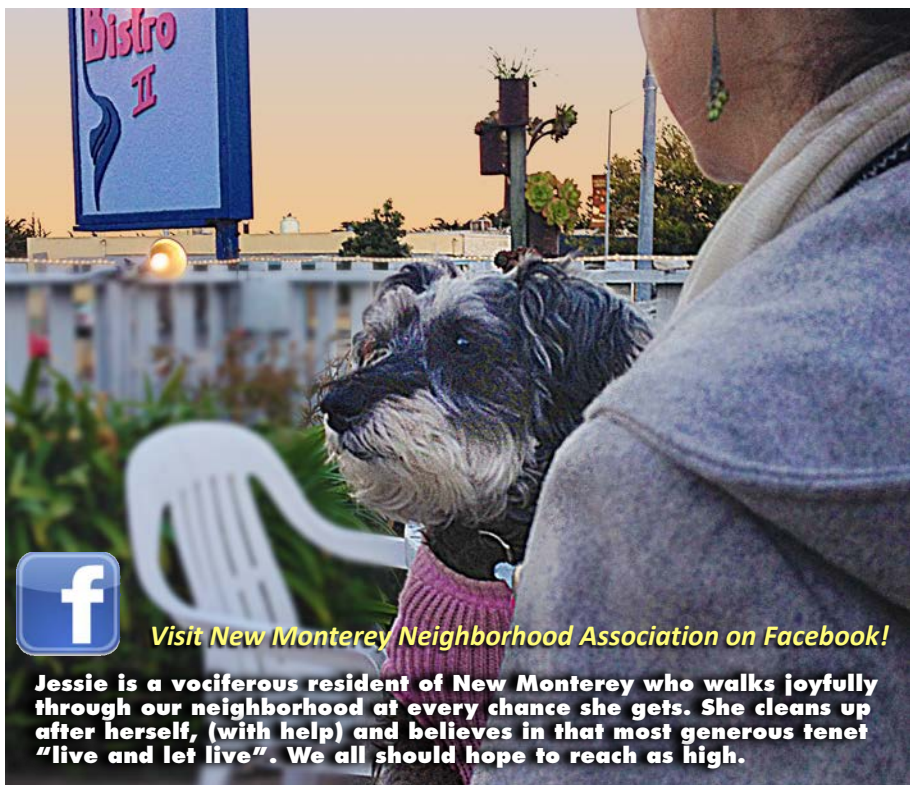


# NEW MONTEREY NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION NEWS

# NMNA

NOVEMBER 2013



Visit New Monterey Neighborhood Association on Facebook!

Jessie is a vociferous resident of New Monterey who walks joyfully through our neighborhood at every chance she gets. She cleans up after herself, (with help) and believes in that most generous tenet "live and let live". We all should hope to reach as high.

## Dates To Note

- **Tuesday, November 5**, Election Day.
- **Monday, November 18**, NMNA Member Meeting. Topic: Lighthouse Plan.
- **Monday, December 9**, NMNA Member Meeting.

*NMNA monthly meetings are normally held at Hilltop Center, 871 Jessie Street on the second Monday of the month.*

*On Monday November 18, we are meeting at Hilltop Park Center, inviting members of Cannery Row and Lighthouse business districts, to discuss shared desires and concerns.* We hope a large number of our residents participate. This is our business district and the way we get to and from home. What happens there affects us all.

## New Monterey Area Plan Update

Your association started reviewing our neighborhood area plan last summer anticipating the time when the 1991 New Monterey Area Plan would be updated. Public meetings will be scheduled in 2014 after Mixed Use Neighborhood Guidelines and the Waterfront Plan is adopted. Staff will take resident's and owner's ideas and blend them into a plan which will guide

New Monterey's development for the next generation.

*Your association will ask the planners to attend a regular neighborhood meeting early next year to discuss the planning process and some of our concerns:*

- **Traffic flow:** Very little was done to accommodate the vehicles of nearly two million people who visit the aquarium annually. Lighthouse Avenue currently carries more daily traffic than Monterey-Salinas Highway. So what happens to David Avenue and Prescott, Hoffman and Drake when traffic on Lighthouse increases further?
- **Building design:** How tall should the buildings be built? Do we want buildings 12' from the sidewalk? Do we want our views protected?
- **Water. Tree Protections.** The changing trend of our housing inventory to second homes. Schools. Parking of vehicles on lots. *There is much to consider.*

As you go about your daily routine, notice what you like and what you'd like the city to manage differently. Then plan to participate in the discussions. You are the expert – you know what works and what doesn't in your part of the neighborhood. You can make a big difference. We'll let you know where and when.

## Unauthorized Collection of Recyclable Materials

While most of the trash in our brown cans must be buried under the earth, much of the rest of our trash has a value. The green container with yard clippings can be sold or reused and much of the blue container's contents are separated into glass, plastic, paper and metal categories and sold to create products that we may end up throwing away again. The revenue derived helps offset the cost of collection, ultimately benefiting us directly in the form of lower collection fees. There is a regulation in the City Code (14.7) that prohibits anyone from removing items we have put out for collection. Recently, people were found rummaging through the blue cans looking for valuable recyclable materials. In a sense they are stealing from us, and thus the rule against such activity. The best way to stop it is to report the event immediately to the police department at 646-3914, their non-emergency contact number. An officer will be dispatched to investigate and hopefully interdict the activity.

## Holiday Parking Deals

You are aware that locals get two hours of free parking at the wharf lot from Monday through Thursday and that we can park free after 4pm at the Cannery Row lot every day. Now comes the holiday parking bonus down town. From Thanksgiving through Christmas locals can park in the West Garage free for two hours in the attendant parking area, not on the first floor. This is the garage with entrances on Franklin Street and Tyler Street. Watch for possible added freebies as we get closer to the holidays.

Here's a tip, for safety reasons the meter reader scooters don't run after dusk. Home free at the meters? No, police officers can issue citations if they see an expired meter, but your odds are improved after sundown.

## Membership Dues: 2013 NMNA Membership Form

Basic: \$10

Additional Support: \$20

or

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to NMNA and Mail to:

P.O. Box 2642

Monterey, CA 93942

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Deliver my newsletter via Email:  Yes  No

Comments/Suggestions?: \_\_\_\_\_

## Things I learned about Measures K & M

by Sharon Dwight

Amy White of LandWatch Monterey County was guest speaker at our October 14 meeting. Accompanying her were two members of the Measure M campaign. Speaking as one who was there, I came away with the following understanding:

- **The 500+ acres under consideration are primarily in the County;** some 20 to 40 acres are in the City of Seaside. As voters, we have a say because it is a County issue.
- **Neither Measures M nor K impedes access to the cemetery site.** Existing roadways will be unchanged.
- **A stated goal of Fort Ord Reuse Plan is to preserve wooded areas** on Fort Ord. Measure M is consistent with that direction.
- **Measure M supports the bicycle/pedestrian master plan** that connects the new state park on the beach and Recreational Trail around the Bay with the Fort Ord National Monument and open space recreational amenities on Fort Ord.
- **The 500+ acres are in close proximity** to the CSUMB campus.
- **There are already 4,000 housing units approved** and not yet built on the Former Fort Ord.
- **An additional 1900? houses are proposed under Measure K immediately across the road from the veterans cemetery.** A large number of high-density units are also planned closer to the horse racing track.
- **Measure K proposes a new hotel, horse racing track, and low- and high-density housing where there is now wooded land** with paved trails enjoyed by hikers, bikers, and those with mobility issues.
- **If Measure K is approved, the County will likely transfer the County's acreage to the City of Seaside** where the City of Seaside has already said they would approve all of the proposed development.
- **Measure K is conceived by and almost fully funded by** the owner/developer of Monterey Downs race track.
- **Construction, horse racing-related, hotel workers and city support jobs would result from Measure K development.** Construction is short-term. The other jobs are low-pay.
- **Park jobs and tourism business result from State Park,** National Monument, and outdoor recreation.
- **Water.** Marina Coast Water has already allocated all of its water. Does the water for all of these new uses come from Salinas Valley that already has salt-water intrusion problems?

As a voter, I am asked to decide what is the highest and best use for the land between CSUMB and the new Fort Ord National Monument. High-density housing and horse track near the University? High traffic volumes passing by the cemetery? Or open space park uses surrounding it? More traffic on Hwy 1 and 152 for horse-racing events? What draws people to the Monterey Peninsula? Eco-tourism is our bread and butter.

I went in undecided. I came away supporting Measure M and saying, 'NO' to Measure K.

**More Election Info-** Two of the candidates for the MPUSD school board have withdrawn leaving only Tim Cheney standing for election. Richard Gold and Carole Dawson have

thrown their support behind Cheney who has prior experience in the job with the Visalia USD and is now a resident of New Monterey. While we have not met him nor heard him speak he is our only choice. There is no reason to vote for any other candidate. We hope to have him address a member meeting in the near future.

**Mixed Use in Monterey** - In 2005, the City's General Plan was updated. The General Plan directed that design guidelines be prepared for the city's four commercial districts to plan for compatible mixed use project development. Downtown and East Downtown were combined into one document. Downtown's Specific Plan goes to City Council next week for its second reading and implementation by the first of the year. North Fremont Street Specific Plan goes to Architectural Review Committee next week for review. Neighborhoods on that side of town continue to voice grave concerns about standards written into that document.

The fourth Mixed Use 'Neighborhood' is Lighthouse Avenue. Unlike the other areas mentioned, Lighthouse Avenue has an area plan that was adopted in March 1987. Staff is drafting a specific plan to replace the Lighthouse Avenue area plan, encompassing Lighthouse and Foam Avenues.

**Your association is raising the question, "Why replace the Area Plan with a Specific Plan?"** The difference is significant. An Area Plan is a part of the city's General Plan to be used by city departments to guide design, approval and implementation of rules unique to that neighborhood. It's the "constitution". A specific plan is an implementation plan. How to build something – fund it, plan and construct it in a defined area following General Plan guidelines.

We are also asking why a draft plan is being written before the public has an opportunity to talk about what we value of the current built environment and what standards we need for new development. What happens with traffic when all the new units are built? How tall should buildings be? Where will residents park? How will mixed use affect businesses? How much open space is needed? Do we want street trees? Pavers? Benches? Are we talking luxury units, family housing, or short-term rental housing?

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**2013 NMNA Board Contacts**

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