March 2022 Newsletter by BWNA Leadership Team



El Paseo Project Update

This project will have a huge impact on our neighborhood and we encourage all to please stay engaged and send in your letters to Vice Mayor Chappie Jones at district1@sanjoseca.gov. The Baker West Neighborhood Association (BWNA) has responded to the City of San Jose and the developer with concerns about some aspects of the project. The project is proceeding, and as residents, we need to become more vocal with our feedback.

Current project details:

Phase 1 development plans (12/21) propose 994 new housing units in four towers of 9, 10, 11 and 12 stories, with a density of 92 units/acre. As a reference, Kaiser Hospital on Lawrence Expressway at Homestead is 7 stories and Santana Row residential buildings are 8 stories. The towers have residential and commercial space. A total of 1,944 parking spaces are proposed for the businesses and residents. View all of the current documents on the City of San Jose website.¹

Major concerns of our neighborhood and surrounding neighborhoods are:

- Excessive building heights not characteristic of the area or of any other tall buildings in the surrounding area.
- Excessive density without adequate transit to support the level of high-density housing and commercial development proposed.
- Phase 1 addresses only 8.7 acres out of ~30 acres of the El Paseo site. We need a
 comprehensive plan for El Paseo. The current approach piecemeal projects (El Paseo,
 Costco) before the Urban Village Plan is developed that defines appropriate size and type of
 new development across the entire West San Jose Urban Village.



El Paseo seen from Quito Road, rendering by KTGY

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Search for the website using the following: "EL PASEO AND 1777 SARATOGA AVE + City of San Jose". The website link is: https://www.sanjoseca.gov/your-government/departments-offices/planning-building-code-enforcement/planning-division/projects-of-high-interest/el-paseo-and-saratoga-ave-mixed-use-village

- Other developments under consideration within 1.5 miles of El Paseo: Quito Village (~90 units), multi-story housing at Cox/Saratoga, and a multi-level up to 10 stories at Prospect/Saratoga, and the new Costco at the OSH site. The combined impact of these projects should be coordinated between the City of San Jose, Saratoga, and Santa Clara County
- Lack of adequate numbers of below market rate housing mixed with market rate housing.
- The combined impact on traffic (car, bike, and pedestrian) of Phase 1 El Paseo together with the Costco (at old OSH site) and the future build out of the entire Urban Village must be planned. Current mitigations propose a change to the Hamilton/Prospect/Campbell intersection and most other mitigations are behavioral for work from home and alternative transit options.

Neighbors must join together to make our voices heard. Please let us know if you are interested in the Baker West Vision Committee distribution email list to stay informed and find out how you can help by contacting us at info@bakerwest.org. Thank you!

Free AMC Movie Screening Wednesday, March 23rd At 7:00 pm AMC Saratoga 14

El Paseo de Saratoga

AMC offers our neighborhood association FREE quarterly movie screenings. Look for the poll on Nextdoor a week before the date to vote on the movie selection.

Hope to see you there!



Be A Volunteer with Baker West Neighborhood Association!

We are still in need of 2 Street Leaders. One for 16 houses on Mayfield and one for 28 houses on Northlawn Dr. and Northlawn Ct.

Being a Street Leader is a very easy but important job. It is one of the ways Baker West communicates upcoming issues and events with neighbors. We usually have 8-10 newsletters a year. Please let me know if you are interested. Thank you!

Charleen Marfil



Sign up to get up-to-date city and BWNA

info:www.1bakerwest.nextdoor.com

Participate in neighborhood discussions, find out about crime and safety, get/give recommendations, access classifieds, rsvp to neighborhood events and vote for AMC Movie Nights.



El Paseo viewed from Saratoga Avenue, rendering by KTGY

Contact the City Councilmembers to express your views about the El Paseo Project:

Chappie Jones, District 1
Sergio Jimenez, District 2
Raul Peralez, District 3
David Cohen, District 4
Magdalena Carrasco, District 5
Devora Davis, District 6
Maya Esparza, District 7
Sylvia Arenas, District 8
Pam Foley, District 9
Matt Mahan, District 10

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District9@sanjoseca.gov
District10@sanjoseca.gov

ADULT WARM WINTER CLOTHING DRIVE THANK YOU!



Baker West Neighbors, we did it again! We had another fantastic Adult Warm Winter Clothing Drive! Because of your generosity we were able to donate over 300 articles of Winter Clothing along with many hygiene products and kits to Downtown Streets Team.

I have received a great big thank you from Downtown Streets Team for your generous donations. Our neighborhood continues to make something good...Great! Bins will be out again in November. Thank you! Charleen

Mark Your Calendar

March 23 – AMC Movie Night