



Sponsorship Committee Report, February 2025

The Sponsorship Committee held a meeting on 1/23/25 with 4 people present.

Items discussed included outreach strategies to high schools and SAC, Scholarship award amounts, and the new \$5,000 Community Grant selection process.

We currently have 21 scholarship applications from 6 different schools, with a deadline of March 7th. We have received 5 community grant applications to date, with 1 coming from a student for upgrading the Santa Ana High School Girls Wrestling Room and 4 coming from the Assistance League "Assisteens" mentoring program all for the same community book festival event. All 5 of these students have each made very impressive applications and have worked very hard on this grant.

The Sponsorship Committee is recommending that the Board consider partially or fully funding the "Assisteens" Community Book Festival project as their event is already set and advertised for March 15th and they will need to purchase books well before the event. We would not have time to get this project approved within our grant selection timeline. Considering the long-standing and valuable partnership with the Assistance League, the Sponsorship Committee is hopeful that we can offer some funds outside of the current \$5,000 grant to these students for their event since they have this tight event deadline. Our Treasurer has also been supportive of finding more ways to give back to the community in line with our 501c3 status.

Assistance League "Assisteens" student Grant Applications:

Grant #1- by OCEA student, \$400 for the Arts and Crafts Table at the Book Festival

Grant #2- by OCEA student, \$300 for the Rubic Cube Club Table at the Book Festival

Grant #3- by Godinez student, \$300 for the Connect 4 Club Table at the Book Festival

Grant #4- by Middle College student, \$4,000 for new books for an anticipated 450 kids

The next Sponsorship Committee Meeting will be held on February 25th at 7:00pm at 2311 Bonnie Brae and we will be choosing the recipient of the Community Grant Project.

Stephanie Miles, First VP

Beautification Committee Board Report
February 11, 2025

- Sarah Mae Downie Park/Butterfly Garden – Chris Switzer and Beth Hoffman
 - The Wise, Wonderful Wednesday Weed Whackers continue with bi-monthly maintenance in the park.
 - Parks and Recreation installed a doggie bag station by the trash cans.

- Exits and Entrances- Lina Lopez
 - The Wednesday Weed Whackers have also included cleaning and pruning roses in the exit and entrances.
 - There are 2 dead trees along the sidewalk on North Park that parallels Broadway. These trees were planted before home tour last year and we don't why they have died. Replacement plants are being considered.
 - Lina, Chris and Beth are working with Juan Ixta from PWA to fix all the sprinklers in the exits and entrances before we plant for home tour.

- Heart Stones –Dave Karaffa
 - One heart stone was purchased this month.

- Tree Committee – Debbie Wolfenbarger and Heather Small
 - We have 5 vacancies to report:
 - 4 home parkways - 2 on Greenleaf, 1 on North Park and 1 on Flower, 1 median on N. Park.
 - We have 2 trees on the watch list.
 - 510 W. Santa Clara
 - 1926 N. Heliotrope
 - 3 trees on Riverside Dr. – 2377, 2 at 2488 and 2311

**The city responded to my report, but both trees passed the “scratch test” (still green underneath), so we have added them to our Watch List.

I have not yet connected with Arturo (SAPW) to confirm what is on the city's vacancy list, or what the planting schedule is. I'll let you know once I'm able to have that conversation.

- Yard with Most Curb Appeal –
- December homes selected were:
 - North of Santa Clara 2415 N Heliotrope was chosen for its beautiful exterior and yard that has maintained regularly. Since moving into the neighborhood, we've enjoyed walking past this house!
 - 2101 Ross was selected for new plantings around the fountain and around the perimeter of the yard.

- January homes selected were:
 - 2121 Greenleaf St. – Since moving into the home early 2023, this young family has made remarkable improvement to a property that was in disarray for several years by the previous homeowner. It has truly been a labor of love since they have done ALL the landscaping themselves, including building the wooden fence. The house has been painted, and outdoor porch and sconce lighting was recently added. A new wooden gate to the carport/backyard was installed just before the holidays; I heard their neighbor telling them how beautiful it was.
 - 2468 N. Riverside Dr. – This homeowner did a beautiful mediterranean refresh of the landscaping last Spring. Luckily, they were able to preserve the mature and nicely pruned olive trees. We like the different shades of green throughout, and the pathway leads to tranquil seating areas both in the garden and unique circular patio at the front entry. The rolled roof is notable. Another inviting home in Floral Park!

- All homeowners who received the awards were very happy, grateful and thanked the committee for the award.
- Utility Box Wraps – Sarah Mae Downie only
 - No current update.
- Ivy and trash on Broadway – Beth Hoffman
 - **Overgrowth of vines from Broadway I-5 South Exit**
In addition, we contacted County of Orange Public Works to determine how to complete removal of overgrown Creeping Fig vines from wall behind homes on Riverside adjacent to I-5 Freeway Exit.

A Reminder: Cal-Trans closed the Broadway exit and work was completed in September 2024, from majority of I-5 exit pathway (approximately 1,500 feet) yet still incomplete of the remaining 150 feet approaching the Santa Clara intersection. Believed to be a jurisdictional issue, Caltrans left for Santa Ana City to finish. Following our January correspondence with Councilperson Lopez and Public Works Rudy Rojas, there is now an ongoing attempt for clarification between Cal Trans and Santa Ana. Follow-up phone calls have been placed to obtain a plan for creeping fig and trash removal.

2/7/2025

Update from Councilwoman Jesse Lopez to Ana Gonzalez, District Director for Senator Umberg

Hi Ana,

Thank you for getting back to me. This request is not a community cleanup project due to its proximity to the freeway and the safety risks it presents. I've attached a map of the location for reference. One of the main concerns for us is the overgrowth of creeping fig that is an eyesore and a significant fire hazard for homes in Floral Park.

I'm also CC'ing Beth from the Floral Park Beautification Committee, who can provide further details if needed

2/6/25

Santiago Creek Update from Rudy Rosas, Deputy of PW

Hi Beth,

For your use and information, I received the below update from Congressman Correa's office back in December. I believe it has passed and was signed by President Biden, but you may want to reach out to Correa's office for confirmation.

From Lou Correa's office...

I am following up to update you on the status of Water Resources Development Act, 2024 and Santa Ana's priorities. **This Bill HR 118** has now passed both chambers and has completed the conference process. The compromised language will head to the House and Senate for a final vote next week, then the President's desk for signature. Below are the Santa Ana projects that are included in the final text. I am also attaching the bill for reference.

1. **Santa Ana River Mainstem Project – Santiago Creek (Title 3, section 1311(a))**

This language is a modification to the Santiago Creek component of the Santa Ana River Mainstem Project. This would amend the current authorizing language to better address the needs and concerns of the community for a specific stretch of the Creek component located in Santa Ana. ***The effect of this language would be to prevent the initiation of construction by the Corps unless the project is redesigned to minimize the impacts on existing trees located in or adjacent to the portion of the project downstream of the I-5 Interstate Highway to confluence with the Santa Ana River.***

2. **Santa Ana River Mainstem Project – Reimbursement Authorization (Title 3, section 1311 (b))**

This language directs the Secretary to provide specific information on the status of potential reimbursement requests by the non-Federal interest for such lands or interests. The intent of the original request was to modify the Santa Ana River Mainstem Project to authorize the Corps to reimburse the Orange County Flood Control District, the non-federal sponsor, for incurred costs.

3. **Santa Ana River Mainstem Project – Appraisals/Settlements (Title 3, section 1311 (c))**

This language directs the Secretary to provide information on the status of ongoing requests by the non-Federal interest for approval by the Secretary of pending land (or interest in land) appraisals and litigation settlements associated with such lands or interests in lands. The intent of the original request was to grant Corps personnel at the South Pacific Division the authority needed to approve Project appraisals and litigation settlements up to \$20M when presented by Orange County Flood Control District, the non-federal sponsor, with substantiating documentation and a memorandum of no-objection from the Los Angeles District.

Rudy Rosas, P.E.
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In summary, we've been actively following up on both, Santiago Creek and Broadway off ramp clean ups. Although nothing has been scheduled yet, the right people have finally been contacted and discussion is occurring. And thanks to the Biden signature on HR 118 on January 4th, 2025, trees and bird habitat are now protected in Santiago Creek!

Chris Switzer and Beth Hoffman
Co-chairs – FPNA Beautification Committee Co-Chairs

Communications Board Report February 2025

January eBlasts -

- Sponsorship announcements (2)
- Neighborhood notification of fire on 16th Street (1)
- Valentine's Day membership drive (2)

There will be two repeats of the Valentine's Day membership drive eBlast in February.

On the Newsletter...Mason Input

- Suggested neighbor spotlight article series for longtime residents of Floral Park
- Suggested "Did you know?" feature for perhaps little-known facts of Orange County

Committee Meeting on Wednesday 2/12 to discuss Newsletter format and content. Meeting will be at my house at 6:30. Feeding folks so if anyone else is coming just let me know.

Coordinating a review of the website with Craig and Peter next week. We are close to launching and then we can really start tweaking to meet the needs of our users.

Floral Park Neighborhood Association

Calendar Social Events & Deadlines: 2025

2025

- April 19 - Gala (location TBD)
- April 26 & 27 - Home Tour
- May 3 - Sock Hop (FP and WFP)
- June 28 - Freedom Fest
- October 4 - Fall Concert
- December 13 - Holiday Event

Note: No Memorial Day event will be scheduled for 2025

Board Meetings: 2025 Locations - Meeting Places Needed, contact Britiny to Host

- February 11, - Angel Barnes 2006 N. Victoria
- March 11, - Julie Humphreys, 2112 N. Ross St
- April 8, - Peter Christoffersen, 2220 N Heliotrope Dr.

Future Dates:

February 11th, March 11th, April 8th, May 13th, June 10th, July 8th, August 12th, September 9th, October 14,
November 11th, December, NO MEETING -

General Meetings - Assistance League of Santa Ana

March 13th, September 11th, November 13th

Membership Report

Month of January 2025

Co-Membership Directors: Chris Rosas & Kevin Shuler

Donations:

- January Membership Donations = \$2520
- YTD Donations = \$2520
- 65 Total Donors to date, of which 59 were recurring donors (91%)
- 2024 Recap: Total Donations - \$36,030 (Goal was \$32,000) with 180 total donations, of which 88% or 158 came from recurring donations. Thrilled!

New Neighbors:

- 2446 Heliotrope: Jonathan & Kayla Gailing
- 2310 Flower: Greg & Kristin Smith
- 2117 Greenleaf: Charles Walter & Travis Allen
- 2208 Broadway #29: Cindy Ochoa

Events & Mixers Updates

- February Valentines Day Gram Donation Drive: \$10/per gram. One free gram if sign up for a Recurring Donation.
- Spring Mixer - TBD

Donation Initiatives:

- New neighbor baskets: All new neighbors have been welcomed.
- Membership table at every mixer.
- Membership Donation Invitation Letters to go out in 1st Quarter to all neighbors who have not ever donated. Information, Challenge, Survey why they do not donate, and guilt. 😊

Block Captain Updates:

- Gazette Delivery
- Possible Gift Basket Effort for Home Tour Gala Auction.

Historic Resources Update 1-30-25

Happy New Year!

As we start the year, I am happy to report that this may be the year we will be able to see the results of our efforts to identify our hood as a Historic District.

Craig, this month negotiated with the city regarding the extra expenses of \$8,000.00 that the contractors were asking, and it was agreed that the City would absorb the costs, due to the delays, AND there would be no additional costs to us above the amount the City originally agreed to pay of \$100,000.00, negotiated by Janelle with the previous City Manager.

We have also negotiated appointing 1 person from the city and one from our committee to be the contact for issues, problems, and questions with the contractors.

We were notified that they would begin work on Wednesday the 29th, and they did. The lettering from the monument on 19th street has been removed and taken to the storage yard.

As committee chair, I am working closely with Chris Switzer, Beautification Committee to keep her informed of activities both in the SMD park and entrances, to coordinate planning/planting efforts.

Currently Alex Olmos is setting up a time that the contractor, City Traffic & Planning, and representatives of our committee can meet on site to verify placement, prior to starting to dig for monument placement. City wants Traffic to sign off on final placement.

City and Contractor are hoping for completion by the end of February. With that in mind, I will be contacting our social committee to get them on board planning a celebration. This committee will have input, but we are not in charge of function. We have a list made when first announced of people we would want to invite, that are not part of Floral Park but did much to help the efforts to become a Historic District. We will schedule a meeting to discuss.

Janelle, on her own, has requested a copy of the final plans from Alex. We can review when received.