



CASANOVA OAK KNOLL

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

JUNE 2018 www.cona.info

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N. Fremont Bikeway/Pedestrian construction starts in June

This multi-agency funded project is slated to finish around August 2019. The intersections at Casa Verde and the one at Casanova will be the first elements to be improved. They will have their crosswalks re-aligned with new adaptive integrated traffic signals. The center bike lanes will have push buttons to allow bicycles to cross without conflict with motorists.

In this process conduit will be laid for future fiber optic installations.

Ramona and Airport Road intersections are scheduled to be done in about ten months. The median bikeways are all integrated into this construction.

The total of the budget will exceed \$10 million dollars in improvements.

Soaring costs have forced a delay in the Casanova to Canyon Del Rey walk-

way and bicycle path. Our city staff will be focusing on obtaining new grants to complete this vital section of this project. They are currently integrating this project with the new TAMC bikeway through Fort Ord, Del Rey Oaks and then to the Recreation Trail.

The City of Monterey has selected Granite Construction as the lowest qualified bidder to construct the project. Granite will be using the vacant lot at Eddies as their staging area. There will be some night work involved. CONA will be setting up a meeting with directly impacted neighbors so they can have communication directly with the project manager.

N. Fremont Street currently is the city's top priority for P.G. & E's undergrounding program. Funds are being ac-

cumulated and when they are sufficient the city staff will start the process of establishing an underground district.

Following undergrounding of the utilities the focus will be on starting the Streetscape Plan. These elements will result in a renewal of N. Fremont Street, making it attractive for new investment.

After decades deteriorated abandoned buildings that are finally gone, it is far past time for this renewal. Investors will realize that over 27,000 cars drive by each day, and with over 5,000 nearby residents it is a perfect time and place for new businesses. The apartments above these businesses will be quickly rented in the present shortage of housing.

Schedule of construction projects in the CONA area

Here is a list of projects that are coming up, (these are tentative dates):

Stuart Avenue Street Closure - Finished! a year ahead of estimates.

N. Fremont Bikeway/Pedestrian project June 2018 through August 2019

Mark Thomas pipeline-to November
Highway 68 pipeline bridge-in process.

Repair of brick crosswalk Fairgrounds Rd at Airport Rd. in the fall 2018

Fairgrounds Road resurfacing – Fall
New Play equipment at our Park
Construction in the fall of 2018.

Street drainage on Ramona is in the process of being designed

2014 Measure P sales tax

Voters passed this 1 percent sales tax increase four years ago. It is set to expire this November. The City Council appointed a ballot advisory committee at that time, the committee recommended a four year sunset so city staff could show the community that they could manage the tax money. Measure P will have repaired about 1/3 of the streets in Monterey. The model adopted was to start with keeping the streets in good condition from deteriorating. This has

been accomplished, leaving the worst condition streets yet to be done.

Our present City Council appointed a new committee to recommend how to proceed on the rest of the streets in Monterey. It is estimated that it will take 7-8 years more to finish every street. Many require complete reconstruction. Costs are about a 5 to 1 ratio. Five streets can be resurfaced compared to one street being reconstructed.

Phone and internet surveys have just been completed, aiding the sub committee in their determination on whether voters want to finish fixing streets.

CONA ANNUAL MEETING JUNE 20, 2018 . @ 7:00 P.M.

CONA 2018 ANNUAL MEETING

Our area of Monterey was facing a crossroad. The entry to our neighborhood, N. Fremont Street, was in a steady decline with vacant blighted uninhabited eyesores. That all changed last year, when the previous City Manager, Mike McCarthy, directed that the city condemn and order demolished the Ed-dies building followed closely by the old Pet Hospital. Those buildings were a major complaint of all who were forced to see fire hazards just rotting away.

That was a tipping point. The N. Fremont Specific Plan had bike/pedestrian goals for which our city designed plans. These shovel-ready plans were entered into competition for State Grants. Monterey's Plan was picked, beating out many other cities. Several other agencies were solicited with many approving the plans and contributing funds to the total project.

Historically, new developments were proposed in our city, entering into our commission's process without public comment beforehand. These commission hearings were usually confrontational in nature, residents finding elements they did not like and developers and architects defending their plans that they had a lot of money invested in.

To break this cycle CONA has invited the architects and owners of the Ed-dies and Cork n Bottle lots to bring their plans to our annual meeting before city hearings for your comments and concerns. They will hear you and weigh what you have to say. Development is extremely expensive and complicated today. Permits alone can run into the hundreds of thousands of dollars way before anyone picks up a hammer and shovel. Construction material costs are soaring along with a severe shortage of contractors with skilled workers. N. Fremont desperately needs new life; let's see if we can jumpstart the renewal of our commercial district.

At press time the information we have is that Village Motors, the old Pet Hospital and the new owner of Monterey Produce/restaurant are in a holding pattern; considering new buildings and/or water allocations.

Please come to the annual meeting and participate in the future of your neighborhood. Bring a new neighbor with you.

P.G.& E. - Power Surges

On April 4th, a tree limb on Overlook Drive in Carmel fell onto the P.G.&E 60 KW power line, (60,000 volts) this line then came in contact with the transmission line to homes. This sent a huge power surge through the transmission line all the way down to our neighborhood. Dozens of homes sustained damages to appliances with a cost of hundreds to thousands of dollars. It blew right through surge protectors and fried appliances. P.G.&E received claim forms and have already sent checks to some of our residents.

The issue is the power line goes from the sub-station through our streets down Fairgrounds Road leading to Aguajito and over Carmel Hill to the forested area at the beginning of Carmel Valley Road. A major problem that can be solved with a new line bypassing our neighborhood, thereby eliminating most power surges. Now we have to convince them to change it.

Neighbors CAN make a difference

Last month one of our CONA members noticed the stark deterioration of CVS's landscaping. Weeds, garbage, and dying plants showed lack of maintenance. They got in touch with the company's headquarters and explained the problem. The result was a thorough cleanup and a restored budget for outside maintenance at this location. Getting involved, and making a difference. A thank you to Mark Gilbert and the CVS customer relations director.

This newsletter goes out to all current members, if you have not been receiving CONA emails, you need to send your new address to conamonte-rey@aol.com.

DOOR PRIZES

All members at the annual meeting will receive a ticket for door prizes that will be drawn for:

Fire Extinguishers &
Smoke alarms

Drawing at the end of the meeting

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

2018

GENERAL MEETING

June 20 – Wednesday

7:00 to 8:45 p.m.

PARK CENTER

735 Ramona

Agenda

7:00 Call to order

Reports

2018 Election of officers

Old Business

2018-19 Priorities

New Business

7:30 Eddies-CorknBottle-new bulding plan presentation by Paul Davis Architect for the owners

7:45-8:45 Question and answers on issues affecting CONA

8:45 Adjournment

COME & BRING YOUR NEIGHBOR

2017

CONA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President-Richard Ruccello

Vice-president-Gary Carlsen

Secretary-Mary Larkin

Treasurer-Debra Maxwell

Board members

Michael Brassfield

Kimberly Svetich-Will

Robert Yoha

Paul Warfield

Scott Dent

Faith Dent

Webmaster-Louis Agaze

NIP Representative-Richard Ruccello

Alternate NIP Representatives:

Mike Brassfield

2018 Calendar

June 9 & 10 – CONA 36th.Garage Sale
Sat.&Sun

June 20 – 7:00 p.m. Annual Meeting

June 23 – Family Fun Day at the Center

August 3 – Movie in the Park!

December – Firemen's Toy Drive

36th. Annual
Casanova Oak Knoll Neighborhood Association
2 Days!!!
Neighborhood-Wide
GARAGE SALE

Rain or Shine
Saturday & Sunday June 9 & 10, 2018
Start time 10:00 a.m.
No pre-registration

Each year our association places multiple ads in the Herald listing all our streets. All our members are invited to have their garage sale in their own driveway.

CONA recommends if you have big items, list it on Monterey Craig's list for day of sale

Encourage your neighbors to participate, the more houses the more buyers!

Your Choice! Saturday or Sunday – ONE, BOTH OR NOT AT ALL

Neighborhood Improvement Program 2018

This year, one project was requested from CONA-it is our last drainage project for lower Ramona. This project will entail "dry wells" under the sidewalks. These are large stone filled boxes in which street drainage is directed, allowing the water to percolate into the soil. We currently have 28 acres of land drainage that now ends up at the front of Grandma's Kitchen. It usually has flood barricades up even during light showers. This project will help with the flooding of the Ramona intersection. The proposal was recommended in the first round of NIP voting and has a designated budget of \$185,000. It now goes before the City Council for the final approval in late June.

Highlights of other projects that NIP passed are: Forest Fuel reduction in many greenbelts of the city, Del Monte Beach permanent restrooms, Radar signs throughout the city, Colton Hall exterior repairs, a citywide feasibility study for installing fiber optic cables, and the Sports Center multiple upgrades among many other projects.

Monterey Public Library CONA Bookmobile Stops:

The library comes to you. Avoid the gridlock and lack of parking.

Every Thursday you can find the Bookmobile at

Casanova Oak Knoll Park 2:30-3:45 p.m.

Lerwick Drive 5:00-5:45 p.m.

Books and materials can be ordered on line for delivery at these stops: www.monterey.org/library

Measure P Fixing Monterey Streets

Lower Casanova will be resurfaced; it is on the list for this year. The Casanova CONA entry sign is in process of being replaced. Another driver drove over the island destroying our sign, and damaged the bollards.

Casanova Oak Knoll Park Center

Hello neighbors! We are planning another fun-filled Summer and Fall at Casanova Oak Knoll Park Center! There are four different camps being held during the next two months, Art Camp, Cooking Camp, Super Science Camp, and Summer Craft Camp. We are also hosting three large special events in the Park & Center.

Family Fun Day

Saturday, June 23, 11:00 am- 2:00 pm! A day of family fun and games await you! We will have face painting, activities for kids, games the whole family can enjoy, and much more!

Holiday Arts and Crafts Fair

Saturday, **July 21, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm** we are hosting our 1st annual "Christmas in July" Holiday Arts & Crafts Fair! Local Artists and Crafters are selling their unique homemade creations just in time for the holidays! Please stop by for a cup of coffee and support local artists

Saturday, November 3, 9:00 am -1:00 pm we are hosting our 5th **annual Holiday Arts & Crafts Fair!** Local Artists and Crafters are selling their unique homemade creations just in time for the holidays! Please stop by for a cup of coffee and support local artists!

Movie in the Park

The Monterey Fire Department and Casanova Oak Knoll Park Center invite you to our Movie in the Park on **Friday, August 3rd, 6:00-10:00 pm.** Enjoy a summer evening with friends and family while watching a free movie outdoors at the beautiful Casanova Oak Knoll Park! Delicious food, goodies and face painting will be available from 6:00-8:00 pm or while supplies last. The event itself begins at 6:00 pm. The movie will begin around 8:00 pm.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to give us a call 646-5665!

We hope to see you here!

Rachel Deis

Recreation Coordinator

Casanova Oak Knoll Park Center

C.O.N.A. ACHIEVEMENTS

Our neighborhood had an organization as far back as 1958, but there was a long period of inactivity on the part of our neighbors in the 70's. In 1982 the problems facing our neighborhood started to accumulate. The Mahara condominiums brought them to a critical point. It was this project that focused residents on forming a renewed neighborhood association that could deal with our problems. As you review the *short highlights* (included would be an annual garage sale, and toy drive), please note how the successes have changed your quality of life in our neighborhood.

- 1983**
- **Neighborhood Plan & Survey**
- **Reopened Fairgrounds Road for Jazz Festival parking.**
- **Park renovation & cleanup**
- **\$22,000 HUD grant**
- 1984**
- CPR class
- Neighborhood mediation classes
- 45 street trees planted
- Neighborhood Watch-1st in Monterey to implement a full watch program & paid for our own signs.
- Carved Park sign (by Leland Peterson)
- Neighborhood Plan highest survey results in City
- Door viewers & smoke alarms installed for members.
- 1985**
- CDBG funds sidewalks on Airport Road. \$50,000
- Life membership to Planner Butch Cope
- New Bookmobile ordered for City
- J.C.Penny Community Service Award
- P.G. & E. Community Service Award
- 1986**
- Capital Improvement Program -\$50K Casanova right turn lane to N. Fremont
- Street sweeper is back!
- Fairgrounds parking program
- Sidewalks curbs & gutter on Ramona
- 1987**
- Stop sign installed at Bruce Lane
- New retaining wall at Fairgrounds & Airport Road
- Dundee fill in sidewalks completed
- Sidewalks installed on Lerwick
- Ramona side street stop signs
- Casanova finished in fill sidewalks and added a school bus stop area.
- Ralston granite boulders oak island
- Garden road walkway approved
- 1988**
- Sidewalk infill Airport, Edinburgh, Littleness Stuart
- Cypress Bowl building torn down
- Installed Monterey entry monument on N. Fremont.
- N. Fremont Street name change
- Caroling Trolley for Christmas
- 1989**
- Major remodeling of park, new playground equipment, barbecue area
- Approval of sidewalks Airport, Euclid, Fern ,Bush
- Approve bike path on Mark Thomas
- Successfully opposed Ramona office building
- Successfully petitioned Monterey Planning Commission to require more attractive design on Blockbuster
- Successfully opposed live entertainment at Brick House
- 1990**
- Airport Road beautification project
- Airport Road & Olmstead intersection approved
- NIP purchased property for a CONA Center
- 1991**
- Airport implements noise abatement
- Community Center planning started
- 1992**
- Fairgrounds stops motorcycle racing
- Generator added to Park Center
- Fairgrounds carnival gate landscaped with funds from C.O.N.A.
- 1993**
- Community Center opens!
- Pre-school started at Center
- Ivy street sidewalks approved
- Airport sound insulation under way
- 1993 Xmas Caroling Trolley Ride \$1,237 for Herald's Christmas Cheer
- 1994**
- Emergency Preparedness Class
- CPR Class
- Parking Ordinance approved
- Lilac sidewalks approved
- Neighborhood 5 year plan completed
- 1995**
- Water storage tank for Center
- N. Fremont landscaping approved
- Picnic area renovation approved
- Spaghetti dinner fund-raiser for teen equipment
- 1996**
- N.E.R.T. graduated 25 team members
- Purchased 2 Emergency radios
- Obtained special FCC license
- Picnic area renovation completed
- CPR class
- Park Center Acoustical tiles & carpet upgrade
- 1997**
- Full time director at Park Center
- NERT radio base station Park Center
- 3 additional NERT radios A.T.&T.
- NERT steel storage shed to be installed at our Park
- 1998**
- Successfully raised funds for police night scope and new canine unit.
- Activated NERT team 3 times during heavy rains in February.
- Resident parking program for Melway Circle started.
- 1999**
- First 2 day neighborhood garage sale
- Neighborhood 8 dumpster cleanup with NERT supervision
- First CONA City Council forum at our Park Center
- 35 street trees planted
- NERT emergency shed installed
- 2000**
- Exposed Airport toxic plumes
- New N. Fremont Plan adopted
- N. Fremont Phase I drainage passed.
- 40 street trees planted
- Storage added to Park Center
- Upper BBQ area renovated
- 2001**
- Restored \$350K Health Risk Study
- Additional \$1.5M accelerates cleanup
- \$35K CONA Traffic Study
- Melway drainage improvement
- \$150K Airport Road drainage passed
- \$7.5K in additional street trees planted
- 2002**
- Melway/Casanova drainage NIP \$52K
- Casanova/Ralston crosswalk \$25K
- Stuart partial street closure \$8K
- N.Fremont signal coordination \$30K
- 2003**
- Cona traffic calming I&II-\$215K
- New playground equip -\$8K
- Bruce Lane curb&gutter -\$43K
- Chemical cleanup accelerated 3 yrs.
- 2004**
- NIP 20 driveway approaches \$60K
- CONA traffic calming phase III \$200K
- Solar speed signs \$30K
- Park Center pre-school deck \$5K
- Park Center window opener \$4K
- 2005**
- New Park Bench installed at Park Center
- 3 New CONA entry signs approved
- CONA Traffic Calming Phase IV
- NIP 20 driveway approaches Phase II
- 2006**
- CONA appeal of new loading dock for Safeway results in mandatory quiet time
- The day after appeal the earsplitting gas generator turkey trailer left hopefully for good
- CONA Traffic Calming Phase V approved
- NIP 20 driveway approaches Phase III
- Successfully opposed return of motorcycle races at Fairgrounds
- Obtained extra funds for entry signs
- 2007**
- \$25 Casanova condo conversion approved
- Final driveway approaches approved
- Two solar speed signs for Casanova approved
- CONA entry signs installed
- Record breaking CONA XMAS toy drive
- City Council supports CONA Airport resolution
- 2008**
- Sidewalk trip hazards repaired
- New streetlight in front of Park Center
- New Fairgrounds fence facing neighborhood
- New traffic calming reduces speeds in CONA
- North Fremont Street Streetscape Plan started.
- 2009**
- Replacement emergency water tank
- N. Fremont streetscape adopted
- CONA CERT team doubles in numbers
- CONA Neighborhood revitalization program
- New Bookmobile serving neighborhood
- Handicap access installed at park play area
- 2010**
- \$40K HUD grant for CONA spring cleanup
- 1st in city to get hazardous waste pickup
- \$20K provided for home remodels
- Program funds for CONA code enforcement
- 2011**
- Crosswalks approved for disabled on Casanova
- Renovation for Park BBQ area approved
- Neighborhood Watch cards delivered to members
- Spring Cleanup was a success
- 2012**
- NIP approves extra \$42,000 towards designing Casanova/Euclid ADA ramps & crosswalks
- CONA approved & purchased new CERT radios
- 2013**
- USACE Plume cleanup finished at \$18 million
- N. Fremont Plan finished with CONA input
- 32 CONA CERT graduates – sign up now!
- Solar radar speed signs installed on Casanova
- 2014**
- \$6.48 million dollar N. Fremont grant
- \$200,000 in NIP matching funds for N. Fremont
- Park BBQ shade structure
- ADA and sidewalk repair on Casanova
- Melway storm drain relining
- New CONA CERT shed roof approved by NIP
- 2015**
- NIP passed Stuart traffic study
- FAA Airport success in restoring flight patterns
- Success in moving GWR pump station
- N. Fremont Adaptive Signal upgrade
- 2016**
- Airport Rd reconstructed and resurfaced
- \$10,000 designated for CONA street trees
- Implemented Neighborhood Video Partnership
- CONA Shed solar backup for radio installed
- Successful agreement to get Eddie's demolished
- 2017**
- **New playground and ADA upgrades for our Park, NIP funded and in design**
- **CONA cooked 550 hotdogs & served 22 gallons of lemonade for Movie in the Park, over 800 hundred attended!**
- **Measure P-resurfaced CONA & new handicap ramps on Airport Rd.**
- **Stuart Closure completed by NIP-one year ahead of schedule!**
- 2018 More to come!**

