



CASANOVA OAK KNOLL

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

AUGUST 2020 www.cona.info

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A world changed forever----Pandemic affects health, jobs and economy

Our world, nation, city and our own neighborhood are enduring the most massive changes in recorded history.

We have only one alternative, adapt. Our neighbors are adapting, but we really miss the one on one communication with all of you. It is not possible for CONA to meet at our Park Center, it has been closed indefinitely. Both because of the CoVid19 virus and the enormous monetary deficit it has brought our city.

Reluctantly, we will call for a CONA Zoom meeting online this September. Date and time will be emailed to all our members with email. There is no other way we can meet. If you have changed email service please send your corrected address to conamonterey@aol.com.

There have been many changes in the way we live and work. Less car traffic and a whole lot more neighbors walking. Please see the story regarding blocked

sidewalks; we need courtesy shown for the handicapped and baby strollers so they are able to safely use our public sidewalks.

It's good news that Monterey Measure S passed, with the highest yes vote in the State, guaranteeing renewed streets and repaired sidewalks. Fortunately Measure G passed last March thus providing much needed revenue for our city.

CONA plays a vital role in keeping you informed

Quality of life, property values, and public safety for our families, these are CONA's priorities.

All vital reasons why we need to keep our neighborhood association active and informed. CONA'S priority has always been to get you timely information on issues and changes that may affect you directly. You must have time to read, reflect and participate. If you look at our accomplishments on the last page, this has applied many times in the past.

Email and social media are now the only way we can get you information on time, please make sure your contact information is current. Please talk to new neighbors and urge them to join.

Emergency public safety information is also a priority for all of us, it goes out the same way, on the internet.

As this newsletter is being written, we face another priority that is at the same time being emailed to you.

The Monterey Airport District conducted a video meeting on August 12 to change their adopted EIR with an Addendum. A legal shortcut to make major changes in their EIR, it is a direct way to limit public participation.

Originally all new traffic for new construction on their North side was to all go to Hwy 218, Canyon Del Rey. Their change will put that traffic on to Airport Road.

They are relocating existing aircraft hangers, adding new hangers and relocating their Airport Fire Department to our side of the runway. They had a 9:00 a.m. meeting on a Wednesday, all on a internet video meeting. We notified you one day before by email. Their notices were posted on Friday at 5:00 pm, two business days from their voting meeting.

Second issue:

The State of California legalized ADU's, Accessory Dwelling Units, thus in one law pretty much took single family neighborhoods into history. Second

units additions all get to waive all the previous zoning regulations. In one law every single family neighborhood is now duplex zoned. Owners can add a unit, small lot or not, waiving parking requirements.

All of us are stressed out just trying to survive this pandemic and the huge impacts to family financials.

It is incumbent that we keep the information flowing from our Association to you and urge you to participate in our local government; the city's future should be decided by you its residents.

It has become a regular occurrence to hear the public at government meetings urging the sale of our parks for development. Monterey is a beautiful place and it is that because people before us had the vision to preserve the beauty and landscape of what you see today.

Paving it over, would be a loss forever. Where are the environmentalists?

CONA ANNUAL ZOOM MEETING IN SEPTEMBER

Monterey Fairgrounds special day for CONA members

We received a call from Kelly Violini, CEO of the Monterey Fairgrounds. She was very disappointed that our Movie in the Park was canceled due to the pandemic. Kelly offered a special CONA evening at their new Movie Drive-in.

For current CONA members, with email, this one time free drive-in will be on September 20, 2020, a Sunday afternoon, at 3:00 p.m. Reservations will be online only. It is a LED screen, easily seen even in daylight, sound is broadcast by Wi-Fi and Bluetooth to your car radios. Details with links will be sent by CONA email the week before the event, with online reservations. Please make sure your email is current with CONA.

Please thank Kelly and the Monterey Fairgrounds for their generosity to CONA for all their special gifts to you.

You can support the Fairgrounds concessions by purchasing all your Fair food favorites at their drive up concession stands. No need to get out of your cars. Arrive early so you have time to give your children the flavor of the Fair experience.



CONA Neighborhood Watch

Please note that the City of Monterey has had to make enormous budget cuts. It is imperative on us to keep our public safety department aware of problems you observe. Please do not hesitate to report suspicious behavior, crimes in process or code violations. We need to be their eyes and ears. Timely reporting is crucial to obtain results.

Garcias
Plumbing Service

Robert Garcia
Owner Operator

Direct: (831) 235-1942

Lic#: 856673

Email: garciasplumbingservice@yahoo.com

Mailing Address

Web: www.garciasplumbingservice.com

P.O. Box 8171
Salinas, CA 93912

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

2020

GENERAL MEETING

September, to be announced

7:00 to 8:45 p.m.

Zoom meeting

Agenda

7:00 Call to order

Reports

Old Business

Election of Officers

2020-21 Priorities

New Business

7:30-8:45 Question and answers on issues affecting CONA

9:00 Adjournment

ZOOM AND TELL YOUR NEIGHBOR

2019

CONA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President-Richard Ruccello

Vice-president-Gary Carlsen

Secretary-Mary Larkin

Treasurer-Debra Maxwell

Board members

Michael Brassfield

Robert Yoha

Paul Warfield

Scott Dent

Faith Dent

Steve Griffith

CONA NextDoor & CONA Facebook:

Scott Dent

CONA Airport Liaison Robert Yoha

CONA Webmaster-Louis Algaze

NCIP Representative-Richard Ruccello

Alternate NCIP Representatives:

Scott Dent

N. Fremont Liaison Mike Brassfield

Family and Senior Drive Thru

Produce Distribution

The City of Monterey Recreation and the Monterey County Food Bank are pleased to announce the return of the weekly produce distribution service for families and seniors on Mondays, excluding holidays. Please review the instructions to reserve your spot for the drive thru distribution program and pick up your produce. **RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED.** Produce will be distributed by appointment/reservation only every half hour beginning at 10:00am until 1:00pm on Mondays. Visit www.monterey.org/rec and click on the link on the top of the page to register for the program or : Call Monterey Recreation at 831.646.3866 and leave a message.

Neighborhood Community Improvement Program 2020

As a casualty of the World Wide Pandemic, the Monterey City Council declared a financial emergency and by unanimous vote canceled the NCIP for this year and took the funds for emergency use. In addition, they defunded \$8 million dollars of previously approved and funded projects.

These projects were awaiting construction. Now they are defunded. CONA lost our Park Improvement projects of a new exterior fence, BBQ area improvements, and a waiting area that was designed for Pre-School parents.

Our lone exemption was the CONA Coastal Oak Tree Study which remains fully funded. That study is focused on finding the cause for the large loss of Oak Trees in our area and the rest of the city. The study is starting shortly. It entails taking tree and soil samples which we be analyzed in a laboratory. Hopefully, it will identify a cause and a treatment. We have lost more than half of our trees here in the last decade.

CONA table at 2019 National Night Out Colton Hall

The Monterey Police Department invited all the Monterey Neighborhood Associations to support their National Night out program last August 3. CONA did so, handing out snacks to the children at Colton Hall. It was a very enjoyable event; we took the leftovers to our Movie in the Park.

Monterey may be the only city that has an association in every neighborhood, it makes for a very special city.



CONA Board member Scott Dent, Richard Ruccello, president

Repair of public sidewalks

Measure S funds sidewalk repairs

Passage of Measure S in 2016 allows the fixing of sidewalks in the city as long as the damage is attributable to a city tree causing the damage.

General deterioration of the sidewalk in front of each home is the responsibility of the home owner. Any trip hazards should be reported to Code enforcement officer to determine the responsibility for repairs.

Home Sales in CONA move quickly

There has been a pattern, 3-4 homes for sale every month in CONA. Then in short order they sell. Prices have been creeping upward due to a high demand. That's over 30 homes throughout the last 12 months. Please explain about our neighborhood association when you meet your new neighbors. Recently CONA volunteers delivered membership forms to the homes we knew changed hands, if you know any that were missed, please email the address back to CONA. You can also direct new people to our website at cona.info.

Movie in the Park 2019

Last summer CONA partnered with Monterey Councilman Ed Smith and the Cannery Row Rotary. The Rotary purchased hundreds of hot dogs and condiments, CONA, by your vote, added 15 gallons of lemonade and over a dozen CONA volunteers.

Starting before the movie, our volunteers heated the hot dogs, wrapped them in foil and put them in insulated containers. We passed out several hundred feeding a huge crowd of movie goers.

We have done this for several years, and it has been one of our most enjoyable community events. We are very disappointed that the Pandemic has canceled all our get togethers.

Please note the article from the Fairgrounds offering us a movie drive-in experience, just for CONA!



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
- Water storage tank for Center
- N. Fremont landscaping approved
- Picnic area renovation approved
- Spaghetti dinner fund-raiser for teen equipment
- **1995**
- 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
- **1996**
- N.E.R.T. graduated almost 50, #1
- Playground fencing & flagpole
- Purchased 3rd. emergency radio
- **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**
- 825 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**
- Successfully stopped the Airport Master Plan from using CONA streets as access to the new North side.
- CONA supplied complimentary lemonade to record 900 at Movie in the Park
- Installed Free Library at the Park
- CONA CERT now has 50 graduates
- **2019**
- **2019 National Night Out CONA table**
- **Movie in the Park Hot dogs and Lemonade**
- **CONA Coastal Oak Study funded by NCIP**
- **Opened N. Fremont Bike Trail innovative-award design winner**
- **2020 More to Come!**

Award winning opening of the N. Fremont Bike Trail

Last September 14 we had a beautiful day cutting the ribbon on the new bike path. Attended by a large number of CONA members and the public, it was enjoyed by this group.

Two donated electric bikes were given along with many gifts from the N. Fremont Business District.



Mayor Roberson announces winner of Electric Bike drawing
City of Monterey

Prohibits blocking of City Sidewalks

Please be courteous and do not block public sidewalks with cars, trailers and motor homes. Its against the law. People with handicaps, parents with strollers and wheelchairs are forced to cross curbs and go into the street around obstructions. It is against the law to block sidewalks and could cause injuries.

Sec. 32-6.1. Obstruction of pedestrian or vehicular traffic on public property and on private property abutting public property.

It shall be unlawful for any person or group of persons to intentionally obstruct or impede the free movement of any pedestrian or vehicle, or any group of pedestrians or vehicles within, on, in, or upon any public street, sidewalk, way, path, park, wharf, parking lot, or other public property within the City of Monterey, including the ingress or egress of such pedestrian or vehicular traffic from private property, the entrances to or from which abut any such public street, sidewalk, way, path, park, wharf, parking lot or other public property.

City of Monterey Code Enforcement Officer
Bill Moritz 646-3750 moritz@monterey.org

Wave of car part thefts throughout the Central Coast

Thieves have found a easy way to make money. High ground clearance of cars, and they slide under using a special tooling cut off the catalytic converter. Favorite targets are Toyota, especially the Prius model. There are valuable metals inside that are sold. We are talking hundreds of dollars for each. So be aware of your car on the street or driveway it is vulnerable. Lights and cameras are a good deterrent.

Neighborhood Watch has changed with the digital age

Technology has changed crime prevention. Solar powered floodlights make it easy to light up without costing a fortune in electrician bills. Wi-Fi cameras have changed home surveillance, no longer requiring expensive installations.

Ring neighborhood can instantly notify neighbors of a prowler or theft, simultaneously sending video. Other companies have similar programs.

CONA uses email, CONA website, CONA NextDoor, and CONA Facebook, just notify us. We will send notices out.

COMING TO N. FREMONT STREET

At the corner of N. Fremont and Casa Verde, the previous Caruso's corner pizza will include the current motel on this site. This hotel proposal is in the City planning process. The ARC process may change some parts of this design.

AVID HOTEL

2101 N. FREMONT STREET

MONTEREY, CA



A new mixed use building at corner of N. Fremont and Airport Road has a ground breaking scheduled this October. Estimated is a 18 month construction period. This project has City approval and presently is in the plan check period. The present CorknBottle will be replaced also by this building.



According to City Planning the former Beverly Fabrics building has been leased to a Pool and Spa business.

CONA failing sewer lateral questions

A brief history of the main causes

Please reference the aerial photo on our website dated c. 1946. Note there are a few existing homes in this picture with the majority built after 1948. Ralston and Melway were the last streets developed. At that time this area was in the jurisdiction of Monterey County. Those first homes were all served by septic tanks, mostly in their back yards. I have seen several of these; all were large redwood boxes of thick virgin redwood boards. After 1950 we were annexed to the City of Monterey, and a clay sewer pipeline was brought down each street. Each property owner was responsible for getting a new lateral from their home and attaching it to the city sewer line.

Many different materials were used, Orangeburg, cast iron and clay tile. Some had all three. Orangeburg is a thick wood fiberboard pipe coated with thick tar. Very efficient and cost effective. Over the years the force of the soil presses down making an oval instead of a round pipe. Roto-rooting to clear clogs cuts chunks out of the pipe. Useful life is around 50 years, we are now at 70 years. It is the owner's responsibility to maintain their sewer laterals. Recent ordinances for escrow closings require a video viewing of sewer laterals.

The only two fixes are to trench from your home to the street, or to do a pull through. This has a new PVC pipe pulled through your existing pipe to the street. Saving the destruction of sidewalks, driveways and landscaping.

Every home here will eventually need this upgrade, and must also add a backflow device to prevent sewer backups.

Facts about a the N. Fremont Bike Trail

Americans tend to be negative to change, and take screen shots of what they see, and make instant judgments, it's the way we are. Can you relook and imagine a string of pearls? You only see one or two pearls. In process is a link from Lovers Point to Canyon Del Rey, by N. Fremont to Jim Moore, thence to Reservation Road. Resulting in 34 miles of a separated trail from traffic. It is designed and fully funded, adopted EIR with construction in the very near future. It is happening.

Can you see the whole string of pearls now, N. Fremont is presently up for a National Innovative Design Award.

Message from the Monterey Public Library Friends & Foundation : For Readers

Support your Monterey Public Library!



Book Grab Bags

(Gently) used, contact-free book sale. Go to www.investinmpl.org, choose your genre(s) and we'll pack a bag! Proceeds will help fund new library materials.

Pickup Hours: Wed & Sat - 1-3

Airport excessive noise & ground safety

CONA receives calls and emails from our members about the lack of communication from the Airport to the residents that live around them. It's getting worse, much worse.

Their focus on expansion has created a blockade preventing them dealing with negative concerns.

This is a very recent example. A CONA member on Euclid noticed a Navy flying club small plane doing touch and goes. When taking pilot instruction it is required to do a minimum of take offs and landings. Airport policy limits each person to three touch and goes a day. The classic example is a short take-off, and then make a hard right turn directly over the middle of our neighborhood. A shorten route, one that saves time and fuel. But also adds a risk to our residents because the normal takeoff should go out to Garden Road, not over homes.

When our Euclid resident counted 12 flyovers from a plane with the same wing numbers, they called the tower, the FAA operator said he was unaware of the three takeoff limits, he didn't interfere with the pilot. After much follow-up the resident had an Airport employee inform the tower of that limitation at our Airport.

It turns out the instructor was new to the area. The FAA operator was not briefed on local regulations. In this case he finally intervened when the student pilot actually flew into the turbulence of a landing plan, a dangerous situation.

Lack of communication in this situation actually created excessive noise and added to a ground safety situation over us.

What you need to do:

Although it feels good to call them up and yell at them, that doesn't help. Documentation is required for a ultimate solution. Phone call histories just disappear. Document the situation, print it. Send it to CONA, in the future, we can make our case.

All pilots talk about is freedom of the skies, they never discuss what goes up can come down, wherever gravity sends it.

Posted on our website, cona.info, will be the information you need to stay informed.

The following official documents on the Monterey Airport District. Everything the Airport District does affects our quality of life and property values.

2018 Monterey Airport Final Environmental Impact Report
2019 Monterey Grand Jury Report on the Monterey Airport
2020 Draft Environmental Assessment
2020 Final Environmental Assessment
2020 Monterey City Manager's City Response to the Environmental Assessment

As you read these reports you will see how their analysis keeps changing, they make promises, and then change their minds. All government agencies in California must be transparent and follow State meeting laws, no exceptions. Draw your own conclusions.