



EL CERRITO COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Volume Fifteen Number 5 May 2021



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**El Cerrito Community Council Meeting
JOIN US AT OUR MAY MEETING FOR
DISCUSSION
AND A VOTE
ON MULTIPLE ACCESSORY DWELLING
UNITS (ADUs)!**

**Introduction! Enactment History!
Summary of Code!**

**Developers' Opportunity -
RESIDENTS' NIGHTMARE
MAY 20TH - 7:00 - 8:30 PM
VIA ZOOM**

Newell Booth, an El Cerrito resident 50 years, and Bob Jaynes, living in El Cerrito for 28 years, will present information on new City of San Diego decisions to allow multiple Accessory Dwelling Units to be built on single residential zoned lots. They are working in coordination with the "Neighbors For A Better San Diego" group of Talmadge/Kensington.

After their presentation they will ask the ECCC community to vote on a recommendation that the City of San Diego declare a moratorium ADU/JADU Code §141.0302 and that City Staff draft alternate code options minimizing impact of relevant State of California law, examine regulations in other California cities and use established planning process to choose conforming codes for enactment. They also have a petition for all of those in support to sign.

Join Zoom Meeting Link

<https://nu.zoom.us/j/8586428437>

Meeting ID: 858 642 8437

OR

Join by Phone - Dial and enter Meeting ID

+1 669 900 6833 US

Meeting ID: 858 642 8437

**ECCC IS GOING TO VOTE ON THE PARC
PROPOSAL AT THE OUR MAY 20TH
MEETING**

PARC, which stands for Park And Recreation Coalition, is a group that includes former city planners, landscape architects, architects, and community planners presented a plan for improvements to the new City Parks Master Plan, General Plan Recreation Element, and Citywide Park Development Impact Fee (which make up the Parks component of Complete Communities).

At our March meeting, PARC member, Carolyn Chase, described PARC's suggestions for improvements to the current City's Plan, including funding proposals such as specific use taxes and maintenance assessment districts to allow areas to fund park land acquisition and upkeep.

Many in El Cerrito have long expressed the need for more parks and recreation in our community and voiced support for PARC's suggestions and a willingness to pay taxes for more parks and recreation areas, as long as there is assurance that the tax money collected could only be spent on parks and recreation area.

Tom Silva, ECCC Board member, has compiled the comprehensive list below **for a vote at our May meet** on recommendations to be included in a letter to District 9, Mayor Todd Gloria, the remaining City Council Members, College Area Planning Board, Eastern Area Communities Planning Board and PARC.

- Establish clear standards** in the Parks Master Plan
 - Retain the acreage standard that is in the current parks and recreation master plan 2.8 acres/1,000 people.
 - Increase the percentage to be set-aside for park land acquisition.

- Separate the land metrics from the amenity metrics that are in the proposed parks master plan.
- Separate the proposed Developer Impact Fee (DIF) usage from Community Planning Usage; they are to be spent for the purposes for which they are collected.
- Spend the Parks Developer Impact Fee within the communities from which they are collected as required by Government Code 66477 et. seq.

Funding:

- Bring forward the funding, prioritization framework, and other implementing mechanisms (i.e., Council Policies) concurrently with the Parks Master Plan and the Recreation Element.
- Show the Nexus Study required by Government Code 66477 that establishes the correct Parks Developer Impact Fee and the determination of any discounts on the land component for park land should a developer propose to provide park land acreage in-lieu of payment of fees.
- Require Community Benefit Zoning Analysis in future community plan updates, proposed zone increases, or General Plan updates.
- Require minimum payment into a Citywide Park Fee for on-site development.

Protect park land by controlling the commercialization of said parks. The proposed Parks Master Plan encourages commercial uses; those should only be allowed by an approved Conditional Use or Special Use permit.

- Retain protective language in the proposed Parks Master Plan which will control commercialization of parks.
- Establish a requirement that a Conditional Use Permit, and/or a Special Use Permit must be obtained for a commercial activity to be allowed within a park.

Provide transparency in the development of the Parks Master Plan

- The proposed Parks Master Plan was prepared in a vacuum without any community input. In November 2020 City staff reported to the City Council that COVID-19 made it difficult to reach out to all the recognized Community Planning Groups. That was not true.
- Involve Community Planning Groups and local Community Councils in the preparation of the Parks Master Plan, any Parks and Recreation Element Updates and proposed policy changes as they relate to parks, and parks and recreation.
- Involve Community Recreation Groups in the preparation of the Parks Master Plan, any Parks and Recreation Element Updates and proposed policy changes as they relate to parks, and parks and recreation.

Equity: Ensure that the Parks Master Plan, the Parks and Recreation Element, and any city standards and policies related to local parks be equitable for all socio-economic groups.

WELCOME TO DR. AKILAH WEBER - OUR NEW ASSEMBLYMEMBER FOR THE 79TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

Dr. Akilah Weber, MD, took the oath of office to serve as the Assemblymember for the 79th Assembly District today following a special election. Her mother, and our previous Assemblymember, now California Secretary of State, Dr. Shirley Weber, PhD, administered the oath in the California State Capitol. The 79th Assembly District, consists of the cities of Bonita, Chula Vista, La Mesa, Lemon Grove, National City and many San Diego neighborhoods, including El Cerrito.

Dr. Weber’s website is <https://a79.asmdc.org/>

Her contact information is:

Capitol Office:

State Capitol
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249-0079
Tel: (916) 319-2079; Fax: (916) 319-2179

District Office:

1350 Front Street, Suite 6046
San Diego, CA 92101
Tel: (619) 531-7913; Fax: (619) 531-7924



EL CERRITO BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE IS COMING BACK IN JUNE!

The El Cerrito Beautification Committee, which has done such a great job cleaning up the community, has been out of commission for over a year due to winter weather and COVID-19. The goal is to meet once a month to clean up litter and over-grown weeds in the El Cerrito community. This is a fun way to meet neighbors and do something great for your community.

The next work party is Saturday June 19, 8:30 a.m. Clean-up days are the Saturday after the community meeting. We meet at the corner of 58th and Trojan Avenue and work for no more than two hours.

Scrimshaw Coffee at 5542 El Cajon Blvd gives our crew a 10% discount - join us for a bite afterward.

If you'd like more information or would like to join us please call Lorna Zukas at 619-538-9689. If you can't make it in June but want to join in the future or if you have areas that you feel need clean-up, please email elcerritocommunitycouncil@gmail.com.

GIVE OUR LOCAL BUSINESSES A BOOST AS WE GET TO OPEN UP

Now more than ever your patronage is needed to help our local, small businesses.

Our numerous businesses need your support. We have great restaurants, coffee shops, flower shops, dog businesses, exercise studios, veterinarian, lawn mower shop, car repair and other businesses. All are working hard to remain open under restriction guidelines due to COVID-19 health concerns.

Restaurants have set up tables outside, on sidewalks and in parking lots with distancing requirements between tables, gyms are holding classes in parks and other outdoor areas. As our businesses get back into regular routines, let's give them and their employees our support. All of the businesses are working hard to open up.

When you are choosing where to dine and shop and get services, please pick our local El Cerrito, Rolando and the College Area and surrounding neighborhoods. Choose small businesses over large. Windmill Farms, just off College across I-8, has remodeled and is a great alternative to Sprouts.

It is time to get back out - add a restaurant night out to your week. Meet a few friends. Frequent services of the neighborhood businesses. The more we support these businesses the more we'll get other businesses we want.

Be sure to follow health guidelines, wearing masks and social distancing while you are out and about for as long as necessary.

BE PREPARED FOR ANYTHING! GET YOUR EMERGENCY PLAN IN ORDER

The chance of wildfires are making many people feel vulnerable again. The best solution is to be prepared to survive.

Get your family or household members together to discuss how to prepare and respond to the types of emergencies that are most likely to happen where you live, learn, work and play. Identify responsibilities for each member of your household and how you will work together as a team. Practice as many elements of your plan as possible. Have a communication plan.

One of the tips that is stressed each and every time for preparedness is to be sure every person in the house has a pair of sturdy, comfortable emergency shoes and socks ready to be put on. This means that everyone should have a pair by the bed, a pair in the car, a pair at work and school. Socks will help prevent getting blisters if walking much.

1 - Get a Kit - Learn the essential supplies to put in your family's first aid and survival kits. Be sure to plan for pets.

*****Have a plan for your medications.**

2 - Make a Plan - Put together a plan by with your family, friends, or household to start your emergency plan. Consider the specific needs in your household.

How to receive **emergency alerts and warnings?**

2. What is our **shelter plan?**

3. What is our **evacuation route?**

4. What is our **communication plan?**

3 - Get Your Kids On Your Team!

Preparing for emergencies is not just for adults. Young children and teens alike need to be part of the process — for their own safety and sense of empowerment.

- Work together to build an emergency kit.
- Sit down as a family to talk about your communications plan.
- Role-play what you would do during a disaster.
- Hold fire drills in your house.

4 - Be Informed - Understand which disasters are likely in our area and what to know to stay safe.

Visit the following site for getting ready with a plan - WWW.REDCROSS.ORG/GET-HELP/HOW-TO-PREPARE-FOR-EMERGENCIES/MAKE-A-PLAN

5 - Include the Pets Maintain a pet emergency kit with sufficient supplies for each pet.

- A leash, harness, or pet carrier and a muzzle for any dog known to be aggressive or defensive around people or other animals. Include a stake and tie-out for dogs.
- Collars with a securely affixed license tag (for dogs) & ID tag (listing your address and phone number).
- Microchip your pet, keep your information current with the microchip company and local shelter.
- At least a week's supply of water and pet food, water bowl or dispenser, sturdy food bowl or feeder. Include a manually operated can opener & plastic can lid for canned food.
- A copy of current veterinary records, including rabies & wellness vaccinations. (Proof of current vaccinations may be required by boarding facilities).

*Come By & Enjoy Yourselves!
Families Welcome!*



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**I helped 14 sellers & buyers
Since October 2020**

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