



**Socialize & Order Food** .....All (Optional)

**Welcome New Attendees**.....First-Timers

- We welcomed Ruth from Groth Circle and Sandy from Duckhorn Drive.
- A suggestion was made that established members introduce themselves as well so new attendees can feel more comfortable as well. We used to do introductions of everyone, but it was taking too long. We'll explore our options in this area to make everyone comfortable and feel welcome.

**Sacramento Police Department Update/Q&A**.....Officers Long and Dougherty

- Burglary on February 12 in 3700 block of Saintsbury Way did not appear to be part of a series.
- Car burglaries are on the rise throughout North Natomas. Reduce such crimes of opportunity by turning on porch lights which makes these crimes of opportunity less appealing
- City Council to be briefed Tuesday, February 24, regarding effects of budget cuts in fiscal year 2009-2010.
  - Patrol officer layoffs are likely.
  - Sacramento Police Department is already the nation's smallest force for a city our size, according to FBI statistics.
  - Department needs about 500 more officers to be on par with the rest of the country in terms of officer-citizen ratio.

**Sump 17** ..... Judah

- No news is good news – six weeks of no new graffiti!
- Our partnership with the police department has helped bring Sump 17 in control
- Our watchful eyes and timely reporting has helped to send the message that illegal activities at the facility will not be tolerated

**Inclusionary Housing Workshops** ..... Keith

- Numerous Natomas residents attended three workshops presented by Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency (SHRA) intended to educate and gather input from the SHRA Board, the city's planning commission, and ultimately City Council, on the results of the city's inclusionary housing ordinance, and ways to change the ordinance so that it can be more effective and compatible with current market conditions
- The ordinance was passed when the housing market was strong, requiring allocations of residential units for Low Income (LI, 10%) and Very Low Income (VLI, 5%) in all new development, but it applies only to designated "New Growth Areas" (NGIs) which effectively placed nearly all such units in North Natomas.



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- The city considering changing the ordinance so that it applies citywide, not just to the designated NGIs.
- Numerous members of the Natomas community spoke about the impacts that the housing ordinance has had on our neighborhoods, including:
  - That all of the units are rentals, specifically apartments, and mostly in very large apartment complexes;
  - That the majority of the units are in complexes where the vast preponderance of residents are LI and VLI, which clusters poverty together;
  - That modern city planning and housing agency trends call for impoverished communities to be dispersed throughout neighborhoods and communities, not clustered together tightly and almost exclusively like “public housing projects” of the 1950s, 1960s, and 1970s – our city’s implementation over the past few years has been more along the lines of the latter, not the former;
  - That Natomas has become a capitol of low income housing for the city, and also the region;;
  - That many in Natomas are connecting crime trends with proximity to the low income apartment complexes built in recent years; and
  - That dominating an area with low income residents impacts schools and the retail landscape.
- There will be more opportunities for residents to participate in this process, and those who are interested in it need only stay tuned to the Natomas community Yahoo! Groups for updates.

### **Witter Ranch Park Neighborhood Outreach** .....Richard

- Richard, Bob, and Keith did some door-to-door outreach around the area of Witter Ranch Park in order to:
  - Gather signatures on the Letter of Petition in our effort to lobby the Parks & Recreation department to shut down and ultimately relocate the field lights at Witter Ranch Park;
  - Promote WRCA;
  - Invite people to our Neighborhood Watch Kickoff on March 12;
  - Gather contact information; and
  - Listen to our neighbors’ stories
- Neighbors were generally very supportive, cooperative, and appreciative
- Much more work needed – only about 1/3 of the target homes were covered and many were absent, vacant, or didn’t answer
- Stay tuned for next outreach effort – we need the help!



**Chateau Montelena & Carneros Creek Ways Intersection**..... Sara

- Sara talked with Dino (the city's traffic engineer) by phone and learned:
  - That the stop signs at Natomas Crossing Drive are slated for removal;
  - That the curve north of the intersection is troubling from a safety standpoint; and
  - That Dino cannot justify converting the intersection to four-way just yet, but is still exploring options, including humps on Carneros Creek Way.
- In short: Moving the stop signs from Natomas Crossing Drive one block north is not the "No Brainer" we were hoping it would be.
- Action Item: Sara to invite Dino to our next general meeting to discuss the situation further.

**Committee Questionnaire**..... Judah

- *Postponed to next meeting*

**Neighborhood Watch** ..... Richard

- Neighborhood Watch Kickoff Meeting  
Round Table Pizza  
March 12, 2009  
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

**Natomas Crossing, Quadrants B, C, & E** ..... Alleghany Properties LLC

- We received a presentation regarding a proposed development east of Interstate 5, mostly south of Arena Blvd., and west of East Commerce Way – information at [http://www.WitterRanchCommunity.org/development/natomas\\_crossing\\_quad\\_b-c-e/notification\\_2009-02.pdf](http://www.WitterRanchCommunity.org/development/natomas_crossing_quad_b-c-e/notification_2009-02.pdf)
- The proposed development consists of:
  - A full-fledged hospital at the southernmost end;
  - Medical office buildings to its north;
  - An expansion of a retail zone at the southwest corner of Arena Blvd. and East Commerce Way to make way for a large retail complex, for which plans and renderings were presented;
  - A rezone of the northwest corner of Arena Blvd. and East Commerce Way from office space to retail, for which there are no immediate plans (and, thus, no renderings).
- The developer would not name the company committed to the hospital and medical offices project.
- The anchor of the retail complex is Lowe's Home Improvement.



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- There had previously been numerous other smaller retailers and restaurants on board on the project, but they have all pulled out due to market conditions / economy.
- Feedback from community members was generally positive about the project, but there were some concerns, including:
  - The extent of rezoning necessary to accommodate the project, given how the Natomas Community Plan has gotten shredded over the years;
  - Trading higher paying office jobs for lower paying retail jobs
  - Questions about traffic – the traffic study is not yet available but will be soon as part of the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to be published soon

**Adjourn & Socialize** .....All (*Optional*)

### **Next Meeting**

Monday, March 30, 2008 – 6:30 to 8:00 PM

*Arrive at 6 PM to socialize and/or to buy food*

Round Table Pizza, 3290 Arena Blvd., Suite 600