



PARK BEAT

The Pulse of Greater Boulevard Park

Boulevard Park Neighborhood Association # Box 163179, Sacramento 95816 # June 2019

HISTORIC DISTRICT PLANS: STILL TIME TO RESPOND!

(Deadline for public responses: June 14)

This Spring, several public and city meetings were held to discuss the Historic District Plan (HDP) Design Guidelines, with the draft document now approaching its final phase. Two Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meetings on April 24 and May 2 were followed by two City commission meetings on May 15 and 23, and lastly a public workshop on May 30.

Our neighborhood was represented by a BPNA board member at each of the two TAC meetings. Hosted by the Community Development Department, these focused workshops were intended to identify and clarify key issues and opportunities in the HDP Design Guidelines draft document. They also provided stakeholders (i.e., individuals with technical knowledge or a familiarity with the historic districts) with the opportunity to provide the additional input needed to help refine the guidelines. These guidelines are intended to help people who plan or review proposals for new construction in Sacramento's historic districts to better understand what kind of building designs are compatible with the existing architecture in these areas.

One difference of opinion that emerged during the TAC meetings involved the degree to which the HDP Design Guidelines should shape future development in City neighborhoods. Several participants argued that if new development design principles are merely suggestions, instead of firmly worded statements, they will be considered optional and will provide little protection for historic districts. Others in attendance said that excessive restrictions and a cumbersome review process should be avoided to encourage growth and to prevent long delays in building construction.

Other topics discussed at these and other meetings included how to select the best design precedent structures within each of the Central City's eclectic urban districts, and what to recommend for the relative heights of old and new buildings as well as the distances between them. For example, in the case of infill structures, should new buildings be allowed to dominate the site or tower over an adjacent historic property, as could happen if the weakened guidelines in the draft HDP document are implemented?

Throughout the review process (Summer 2018- Spring 2019), residents of several neighborhoods, including Boulevard Park, have voiced their opinions about the draft document (summaries and statements are attached to the agenda for the May 15 Preservation Commission meeting, on the City's website:

http://sacramento.granicus.com/viewpublisher.php?view_id=30).

Many respondents have expressed concern about a lack of clarity in the design guidelines. To be effective and enforceable, the guidelines need to provide standards and criteria that are objective, understandable, and verifiable. Overly broad or vague wording that is open to a wide range of interpretation must be avoided.

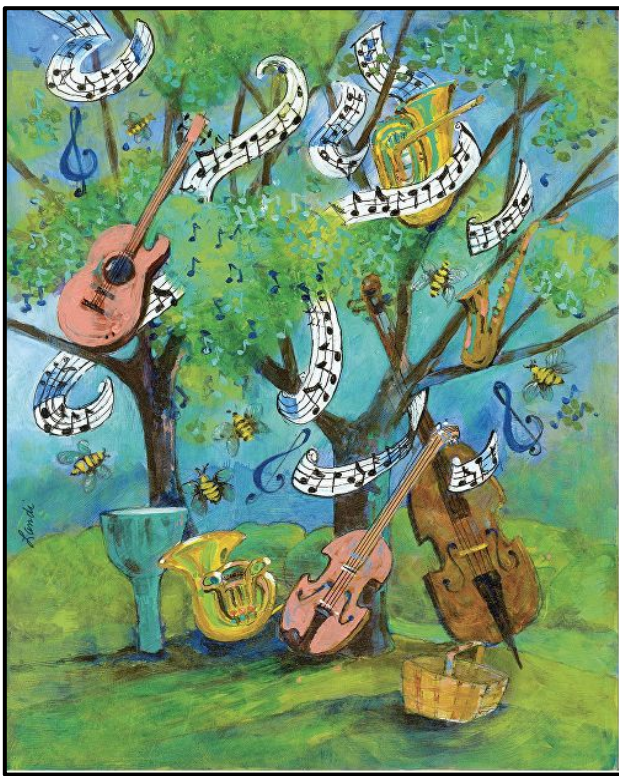
In their current form, the HDP design guidelines will not provide the protections for our historic districts that were intended when this process was begun, and which many City residents regard as a high priority. They also do not encourage the construction of affordable infill housing.

As of this writing, the deadline for public comment on the Historic District Plans draft document is **June 14**, two weeks after the last public workshop (**May 30**, 6 p.m. AIACV Gallery, 1400 S Street). Boulevard Park residents who have not yet participated in the conversation are strongly encouraged to read the document (see especially the section titled "Design Guidelines"), ask questions, and voice opinions (<http://www.cityofsacramento.org/hdp>). Once finalized, the document must be adopted by the City Council before it can be implemented.

Spaghetti Dinner: First Call for Volunteers!

Boulevard Park's Spaghetti Dinner is not until **Saturday, September 7** but it is never too early to think about volunteering. Every pair of hands is welcome! This annual event would not be possible without the enthusiastic participation of neighborhood residents.

Volunteers choose between several assignments: **(1)** the set-up squad, on Saturday morning (starting around 9 a.m.; one hour); **(2)** the kitchen squad (tasks include stirring sauces, monitoring pasta, tossing salads, replenishing bread baskets, and lowering refilled bowls of food down to the servers outside: 45-minute shifts); **(3)** the food and beverage service squad (also for 45-minute shifts); and **(4)** the clean-up squad (Sunday morning, starting around 9 a.m.; about one hour). Contact **Emily Herbert at (916) 444-6690** if you would like to volunteer and be part of some great neighborhood camaraderie.



Art by Susan Landi

Pops in the Park: June 2019 Concert Series

The tree-shaded parks of East Sacramento will be alive with the sound of music again in June, thanks to the sponsorship of Council Member Jeff Harris. Funds raised by the sponsorships and refreshments sales of this annual event, now celebrating its 28th year, have been used to enhance neighborhood parks, bring improvements to neighborhoods, and provide youth athletic scholarships. All concerts will be held on Saturday evenings, and all four of the East Sacramento concerts start at 6 p.m. (go to: <http://eastsacpopsinthepark.com/home/4531998702>).

The dates, venues, and performers are:

June 1 (East Portal Park, 1120 Rodeo Way):

Joe Craven & The Sometimers

June 8 (Bertha Henschel Park, 45th St. and Brand Way):

Dana Moret & Zen Voodoo

June 15 (East Portal Park): **Idea Team**

June 22 (Glenn Hall Park, Sandburg and Carlson):

The Count

Bring blankets or lawn chairs for seating, but please leave umbrellas or canopies at home, because they can block the views of other people at the concert (sunscreen is recommended, however). Food and beverage will be on sale. There also will be a beer and wine garden where alcohol can be purchased and consumed (*please do not bring alcohol from outside the park*). Free valet bicycle parking will be provided by Sacramento Area Bike Advocates (SABA).

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Boulevard Park Neighborhood Association's purpose: The BPNA was created to support, promote, and improve the quality of life for the residents of the greater Boulevard Park neighborhood. By achieving this goal we strive to improve the quality of life for others who work and live in and around Boulevard Park, and therefore in Sacramento as a whole.

Committees

Membership: Ellen Hunt
Preservation: Eric Knutson

Park Beat Production Team

Newsletter Designer: **Open - Contact Ty Dockery to volunteer**
Newsletter Editor: Catherine Turrill Lupi
Webmasters: Ty Dockery and Steve Sander
Block Captain Coordinator: Joe Cress, (916) 698-7938
cressj@saccounty.net

Places to Go, People To See

Every Saturday: Yoga in the Park, McKinley Park (9 a.m.; by the Rose Garden). **Website:**

<http://yogamovesus.org/calendar-items/yoga-in-the-park-mckinley-park-indoors/>

Every Saturday: Midtown Farmers' Market: 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., 20th Street between J and L Streets

Sat., June 1: 2019 Sacramento Mid-Century Modern Home Tour: 60 Years of Streng Bros. Homes (10 a.m.-4 p.m.; admission charged). See article on **page 5**.

Sat., June 1: Fire Department Open House, Station 4, 3145 Granada Way (2-4 p.m.). For more information, go to: <https://www.cityofsacramento.org/Fire/About/Station-Information>

Sat., June 1: Pops In The Park: Joe Craven & The Sometimers, East Portal Park, 1120 Rodeo Way (6 p.m.): first of four June concerts in East Sacramento (others are on June 8, 15, and 22). See article on **page 2**.

Sun., June 2: "St. John's Resounds: Home on Earth," organ concert at St. John's Lutheran Church, 1701 L St. (3-5 p.m.; admission charged).

Website: <https://www.stjohnslc.org/stjohnsresounds>

Tues., June 4: BPNA Board Meeting, open to BPNA members and other interested neighbors (**6:30-8 p.m.**). Contact Eric Knutson for location or to suggest agenda items.

Thurs., June 6: R Street Pop-Up Series: Artists and entertainers will be providing pop-up shows along the R Street corridor between about 9th and 17th Street from 5-9 p.m.

Places to Go, People To See (cont.)

June 8 & 9: SacPride 2019, A Legacy of Stonewall: two-day, family-friendly festival on Capitol Mall featuring art, entertainment, refreshments, and more (11 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days; admission charged for the festival; the Pride March on Sunday is free). **Website:** <https://sacramentopride.org>

Sat., June 8: Friends of the River Bank host "Plants of Sutter's Landing," with a nature walk led by Brian Collett (starting at 10 a.m.). See article on **page 6**.

Sat., June 8: "World-Wide Knit in Public Day," Crocker Art Museum, 216 O Street (10 a.m.). **Website:** <https://www.crockerart.org>

Sat., June 8: 2nd Saturday Arts and Crafts: "School's Out," Downtown Commons (DOCO), 660 J St. (10-noon): Free art activities for families, designed by Verge Center for the Arts. **Website:** <https://www.godowntownsac.com/event/2nd-saturday-arts-and-crafts-schools-out/>

Sat., June 8: Second Saturday ArtWalk. Galleries around town will be open to present individual and group shows of artists' work.

Website: <http://www.2ndsaturdaysacramento.com>

June 15 & 16: 48th Annual Show and Sale, Sacramento Bromeliad & Carnivorous Plant Society, Shepard Garden & Arts Center, 3330 McKinley Blvd. (10 am.-4 p.m., both days).

Sat., June 22: Free E-Waste Collection and Recycling, Howe Park, 2201 Cottage Way (9 a.m.-1 p.m.). For more information, go to: <https://www.fecrpd.com/special-events/e-waste-collection-recycling/>

Sun., June 23: "All Aboard": Free Community Festival, Crocker Art Museum, 216 O Street (10 a.m.). See article on **page 5**.

Thur., June 27: Gold Spike Lecture: "The Transcontinental Railroad as a Business Venture," California State Railroad Museum, 125 I St. (7 p.m.; admission charged). See article on **page 5**.

... *And, looking ahead to early July:*

Tues., July 16: BPNA Board Meeting, open to BPNA members and other interested neighbors (**6:30-8 p.m.**). Contact Eric Knutson for location or to suggest agenda items.

Block Captain Needed to Distribute Copies of *Park Beat*

We are in need of a Block Captain to cover the area near **24th and E Streets**. If you can spare 15 minutes a month and like to walk and talk with your neighbors, please contact our Block Captain Coordinator, Joe Cress, at 916-698-7938 (cressj@saccounty.net).

May 22 was the last day for artists to register for the **2019 Sac Open Studios** event, held on the third and fourth weekends of September (**September 14-15 and 21-22**).

If you are a Boulevard Park artist, are going to be part of Sac Open Studios this year, and would like to have your studio address and open hours listed in the September issue of *Park Beat*, please send an email to the newsletter editor (turrillc@csus.edu). We would be delighted to help promote your participation to the neighborhood!

