



**City of Santa Barbara**  
Parks and Recreation Department

**Memorandum**

DATE: July 12, 2012

TO: Parks and Recreation Commission

FROM: Neighborhood Advisory Council

SUBJECT: Annual Advisory Committee Report for Fiscal Year 2012

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The Neighborhood Advisory Council (NAC) was established in November 2010 and the first meeting took place in April 2011. The NAC held 12 regular and 2 special meetings during Fiscal Year 2012.

**Committee Members**

Sebastian Aldana	Beatriz Molina
Sharon Byrne	Theresa Pena, Chair
Sally Foxen	Ana Soto, Vice Chair
Naomi Greene	Cesar Trujillo
Sally Kingston	Tony Vassallo
Javier Limon	Holly Walters

**Liaisons**

Beebe Longstreet, Parks and Recreation Commission  
 Nick Ferrara, Parks and Recreation Commission  
 Frank Hotchkiss, City Councilmember  
 H. Bendy White, City Councilmember  
 Cathy Murillo, City Councilmember  
 Brenda Collins-Powell, Community Development & Human Services Commission  
 Blanca Garcia, Youth Council

**Appointment Process and Meeting Schedule**

Members are appointed by City Council following the City Guidelines for Advisory Committees. The NAC's regular meeting is on the second Wednesday of each month. Special meetings are held for topics requiring additional attention by the NAC.

**Member Representation**

The NAC is composed of 13 members that are City residents. Members represent neighborhoods as follows: 2 Eastside, 3 West Downtown, 2 Lower Westside, and 1 Laguna, and 5 Public at Large.

### **Committee Projects/Activities**

The committee has been very committed to their role and development during this first challenging year. They were able to complete a number of significant activities and received numerous presentations to better inform themselves including:

- Developed Neighborhood Advisory Council member guidelines
- Received presentation on Being an Effective Advisory Advocate: A Mayor's Perspective
- Tours of the eastside, lower westside and westside areas to assess existing neighborhood conditions
- Established three standing sub-committees: Youth, Health and Safety, Events and Outreach
- Received reports from City staff on:
  - Streetlights- types, reporting outages, and how to petition for new lights
  - Public Works Hotlines
  - Neighborhood Improvement Task Force
  - Neighborhood Capital Improvement Projects
  - Building and Safety, and Zoning code enforcement
  - CDBG application process
  - NITF Capital Project process
  - Milpas Pedestrian Safety
  - West Downtown lighting project
  - Redevelopment Agency Status
  - Police Department Programs
- Received presentations from non-profit service agencies:
  - Habitat for Humanity "Brush with Kindness"
  - Thrive Westside
  - United Way
  - Police Activities League
- Provided outreach at the Parque de Los Niños Fall Festival and Easter Egg Hunt
- Identified and prioritized CDBG project proposals for FY2013
- Hosted special meeting on Milpas Pedestrian Safety
- Provided recommendation to City Council on changes to Milpas corridor to improve pedestrian safety
- Assisted with the Holiday Dinner at Franklin Neighborhood Center
- Participated in the Milpas Christmas Parade, Cesar Chavez Celebration Event and various neighborhood clean-up events
- Met City staff at the Alisos and Carpinteria Street area to discuss stop signs and traffic calming options
- Received a presentation on Nextdoor website and recommended to City Council that the City participate

### **Recommendations/Concerns**

The following recommendations were made by the NAC:

- That an annual calendar of outreach and special events be created
- That a NAC outreach materials packet (banner, brochure, flyers, etc.) be created for special events
- Participate in a retreat to clarify the committee's roles and mission, and establish effective processes for identifying and responding to neighborhood concerns.