



Malaga Cove

Homeowners' Association

Summer 2011

Via Del Monte – Traffic Calming

Last Fall, several MCHA members living on Via Del Monte (VDM) requested support of the MCHA to seek traffic calming measures from the City. Your MCHA formed a traffic safety committee to look into the matter. MCHA contacted the residents of VDM asking if indeed a traffic problem existed. Within a few weeks we received back dozens of horror stories from VDM residents who could not back out of their driveways or were almost hit by cars or cyclists. One lady's dog was run over while she was holding the leash. Next, MCHA contacted the City. The City shared a 2005 a traffic study they had commissioned to provide traffic calming solutions on VDM. However, the VDM residents were unaware that the City awaited their action to submit an official petition to implement the solutions.

The City recommended the petition address only a section of VDM; and that it be implemented in stages and layers which would include additional calming measures for each section. MCHA facilitated communication with the residents to reach a consensus on the first phase of calming; 4 bumps and street signage in lower VDM.

After review, the City reduced the proposal to 2 bumps, which they changed to cushions. This proposal received approval from the Traffic Committee, 91% of VDM residents, and the City Council in November 2010. In March 2011, the cushions were installed. The cushions received quite a bit of feedback; some in favor and some opposed.

On May 24th, the City Council reviewed the traffic calming measures. The City Council spent almost the entire meeting, until after 10:30pm, addressing a full house of PVE residents; some with children in tow; listening and discussing their options. They voted to retain the cushions, but investigate the usage of another type of bump like those found on other streets in our city. They requested staff to present a plan to implement calming for the entire street. They requested the city attorney to contact the fire department to examine the regulation about limiting bumps on VDM.

MCHA Annual Meeting –

We are proud to announce our newest Advisory Board members; please welcome Dave Evans, Linda Flynn, Bruce Geernaert, Melissa Orme Marmarellis, and Erin Rehkemper to our group of community volunteers. Our Annual meeting was held in the new Community Board Room at Malaga Cove School on April 21st. PVE Mayor, John Rea, reviewed several budgetary issues facing our City, including employee compensation and retirement benefits, and praised MCHA for seeking transparency in our City government.



MCHA Board Member Desiree Meyers, PVE Mayor John Rea, MCHA Board member Brent Flynn



Going Green

In an effort to go green we have started sending newsletters out by email. This year we will be utilizing eVites for our Annual Cocktail Party invitations to members. Send an email to mcha4u@gmail.com and request e-mail correspondence so we may send newsletter and party invitations to you. Your privacy is our concern your email address will not be shared. Thank you!

Golden Anniversary!

The Palos Verdes Independence Day Committee will celebrate the 50th year of the annual 4th of July Independence Day Celebration.



Activities will begin at 9:30am on Monday, July 4 on the grounds of Malaga Cove School and feature live patriotic music; a decorated bicycle parade for children, Jim Gamble All-American puppet show, an apple-pie contest, and some fun family games. The event is free so get your red, white, and blue, bring your family and picnic to this Old Fashioned 4th of July event!

This year's guest speaker is Lt. Col Jason Morris, Battalion commander of the 3rd Battalion, 5th regiment. His Marine Battalion recently returned from seven months duty in Afghanistan and was recently honored at a ceremony at Camp Pendleton. Check out the beautiful website with photos from the past 2 years, schedule, and how to enter the pie contest. www.pvJuly4.org.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- **MCHA SPONSORING FIRST CONCERT IN THE PARK WEDNESDAY, JULY 6TH**
JOIN US AS WE KICK OFF THE SUMMER CONCERT SERIES WHICH RUN THRU AUGUST
FARNHAM MARTIN'S PARK, NEXT TO THE MALAGA COVE LIBRARY
Reserve your place no earlier than 3pm.
- **ART SHOWS ON THE LAWN IN MALAGA PLAZA**, PRESENTED BY PV ART CENTER ARTISTS
SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS, 10AM -5PM ONE WEEKEND A MONTH. **JULY 16-17TH,**
AUGUST 20-21ST
- **OLD FASHIONED 4TH OF JULY**
PRESENTED BY THE PALOS VERDES INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION
JULY 4TH AT 9:30AM -5 PM
Malaga Cove School, 417 Via Almar, Bring your family and picnic.
- **BOOK SALE – MALAGA COVE LIBRARY, JULY 15TH & 16TH**
PROCEEDS HELP FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY
- **“GREASE” SING-ALONG AT MALAGA COVE LIBRARY -- SATURDAY, AUG 20TH 7:00PM**
MOVIE STARTS AT **8PM**. ALL AGES WELCOME! YOU CAN SING ALONG WITH YOUR FAVORITE SONGS!
MOVIE ON THE LAWN, DRESS UP 50'S STYLE YOU MIGHT WIN A PRIZE, RAFFLE & SURPRISES.
SNACKS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE.



One more MCHA members' benefit:

Save The Date, for our Annual Holiday
Party Sunday, November 20th

Did you know that you have the right to request public records from our City?

The Malaga Cove Homeowners' Association (MCHA) like the PVE City Council supports transparency, accountability, fairness and respect from our public servants. We have recently formed a committee on government relations. This committee would like to hear from members regarding positive and negative interactions with the City. Please send any comments regarding this subject to our email mcha4u@gmail.com

As part of our service to our members, MCHA is encouraging the City to make digital recordings of all City meetings and placing them on line for residents to access. Currently you can obtain an audio copy of a meeting, in cassette form, directly from the City. The City erases those tapes after 3 months. We are asking the City to keep them for at least one year to protect residents from transcriptions errors that may occur. If you would like to inspect public records, the City must allow you to do so when those records are readily available. The City cannot charge you a fee for inspecting public records.

If you would like a copy of public records, the City has 10 days to either provide you with the copy, or tell you why the records are exempt under the California Public Records Act (CPRA). The City can only charge you for "the direct cost of duplication."

The City of Palos Verdes Estates has a Request for Public Records form available to the public at the front desk. You can also get a copy from the City's website. (<http://www.pvestates.org/> Look under "Departments & Services", then under "City Clerk")

If the City denies your "written" request to inspect or receive a copy of the records, the City must state in writing why your request was denied. Denials can only be based upon specifically cited exemption found with the CPRA.

Why is it important for citizens to have access to public records?

When the Legislature enacted CPRA, it expressly declared that "access to information concerning the conduct of the people's business is a fundamental and necessary right of every person in this state." Indeed, in California "access to government records has been deemed a fundamental interest of citizenship" and has emphasized that "maximum disclosure of the conduct of governmental operations [is] to be promoted by the act." By promoting prompt public access to government records, the CPRA is "intended to safeguard the accountability of government to the public." As the California Supreme Court recognized:

"Implicit in a democratic process is the notion that government should be accountable for its actions. In order to verify accountability, individuals must have access to government files. Such access permits checks against the arbitrary exercise of official power and secrecy in the political process."

To read more about the CPRA see: A GUIDE TO THE CALIFORNIA PUBLIC RECORDS ACT at: <http://www.thefirstamendment.org/capra.html>

Thank you! Your membership dues provide us with an important resource to better serve the community. Highlights of the past year include hosting our annual november cocktail party, providing funds for the Malaga Cove Disaster Preparedness Shed (DDP), testifying to the City Council regarding traffic Safety along Via Del Monte, fundraising and managing managing efforts to landscape to Malaga Cove School, funding one of the summer library concerts, and providing a newsletter about items of interest to those who live in Malaga Cove. Thank you for your continued support.

If you have an interest in serving on our all volunteer board or have an issue you would like help resolving, please send us an email. We have recently formed committees to help serve you, those include; Government, Safety, Communications and a Social committee. If you would like to join a specific committee send an email to mcha4u@gmail.com.

Join us on Facebook cut and paste this in your browser to find our Group.

https://www.facebook.com/home.php?sk=group_74746929829

Dear Residents,

On June 22nd the Daily Breeze included an article stating that the San Andreas earthquake “could cause enough economic damage to dwarf the losses suffered during Hurricane Katrina”.

Once again we’re reminded of the overdue natural disaster known as the San Andreas Fault Earthquake, or the “Big One”. Many of us here in PVE take the geologists' recommendations seriously and spend the small amount of time and money to be prepared for such an event. However, many of our residents either ignore, are too busy, or don’t know how to prepare for an event that could paralyze our emergency services and utilities. I spent less than \$80 for a 55 gallon water barrel that will sustain my wife and me for approximately 25 days. If you are one of those who do not know how to prepare for a disaster, please contact me, Steve Friedrich, your Malaga Cove Disaster District Response Coordinator, and I'll provide you with information that will be helpful. This may be the best small investment in time and money you ever spend. And be aware, there are no local, state, or federal agencies with water reserves guaranteed to be available to us, and all critical utilities my be disabled, so we might be entirely on our own. Do you and your loved ones a big favor, prepare yourself with a plan, water, food, and medicine.



Sincerely,

Steve Friedrich

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Home: (310) 375-4897