

SEPTEMBER 2007

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Macdonald



HRB MINUTES - August 7th, 2007

Attending HRB Members: Chris Hane, Mostafa Eldefarwy, Sukumar Pal, Komal Dewan and Cyril McCormick.

ICHA: Andrew Herndon.

The HRB is still looking for a volunteer to fill the one remaining open position. If you are interested in helping your community by serving on the HRB please contact Chris Hane, 509-7195.

Summer Fiesta

The majority of the meeting addressed ideas and planning for the Summer Fiesta. Cyril is taking the lead planning this event (Thanks Cyril!). The Fiesta will be Sunday Sept 17th from 3 to 7pm at Gabrielino Park. Fiesta Activities are planned to include:

- Free food and drinks
- Bounce House and kids games
- Live music
- Bike Safety Rodeo
- Community Safety booth sponsored by UCI PD and Irvine PD.

Water and Sewer Bills

As mentioned in the June minutes, the University and ICHA are negotiating over billing increases, including the possibility of changing to a tiered rate structure. This change may happen soon.

---Chris Hane, HRB

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT UPDATE - August 2007

Community Development

Sewer fees to all UH residents will be increasing in September. This represents a rate increase from the campus and is passed on to each resident. A letter will be mailed to all homeowners identifying the change.

The Gabrielino Community Park restroom is fully operational. Final improvements included time lock devices, an exterior picnic sink, and landscaping and new trash cans.

The HRB is still anticipating a Community "Summer Fiesta" picnic in the park. It is possible that the event will be scheduled shortly before or just after classes begin and include informational programs hosted by the UCI PD and Parking group involving the security and bicycle safety.

An expanded rodent control program is in place that has increased the number of bait stations to sufficiently cover common areas across the Hill. A licensed pest control operator services the stations monthly. Residents are encouraged to seek the assistance from the Orange County Vector Control District (Services FREE to all tax payers) to establish an abatement program on residential private property. A very informative video link titled "[A Homeowners Guide to the Shared Responsibility of Rodent Control](#)" has been posted to the HHills.org web site. Go to <http://uhills.org/problems/vermin.htm> and thank you for sharing with the responsibility of controlling rodents in the community.

Santiago Apartments are approximately 2/3 occupied with the final buildings being prepared for occupancy by the end of August.

Area 9 infrastructure is nearing completion and trenching for the first few home foundations has begun. Framing is anticipated to begin by late September. Efforts are underway to initiate landscaping of the perimeter slopes by this fall to assist in stabilizing the soil. Management continues to work with the Campus on a perimeter trail system that will afford both paved and non-paved surfaces that tie to the adjacent preserve.

Progress continues on the Community Building working drawings. They are tentatively anticipated for review in early fall.

Architectural Review

Five recent architectural submittals have been approved that include landscaping, lighting, a solar voltaic installation and window replacements. **Community Maintenance**

On Going and Completed Community Improvements and Repair Work

Work in Process:

Two new benches and a bulletin board will be installed at the Gabrielino Community Park BBQ area and basketball court.

Painting of the street light poles in Phases 6, 7 and 8 has been delayed but will begin this month.

Repainting of the Gabrielino tot lot park play equipment (wooden trolley and motor car) will be completed this month.

Work Completed:

All three spa key operating systems have been replaced in part to insure use only by UH residents. Fence jumping and general trespass have occurred at the facility resulting in police intervention.

General Pool, Wader and Spa maintenance including new filter grids, electrode sampling probes and other components have been replaced to insure top quality water conditions for the heavy summer use.

Tree pruning on Harvey Court and the Gabrielino Apartments, Alcott, Blake, Newton and middle Schubert was completed in early July.

---Andrew Herndon, ICHA Community Development

WHERE IS THE PIED PIPER WHEN YOU NEED HIM!

With the full onset of summer and the flush of fruit and growth that occurs, rats and mice are proliferating. Over the last month, the ICHA office has received numerous calls regarding the sightings and activities of our little friends with long bare tails. Our advice is that everyone must participate if even a dent will be made in the local rat population. This means being proactive on your private property in addition to the actions being taken in the common areas.

From a community management perspective, the common landscape areas are being serviced by a licensed pest control operator who monitors and maintains bait stations located on the common slopes. These stations are labeled, locked and anchored in place, and afford entry through an opening just large enough for a rat. The bait inside is secured to a post and cannot easily be removed. Additionally, both Condo Associations are maintaining their own bait station program in and around their restricted common areas. The ICHA owned and managed apartments do the same. It is highly recommended that individual residents initiate their own eradication and exclusion programs. ICHA Management, with the help of the UHills WebMaster, posted a short video prepared by Orange County Vector Control titled "A Homeowners Guide to the Shared Responsibilities of Rodent Control" at: <http://uhills.org/problems/vermin.htm>

This video provides great insight into what you can do as private individuals. Please visit the link and share the responsibility in trying to control rats and mice in University Hills. They will never be eradicated, but in working as a Team, we have a better chance of minimizing what could develop into a huge population.

---Andrew Herndon, ICHA Community Development

CAMPUS SEWER AND WATER FEE INCREASE BEGINS THIS SEPTEMBER

Effective July 1st, the University has increased the cost of water and sewer to all users including ICHA and homeowners in University Hills.

Generally there will be an increase in the cost of water of approximately \$.12 /CCF (rate varies monthly depending on overall campus usage). Please note that as in the past, monthly water charges are an estimate that is adjusted to actual once a year.

The new flat sewer rate of \$16.00 per month represents an estimated average over a 12 month period and will be adjusted once a year to reflect actual charges from the University.

It is worth noting that the sewer rate has not been adjusted in well over a decade and that a rate lower than other Irvine residents has been enjoyed by University Hills homeowners during this period. ICHA management will continue to work with UCI and IRWD representatives to facilitate the best possible rates for these water and sewer services.

Please contact ICHA Community Development at 824-2424 should you have any questions.

---Andrew J. Herndon, ICHA Community Development

UCI 2007 LONG RANGE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The Campus and Environmental Planning Office has released its Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the UCI 2007 Long Range Development Plan. According to the introduction:

This Environmental Impact Report (EIR) assesses the potentially significant environmental effects of the proposed 2007 Long Range Development Plan (2007 LRDP) for the University of California, Irvine (UCI). The 2007 LRDP identifies general types of campus development and land uses to support projected expansion of existing academic programs and to enable new academic program initiatives at UCI through the plan horizon year of 2025-26. In addition, it provides a foundation for post-2025 development at UCI.

If you are interested in the University's plans for development along the California Ave and Anteater corridor, faculty and staff housing, then please take the time to read relevant sections of the DEIR, or LRDP.

This plan is available for review at
<http://www.ceplanning.uci.edu/deir.html>.

The LRDP itself is located at
<http://www.ceplanning.uci.edu/lrdp.html>.

Printed copies of the DEIR are available at the CEP office, UCI's Langston Library and the University Park Public Library at 4512 Sandburg Way.

Written comments can be submitted to the CEP office, or via email to LDRP.EIR@uci.edu until October 11 at 5pm. There will also be a public meeting at the University Club September 20th at 6pm, and at the Lakeview Senior Center, 20 Lake Road on Oct 1st at 6pm.

---Chris Hane, HRB Co-Chair

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We have lived in Irvine for 21 years - a special place to call home. This summer I noticed that the mailbox on Gabrielino and Russell was looking very shabby. I told our mail lady that if the Post Office would give me the

blue paint, I would be willing to paint it. She said that she would relay the message.

About two weeks later I suddenly noticed that the shabby mailbox had been replaced with a shiny new one. The next day I saw that the mailbox on Los Trancos had been removed and by the end of July it too had been replaced.

Such a positive response is very heart warming - it's important to keep the neighborhood looking sharp,
---Corinne Rostoker, Perkins Ct.

A note to parents paying for tennis lessons on the UH tennis courts.

In the past few months, I have played parallel to 5 different individuals teaching tennis lessons to children on the UH courts. I am assuming that these were paid lessons.

What I have witnessed was unacceptable teaching. With the exception of one of the individuals, who gave a very reasonable lesson, these "coaches" spent most of the time (one of them an estimated 80%) on the phone. In one occasion, I counted 7 different calls (outgoing). One of the individuals repeatedly (on different days) fed balls to the students while having the cell phone squeezed between the shoulder and the cheek.

The quality of verbal instruction and preciseness of play of these distracted instructors was accordingly.

I paid my way through college with tennis lessons and have 3 ex-professional players among my former students. In my judgment, the performance of these instructors is not worth a nickel. If you pay more, be warned. Put "no phone calls" on the contract.

---Franz Hoffmann

IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT (IRWD) E-NEWSLETTER

The IRWD publishes monthly e-newsletters containing information pertinent to its customers. To view current (and past) newsletters, visit www.irwd.com.

The August e-Newsletter contains information about where our water comes from, rebates for water efficient appliances, a fall residential landscape workshop, and water conservation tips.

UCI ARBORETUM EVENTS

Saturday Plant Sale

The UCI Arboretum hosts its next weekend plant sale on Saturday, September 15 from 9 a.m. to noon. The sale will feature an assortment of succulents, late-summer bulbs and perennials, and a preview sale of our fall blooming plants. Admission and parking are free.

Fall Art and Flower Festival

The UCI Arboretum and Orange County Fine Arts, Inc. are pleased to present 'The Art of Flowers,' the annual Fall Art and Flower Festival, on Saturday, October 20 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

This popular annual event features an outdoor art sale by the artists of Orange County Fine Arts, Inc, an association of local artists. Participating artists offer art inspired by California's outdoors – beaches, parks, and wildlands. The juried artists work in a variety of media and styles.

Also at this event, the Arboretum offers its Fall Bulb and Perennial Sale, featuring unique southern African bulbs from their winter flowering collection as dormant bulbs. October is the perfect month to plant these

gems. In addition, they will be offering their outstanding collection of fall blooming perennials and selected California native plants. Admission to this event is \$2.00 per adult. Parking is free.

The UCI Arboretum is located just south of the corner of Campus Drive and Jamboree Road on the UCI North Campus. For more information, please call (949) 824-5833