

Meeting summary for D6NLG (07/07/2025)

Edited by L.Ames, 7/7/25, 9/7/25

Meeting Video: https://d6nlg.org/recordings/Jul'25_video.mp4

meeting chat notes: https://d6nlg.org/recordings/Jul'25_chat.txt

Attendees:

- Larry Ames, Chair
- Bill Rankin, Vice Chair; North Willow Glen N'hd Assoc., Save our Trails
- Ed Saum, SHPNA & Alameda Business Association
- Art Maurice, Cory N'hd Assoc.
- Steve Kline, Supervisor Ellenberg staff & Friends of Bascom Library
- Jim Carter, N'hd Cmsn; CERT
- Maren Sederquist, Willow Glen (WGNA)
- Susan Price-Jang, Rose Glen NA
- Kathy Sutherland, Delmas Park NA
- Jean Dresden, SJ Parks Advocates
- Liana Bekakos, SHPNA
- Sam Lum, Hamilton Place NA

Quick recap

The meeting began with neighborhood association representatives discussing safety and environmental concerns along the Los Gatos Creek trail, followed by updates on county and city budgets facing potential cuts to various services. The group reviewed enforcement actions against illegal fireworks, including drone deployments, and discussed upcoming neighborhood engagement events including Viva CalleSJ and trail tours. The conversation ended with discussions about homeless encampments, housing services, and the potential relocation of a soccer stadium, while addressing leadership positions and various neighborhood concerns including parking issues and National Night Out events.

Next steps

- Ed: Take over as new chair and send out the next meeting agenda
- Sam: Connect with Rebecca Coates-Maloon to coordinate trail safety efforts between San Jose and Campbell
- Sam: Contact Netflix's transportation coordinator regarding trail safety concerns and potential support
- Art: Host general meeting on July 28th at 6:30 PM with Shiloh Ballard and Michael Mulcahy
- Lawrence: Transfer zoom meeting setup knowledge and procedures to Ed as the new chair
- Sam: Connect with Steve to arrange a meeting venue at Bascom Library/Community Center for discussing trail safety issues
- Art: Process reimbursement check for Lawrence for zoom license expenses
- Art: Follow up with Natalia regarding the monthly \$20 bank fee credit for D6 account
- Willow Glen team: Organize National Night Out event on August 5th at Willow Street Bramwell Park
- Mary Pizzo: Write meeting minutes from the recording as new secretary
- Jean: Search and share contact information for George and Carol with Sam
- Lawrence: Provide bank statement details to Art
- Ed: Set up co-host delegation process for future zoom meetings
- Team: Attend next meeting on August 4th at 7:00 PM

Summary

San Jose Fireworks Drone Enforcement

The meeting focused on San Jose's illegal fireworks enforcement program, which deployed drones with operators and observers to document and deter fireworks violations. Jim reported that 5 San Jose PD drone units and 5-6 CERT units were deployed, though he noted limited media outreach and fewer arrests than expected. The fines for illegal fireworks in San Jose range up to \$1,000 based on poundage, and Jim mentioned that San Jose had been in conversation with Sacramento and Elk Grove about their enforcement programs.

Neighborhood Safety and Leadership Updates

The meeting began with introductions from various neighborhood association representatives, including Sam from Hamilton Place, who discussed their focus on safety and environmental protection along the Los Gatos Creek trail. Lawrence, the outgoing chair, noted that a new chair would be elected at the end of the meeting. Susan Price had difficulty accessing the meeting, and attendees helped resolve the issue by sharing the necessary link. Lawrence mentioned that a guest speaker had not been arranged for this meeting.

County and City Budget Updates

The meeting covered updates on the county budget, which was balanced but may require additional reviews in September and early 2024 due to federal and state budget cuts affecting Medicare, Medicaid, and federal agency funding. Steve noted that the Board is not in session during July, and there will be delays in email responses due to vacations. Jean reported that the city budget was passed but will likely see adjustments in the fall due to reduced funding from nonprofits and federal grants, particularly affecting homeless services and city-dependent organizations. Additionally, a director's hearing for a Race Street project in Santa Carlos was appealed to the city council, with a likely hearing in September.

ICE Operations and Grant Updates

The group discussed recent ICE operations in Los Angeles, including a show of force at MacArthur Park that frightened children, and expressed concerns about immigration enforcement actions. Art reported receiving \$400 from a grant, though there were some fee issues with the bank account, and the group discussed plans for using the funds, including potentially purchasing T-shirts for neighborhood leaders. They also addressed the need to apply for UNSCC membership to obtain board insurance for future meetings, with Liana suggesting they could request reimbursement through next year's grant.

Neighborhood Events and Fireworks Safety

The group discussed upcoming neighborhood engagement events, with Jim confirming a major meeting in September and noting that Viva CalleSJ will take place on September 7th, featuring street closures through various areas including Willow Glen and Japantown. They reviewed the All District Leadership Group meeting where various departments including fire, police, and code enforcement shared their roles regarding 4th of July fireworks safety, though several planned displays were canceled due to the Sacramento warehouse explosion, leading to increased neighborhood fireworks activity.

Fireworks, Trails, and Homeless Updates

The group discussed fireworks displays in the area, with Susan reporting multiple illegal fireworks incidents in her neighborhood and difficulties contacting authorities to report them. They also discussed an upcoming trail tour organized by Lawrence and Bill to explore options for connecting trails between Meridian and Lincoln avenues, scheduled for August 11th. Hamilton Place Neighborhood Association provided an update on homeless encampments along the Los Gatos Creek trail, noting a reduction from 16 citations and 2 arrests in June to 6 encampments as of yesterday.

Hamilton Place Housing Service Challenges

The meeting discussed concerns about displacement and housing services in the Hamilton Place neighborhood, with a focus on the challenges faced by residents and the limited success of service

coordination. Jean raised concerns about the use of public parks as sanctuaries, highlighting a potential increase in political conflicts and a decrease in community participation due to safety concerns. The group also discussed the upcoming World Cup, noting that FIFA's requirement for open travel for fans could be affected by U.S. immigration policies, though there were no reports of issues at a recent U.S.-Mexico soccer match.

Immigration's Local Community Impact

The group discussed the impact of immigration policies on local communities, with Jean highlighting how park activities in San Jose are influenced by immigrant populations and noting broader economic effects including brain drain and reduced local sales. Jean expressed concern about maintaining focus on neighborhood issues while acknowledging the national political backdrop affecting immigrants, including friends and professionals considering relocation to Europe. The conversation concluded with Susan emphasizing the need to challenge misconceptions about undocumented immigrants and the importance of supporting affected communities.

Leadership Slate and Safety Initiatives

The board approved a slate of candidates for leadership positions, with Ed as chair, Lawrence as vice chair, Art as treasurer, and Mary Pizzo as secretary. Sam reported on efforts to reduce fire risk and improve safety in the Hamilton Place neighborhood, including successful collaboration with police to patrol and enforce laws in the area. He requested help to increase the budget allocation for bike patrols in District 6, as the current funding cycle has passed.

Community Trail and Homeless Panel

Sam sought advice on organizing 75 neighbors to address trail and homeless issues with a panel including the mayor, council members, and local agencies. Susan suggested using the Bascom Library community room, and Steve agreed to follow up via email. Jean recommended exploring the San Jose Conservation Corps pilot program and connecting with county trail coordinators, including Rebecca Coates-Maldoon, for funding and planning assistance. Bill and Kathy suggested engaging Campbell's mayor, Sergio, as he chairs VTA, which funds trails, and emphasized the importance of coordinating with the county for multi-jurisdictional trail management.

Trail Safety and Homeless Concerns

The group discussed concerns about homeless encampments along the Los Gatos Creek trail, which serves as an important alternative transportation route for commuters, including employees from Netflix and eBay. Jean shared that Netflix has a transportation coordinator who could potentially provide a supportive letter regarding trail safety concerns, while eBay's isolated campus presents challenges due to their recently installed security fencing. Sam presented a map of Hamilton Place neighborhood showing significant encampments near waterways, noting that while services remain a priority approach, enforcement issues persist with some individuals viewing the area as lawless.

Neighborhood Updates and Event Planning

The meeting covered updates from various neighborhood associations, with Kathy from Delmas Park highlighting ongoing parking issues and abandoned cars, particularly near body shops. Liana discussed plans for National Night Out at Way Park, while Art announced a general meeting on July 28th with Shiloh Ballard and potential attendance by the Supervisor. Maren at WGNA invited attendees to their National Night Out on August 5th, featuring a live band and five food trucks. Jean shared that the Mayor is considering moving the soccer stadium to Diridon West, an area previously referred to as "Google Town."

Soccer Stadium Relocation Discussion

The group discussed the potential relocation of a soccer stadium and training facilities. Jean explained that the PayPal Park stadium could potentially be moved to a northern part of Google's property, though Google had indicated they would not develop that area for 30 years. The Earthquakes team has been

experiencing recruitment difficulties due to inadequate training facilities, as they sold land to an adjacent office development complex. The mayor is considering putting these facilities back in Downtown West due to Google's active land sales, though no formal postings have been made yet.

