



Housing & Community Development Dept.  
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# The Catalina Vista

Newsletter of the Catalina Vista Neighborhood Association  
Fall 2012

*Catalina Vista  
Neighborhood*

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CURRENT RESIDENT  
CATALINA VISTA  
1750 N CAMPBELL AVE  
TUCSON, AZ 85719-3704  




**Annual Meeting**  
**Monday, November 5, 2012**  
**Arizona Inn, Tucson Room**  
**7:00 to 8:30 P.M.**

**Dated Material**

**CATALINA VISTA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**

2012

**OFFICERS**

President Colette Altaffer 323-9827  
Vice President Kathleen Wassenberg 326-3349  
Secretary Alison Hughes 881-0917  
Treasurer Jan Hastreiter 881-5939

**BOARD MEMBERS**

Ellen Adelstein Betty Jo Drachman  
Laurie Ellerman John Fendrock  
Gerald Geise Michael Jordan  
David Sunderman Kathleen Wassenberg  
Mary Wenner Sara Wisdom  
Bill Young

**WANT TO SUPPORT YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION?**  
Become a member! Send your 2013 membership dues of \$15.00 to Jan Hastreiter, Treasurer, CVNA, 2144 E. Edison, Tucson, AZ 85719. Please make checks payable to Catalina Vista Neighborhood Association.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Ph# \_\_\_\_\_  
E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

*Annual meeting presentation*

It's that time of year again – time to join us for the annual meeting of the Catalina Vista Neighborhood Association!

Our very own Council Member and neighbor, Steve Kozachik, will briefly update us on the latest news from Ward 6. City staff will also be on hand to give a presentation on the modern streetcar.

As always, your neighborhood needs your continued support. Our neighborhood thrives because of the many neighbors who give so generously of their time, talents and resources. Please join us as we continue a long tradition of community-building!

We are also holding elections for Board members. If you are interested in working with a great group of people, please contact Colette Altaffer at 323-9827 by October 25th.

**The Association would be delighted to have your help.**

**Please call Colette Altaffer: 323-9827**

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## Grant Road Update

The Grant Road overlay process has slowed to a crawl. Earlier this year, as we went through the first series of public meetings, we had an opportunity to examine the criteria for the proposed overlay zone, and we did not like what we saw.

An overlay zone was recently placed along the border of the West University neighborhood and we could see the destruction they were experiencing as a result. Massive student housing projects placed hundreds of students along West University's borders. Homeowners saw a dramatic increase in cut-through traffic, noise occurring at all hours of the day and night, and increased conflicts between students and existing residents.

We recognized that the proposed Grant Road Overlay Zone, like the West University overlay, would also reduce the protections for the vast majority of our neighbors and open the door for similar conflicts to occur.

If the proposed overlay document had been passed without any changes, we would have seen, among other things, the following:

- ❖ Building heights taller than existing zoning allows and constructed closer to our homes.
- ❖ More parking along our neighborhood streets, accompanied by greater levels of cut-through traffic.
- ❖ A dearth of code language to provide some level of protection for adjoining residences and businesses, leaving those property owners exposed to greater impacts on their quality of life. This was especially evident for alcoholic beverage service.
- ❖ Neighborhood input silenced for all future building projects, no matter how many years had passed. This created highly inflexible restrictions that left us with no ability to respond to changing conditions.

- ❖ Significant portions of parking and landscaping, which are traditionally the responsibility of the individual property owner, moved into the public realm. This would make the taxpayers permanently responsible for their maintenance and upkeep.

There were many issues, too numerous to discuss here, that raised red flags, so we approached Council Member Kozachik. He held two meetings between the Grant Road staff and representatives from the four neighborhoods that border the intersection of Campbell and Grant. Both he, and Council Member Uhlich, attended those meetings.

It became clear from these meetings that staff needed to go back and rewrite the overlay zone requirements. They had planned to return at the end of the summer with a new draft, after also meeting with other neighborhood representatives from along Grant Road. To this day, we have heard nothing more about the Grant Road process.

We encourage all our neighbors to stay involved in this important process. Our city is losing the West University historic neighborhood, as 700+ students overwhelm that neighborhood's streets and destroy the quality of life for its residents. None of us wants to see that happen to Catalina Vista or any other neighborhood. We will continue to forward information to you as we hear from the Grant Road staff.

## Your Help Appreciated

We often say that Catalina Vista is an extraordinary neighborhood, but we also know that this is no happy accident. We enjoy a high level of owner occupancy, and it is not uncommon to find several homes undergoing extensive renovations. This "pride of ownership"



carries over to our numerous public areas, as a dedicated group of neighborhood volunteers works to keep our islands and parks clean and well-maintained.

Many of you also contribute to our "island fund", which allows us to hire a landscaping firm to come and perform some of the more difficult cleaning tasks.

This will continue to be our responsibility as the city struggles with economic difficulties. We rely on all our neighbors who recognize the importance of community and the benefits we all reap from our shared contributions. This past year, we spent over \$2000 to cover the cost of our newsletter and to maintain our neighborhood islands.

We cannot continue to do this without your help. If you have already renewed your membership, we appreciate your support. If you haven't renewed, please consider joining us again. Please use the form in this newsletter and mail your dues of \$15 to Jan Hastreiter, 2144 E. Edison, Tucson, 85719. Donations to our Island Maintenance fund may also be sent to Jan. Checks should be made payable to Catalina Vista Neighborhood Association.

If you would like to assist us by volunteering your time and talents, please contact Colette Altaffer at 323-9827, or send an email to [William.Altaffer@azbar.org](mailto:William.Altaffer@azbar.org). Thank you for your continued support as we work to maintain the quality of life and sense of community in our neighborhood.

## Parking Issues

As construction continues on the University Campus, parking for students and faculty is at a premium. This, coupled with the proximity of UMC, has created parking issues for the adjoining neighborhoods.

Until recently, Catalina Vista has managed to avoid becoming a parking mecca for students and employees, but that is now changing. Overflow parking has spilled into the southern end of our neighborhood, creating problems for

neighbors. Trash collection has gotten more difficult, and the curves on Sierra Vista Drive present a greater safety challenge for pedestrians and bicyclists who are finding it difficult to get out of the way of oncoming traffic.

Our Board recently met with the Director of ParkWise, the city's parking enforcement program that targets neighborhoods in the downtown and UA area. There are several options our neighborhood can consider to address the parking issue.

Among these options is the parking permit program. Property owners on the affected street would need to collect petition signatures from 75% of the property owners living along a "block face" of the affected street. ParkWise would then install permit parking signs along that block face, and all those property owners would receive an annual bill to participate in the permit parking program. Fees range from \$48 to \$72, depending on the type of permit parking requested. Parking in those areas would then be limited to those who possess the appropriate parking permit. All other vehicles could be ticketed by ParkWise.

While this program has been used effectively in other neighborhoods, it is not without its downside. If we target only those streets that currently have a parking issue, we will simply move the problem to other locations in our neighborhood. Property owners who opt into the program will be given one additional parking permit for their guests, so neighbors who have parties will need to contact ParkWise prior to their event to avoid having their guests ticketed.

Since our neighborhood is located in ParkWise's enforcement area, we have the option of contacting ParkWise to report existing violations. Neighbors who find vehicles parked closer than five feet to their driveway, blocking driveways or fire hydrants, or parking in public right-of-ways can contact ParkWise at 791-5071 to report potential violations. To learn more about the ParkWise program, go to: <http://parkwise.tucsonaz.gov/parkwise/residential-parking-permit-program>

