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**VEP** News

September 2024

VEP Community Association ~ Since 1969 Advocacy - Awareness - Beautification Neighborhood & Community Events



# { VEP Community Meeting }

# WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25th

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Vista Park Community Room 475 Hyde Park Drive

Everyone is Welcome! Invite a Neighbor!

Snacks provided by Chick-Fil-A

## **MEETING AGENDA**

- Special Guests -Information & Updates: City of San Jose

> Marissa Garcia San Jose Police Department

Vanessa Sandoval: Chief of Staff Office of D2 Councilmember Sergio Jimenez

~ SJ City Council D2 Election Forum ~ Pamela Campos <u>and</u> Joe Lopez *Come with questions!* 

- VEP Business Meeting -Upcoming Events Next Meeting Date: November 20th, 2024

- Open Forum / Member Q&A -A chance to voice your opinions and/or seek VEP's help.



# President's Corner with VEP President Alain Mowad

Dear VEP Community Members,

I hope you all had a great and restful summer! We had a busy August!

We were excited to host our **National Night Out on Tuesday, August 6th**. We had 84 attendees, with participation from the SJPD and the CHP as well as the VTA. Everyone was thoroughly entertained by *Randall and the Vandalls* who put on an amazing performance. And many thanks to Chik-Fil-A for donating food for the event! Thank you to all our neighbors who came out to celebrate together!

On **Saturday, August 24th**, the VEP, in partnership with District 2 Council Leadership, the SJPD and the SJFD, San Jose City Parks and Recreation, the Mayor and District 2 Office held a **cleanup event** at one of our neighborhood elementary schools, Parkview Elementary, as well as Parkview Park I and II. We had over 250 volunteers, with breakfast being cooked by D2 Council President John Leipelt as well as the SJPD. It was a hugely successful event thanks to our volunteers who donated their time and efforts to beautify the school and the neighboring parks!

You won't want to miss our upcoming **meeting next week**, **September 25th at 7 PM at the Vista Park Community Center**. Pamela Campos and Joe Lopez, candidates for the District 2 Councilmember seat in the upcoming election this November, will be with us to present their platforms and priorities and to field questions from members of the VEP community. This is your chance to ask them your questions and share your concerns. We will also be hearing from SJPD's Marissa Garcia on the latest crime updates and progress the

Department is making. Vanessa Sandoval will also be present to provide an update on key happenings in District 2, including progress on the EIH facility on Branham and Monterey.

Finally, I am very excited to let you know that the VEP was selected as one of the neighborhoods that will be participating in the City's **TogetherSJ program**. The program will give us access to funding and logistics support to help us scale and organize more initiatives and beautification events through 2025. More to follow as we get more information on the parameters of the program.

### **NEW VEP MAILING ADDRESS**

VEP has a new P.O. Box. Please send all correspondence to:

VEP Community Association PO Box 23655 San Jose, CA 95153

# **Fall Beautification Events**

## \* SAVE THE DATES \*

Fall "Litter Harvest" Saturday, October 5, 2024 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon @Vista Park

Annual Dave Fadness Beautification Day Saturday, October 19, 2024 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon @Vista Park

More Information Coming Soon!







If you have 1-2 hours a month, consider volunteering with VEP to support our local community.

There is more than one way you can help make a difference: \* Serve as a board member \* Lead a committee \* Organize an event e.g. garage sale, clean up day, etc.

- \* Email / contact local government and/or community organizations to share
- neighborhood feedback
- \* For those with technical skills, update our website monthly

Interested? Contact VEP Vice President Heidi Racherla (vp@vepca.net)

### September 21st - Guadalupe River Cleanup with BeautifySJ

Join California Coastal Cleanup Day on Saturday, September 21, 2024, from 9 a.m. to noon.

Register today and be the solution to water pollution in Santa Clara County! We welcome volunteers of all ages!

#### Important Details:

- Every participant must sign a waiver, and minors must be accompanied by an adult.
- Gloves, garbage bags, litter sticks, and other cleanup supplies, will be provided on-site.
- Stay hydrated! Fill up and bring your reusable water bottle before you head out.
- Wear comfortable clothing, long pants, and closed-toe shoes.
- Don't forget to bring a hat and wear sunscreen.

This event aims to tackle litter and beautify the neighborhood, and we cannot do it without the assistance of our dedicated volunteers like you.

Please sign-up on the link below and register for site #9. We will be providing snacks and refreshments.

### **Click Here to Register**

#### About Coastal Cleanup Day:

California Coastal Cleanup Day is a statewide effort to protect our creeks, rivers, lakes, coastal areas, and wildlife from trash and debris. Since its inception by the California Coastal Commission, more than 1.5 million volunteers have removed over 25 million pounds of litter from beaches and inland waterways. The Creek Connections Action Group coordinates the effort in Santa Clara County.

BeautifySJ | City of San José | Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services Department



<u>VEP Community Association</u> is a not-for-profit organization, supported by a board of volunteers. First established in 1969, it is one of San Jose's oldest community associations. VEPCA serves and represents homeowners in the Blossom Valley area of southern San Jose and has grown to encompass more than 2,800 homes. Its primary focus is on neighborhood beautification, safety and local civic affairs.

#### VEPCA EXECUTIVE BOARD of DIRECTORS

President: Alain Mowad - president@vepca.net Vice President: Heidi Racherla - vp@vepca.net Treasurer: Marc McGeever - treasurer@vepca.net Secretary: Lisa Sanchez - secretary@vepca.net Beautification: Brian Ferry - beautification@vepca.net Web & Social Media: Adina Pierce - socialmedia@vepca.net Membership - membership@vepca.net

VEP News Editor: Rachel Witmeyer - newsletter@vepca.net



## VEP Facebook Page

<u>VEP Facebook Group</u> (VEP members only)

"Fave" <u>VEP on Nextdoor</u>

<u>YouTube</u>



VEP Community Association | P.O. Box 18037 | San Jose, CA 95158 US

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