

THE FCA BULLETIN

THE VOICE OF THE FOOTHILL COMMUNITIES ASSOCIATION

www.FCAhome.org

February 2010

2010 ANNUAL AND TOWN HALL MEETING

When: Monday, March 1, 7 PM

Where: Hewes Middle School
(Hewes Ave at Foothill Blvd)

The Annual and Town Hall Meeting of the Foothill Communities Association is open to the public, and everyone is welcome. A question and answer period will follow the speakers. A map and agenda are on the FCA website (www.FCAhome.org).

Scheduled speakers are:

- Supervisor Bill Campbell – State of North Tustin
- Professor Glenn Roquemore – President of Irvine Valley College
- Keith Richter – OC Fire Chief

FCA continues to be diligent in striving (as it has since 1964) to preserve our unique and highly-valued living environment. Your membership demonstrates your commitment to this objective. At only \$20, an FCA membership is probably your best investment in 2010 to insure your quality of life. If you have not already mailed your 2010 membership, please complete the membership form in this Bulletin.

Several people have noted that some North Tustin residents do not like to drive after dark. So that people can attend the Annual Meeting, we will arrange to transport a limited number of residents to the meeting and home afterward. If you are interested in this service, leave a message at 714-730-7810.

FCA 2010 members will be receiving ballots for election of 2010 Directors shortly. You may return these ballots by mail or at the Annual Meeting. Residents joining at the Annual Meeting will receive ballots at that time.

Sincerely,



Richard Nelson, President
714-730-7810
rnelson@FCAhome.org

NEWPORT AVE ZONE CHANGE

A 153 unit Senior Living Facility has been proposed for 7.25 acres currently zoned for single-family residential use located on the westerly side of Newport Avenue across from Saint Regis Place and Ravenscrest. The proposal is to rezone the property to a multi-family zone which would permit high density uses. The property owner, the Diocese of Orange, and the management company, Kisco Senior Living, propose a large, multi-story central building that would house 55 assisted living units and 79 independent living units with an additional 19 bungalows separate from the main building. Neighboring property owners are overwhelmingly opposed to this project, and the FCA Board of Directors unanimously voted to oppose a proposed zone change that would allow this high density use.

The proposed use is inconsistent with the North Tustin Specific Plan and incompatible with the surrounding established, single-family residential neighborhoods, putting a high density use in an area planned for low to medium density use and putting a business type use in a residential area. The project would require a County zone change from the property's present designation as Residential Single Family (10,000 sq. ft. lots) under the North Tustin Specific Plan (NTSP). Any zone change would be precedent setting and may cause other zone change applications to be viewed in a more favorable light. Of particular concern is the possible zone change to commercial for the nearby property at Newport and 17th, a stated desire of the property owner.

After the County releases the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the project, there will be a public comment period, and after which, there will be meetings before the North Tustin Advisory Committee, the Orange County Planning Commission, and the Board of Supervisors. Check the FCA website, FCAhome.org, for the latest news and meeting times. Send an email to info@FCAhome.org if you desire email notification.

To help stop this development:

- Contact Bret Braden (714-731-3324, charbon@pacbell.net) or Pat Welch (714-979-3242, pat.welch@silganclosures.com) to request a "No Rezoning" yard sign or an opposition petition.
- Make a donation to help us hire experts, purchase yard signs, and pay for mailers. See donations discussion below.
- Participate in the "No Rezoning" rally every Wednesday morning from 7:30 to 9:00 am. Send an email to jrgonzalez@awsi.com to get on the rally email list.

ROADS & POTHoles

The County is being very responsive to our requests for road repairs. Concerns include potholes, safety, deficient drainage, or dangerous intersections. Please communicate roads issues to FCA Director Les Nesbitt (714-730-9365, LBNez@earthlink.net).

AIRPORT COMMITTEE

The Airport Committee continues its efforts to work with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the management of John Wayne Airport (JWA) to modify the aircraft arrival procedures to reduce noise over homes in the North Tustin area. As a result of suggestions we received at a meeting with the FAA in December 2008, we have implemented a two pronged plan towards that end.

A. Next Generation Navigation Procedures. JWA management arranged for a meeting in March 2009 with representatives of FCA, Boeing Aircraft Company and the FAA. At this meeting we learned about the Next Generation Navigation procedures, using Satellite based navigation technology to provide precision flight paths. At the recommendation of the FAA representative, FCA submitted a request to JWA for the FAA to develop the associated Required Navigation Performance (RNP) procedures for JWA arrivals. We have also transmitted our proposals to the FAA for RNP arrival paths that would avoid flights over most noise sensitive areas of North Tustin. Recent contact with the FAA Western Pacific Region personnel indicates that the FAA will host a meeting with JWA and FCA in February 2010 to provide the results of the FAA evaluation of our request and proposals.

B. Voluntary Noise Abatement Visual Flight Procedures. The RNP procedures described above are primarily for arrivals under Instrument Flight Rules although they are also applicable to Visual Flight Rules (VFR). Because we enjoy good flying weather much of the time, many arrivals into JWA are authorized to be made under VFR conditions. Pending RNP procedures, we have designed arrival paths for voluntary use by aircraft when visual flight conditions are approved. These would approximate the noise abatement capabilities of the RNP flight paths. These Voluntary Noise Abatement Visual Flight Procedures were submitted to JWA and subsequently transmitted to the FAA for review in June 2009. The results of the FAA evaluation of these procedures will also be provided in the meeting noted above.

We are also experimenting with video/audio recording of aircraft noise as planes fly over our homes, as factual evidence of the unreasonable noise experienced during many times in the day. If successful, we plan to contact the airlines directly with this evidence to make them aware of our noise concerns and the need to implement noise abatement procedures. In support of these efforts, **it is essential that all residents call the JWA Noise Hotline at 949-252-5185 every time aircraft noise is unreasonable and strongly objectionable.**

BEAUTIFICATION PROJECTS

Last year FCA formed a Beautification Committee co-chaired by Scott Mehlberger and Pat Murphy. As the committee's first project, Pat Murphy proposed to improve the appearance of the corner of Red Hill and Irvine Blvd. A key part of the project was to cover the rusting chain link fence in front of the storm drain with evergreen vines. The vast experience of the committee and several enthusiastic volunteers got the ball rolling. Jim Karling offered to draft complimentary working drawings of the plan. Local plumber Bill Bangert contacted the City for water service, and others offered support when needed with old fashioned enthusiasm and volunteerism. Supervisor Campbell endorsed the plan and agreed that the County would pay for the water installation and would assume long term maintenance for the project. Orange County Public Works Department's Chuck Stanfiel, a longtime resident of our area, is on the Eagle Scout Advisory Council. Chuck organized the Boy Scouts, and Eagle Scouts Chance, Ricky, and Elliot took on the project. The results are drip irrigation, evergreen flowering vines, an olive tree, a park bench, and ground cover. The Eagle Scouts will be honored at our Annual Meeting on Monday, March 1.

We are all very excited that this project came to fruition through community volunteer support, and we look forward to continuing this momentum. Thank you to everyone who participated! If you have ideas for additional projects, send them to Pat (PatMurphy@FCAhome.org) or Scott (714-389-7598, scott_mehlberger@hotmail.com).

FCA SCHOLARSHIP

FCA funds the annual Thomas F. L. Mc Cauley Memorial Scholarship which is awarded to a graduating Foothill High School student. The scholarship was created to honor Tom Mc Cauley for his devotion of time and energy to the North Tustin Community and FCA. He was instrumental in saving many of our TUSD schools, now back in use, from being sold.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The help of a few people is needed to generate content for our website (www.FCAhome.org). Contact Richard Nelson if you can donate a few hours.

Help is also needed for entry of data into Excel spreadsheets.

NEW COMMITTEE

In the past year, FCA formed two new committees, Welcoming and Beautification. This year we intend to form a Communications Committee to increase interaction with the membership. People with interest in writing, editing, and public relations are needed. Contact Richard Nelson, rnelson@FCAhome.org, if interested in this or other committees.

DONATIONS REQUESTED

FCA keeps annual membership fees low to encourage all residents of North Tustin to join. The downside of this practice is that few funds are available for some important projects. Donations can make a big difference.

Projects using donations include:

- Opposition to **Kisco** Senior Living Facility. Donations are needed to help pay for experts, yard signs, and mailings.
- **FCA Scholarship**. FCA funds a scholarship for a graduating senior at Foothill High School. We would like to expand this by offering more scholarships and providing funds for the first two years of college.
- North Tustin **Beautification**. The first project was the planting of evergreen vines over the rusting fence at Red Hill and Irvine. Additional opportunities are being evaluated.
- **Undesignated** funds. These allow projects such as (1) acquiring the Post Office acceptance of North Tustin as a delivery address and (2) working with the FAA to identify quieter approaches into John Wayne airport over North Tustin.

If you want to help support one or more of these projects, consider a donation. Use the membership form in this Bulletin, check the donation box, and indicate in the comment field of your check the project designation (in bold above). Donations to one of the above projects are kept with separate accounting and are only used according to the wishes of the donor.

ANNUAL MEETING AND
COMMUNITY UPDATE

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2010 FCA MEMBERSHIP

02-10

JOIN FCA NOW – HELP PROTECT NORTH TUSTIN

Please mail this form with your check to: FCA, P.O. Box 261, Tustin, CA 92781. Ignore if you already renewed.

Names: 1. _____

2. _____

Address: _____

City Zip

Email Address: 1. _____ 2. _____

I would like to receive FCA information via email. (Please be sure email addresses are legible).

Phone: (____) _____ **Alternate Phone:** (____) _____

Membership Type: \$15 Senior Membership \$75 North Tustin Patron
 \$20 Basic Membership \$___ North Tustin Leadership Council
 \$35 North Tustin Advocate \$___ Donation

I/we are interested in helping or serving on (check as many as you like):

Address Change Communications Committee Parks and Trails Other
 Airport Issues Land Use Roads
 Annexation Issues Membership Welcoming
 Beautification Newsletter Website