

# Alhambra Corridor News

## Proposed Walgreen's at Alhambra and L Project is Dead

City Planning staff sent the following email to our Alhambra Corridor representative on April 22, 2010:

*Staff received the following message from the applicant: Walgreen's is no longer interested in the site and they referred me to the owner Nancy Cleavinger. She does not want to continue the appeal either. With this information, the file is closed and the denial of the project by the Planning Commission stands as the final action.*

At this time, we aren't aware of any other use being proposed for the site. The Mayflower restaurant continues to do a good business there. The former Luis' building remains an eyesore, while Luis Jr. is trying to make a go of it in the Galleria Building at 29th and J St.

## Medical Plaza at Stockton and Alhambra

Now called Sutter Medical Plaza, an open house was held on April 15th for the medical plaza and some Sutter medical tenants have moved in. The former Bloodsource building has received major improvements and is a visual improvement to the neighborhood. However, the retail/restaurant portion of this project, to be built at the western end of the project along Alhambra Boulevard, has not been built yet. Sally Friedlander of Separovich/Domich has told us that "they have received the construction permit and are still looking for the right tenant." We will continue to monitor the status of this yet to be constructed cafe.

## Two-Way traffic now in place on J Street between 30th and Alhambra

As part of the City's two-way conversion plan, traffic is now two-way from 29th Street to Alhambra on J Street. Hopefully this will alleviate the heavy traffic on Alhambra somewhat as drivers heading west to the I-80 freeway on J Street can access it without getting on Alhambra Blvd.

Martha Paterson-Cohen

## Arizona Vote *(continued)*

Cohn needs to be reminded that the job of leadership is to change the consensus, not follow it. He needs to recall that there was a time when the national consensus supported laws outlawing the franchise for women and forbidding interracial marriage. The consensus once supported the noxious notion that separate was equal. The consensus once supported the invasion of Iraq. The consensus has changed on these matters, and that change was brought about by leaders who had the courage to oppose prevailing sentiment. Good leadership does not always follow the crowd and good leadership does not duck out when the tough votes are taken.

Cohn's argument that City Hall should confine itself to municipal issues is not persuasive. Local governments have a responsibility to comment on national politics, especially in times of moral crisis. We are one country. When rights are imperiled in one state they are imperiled everywhere. If local citizens across the Weimar Republic had spoken up in 1933 we would live in a different world today.

Neighbors are divided on this issue. But there is a consensus that comprehensive immigration reform is needed. The constitution tells us this is the responsibility of the Federal Government. This debate merits a vote. City Council District 3 deserves a leader willing to stand up and take that vote.



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## Speed and Traffic Issues

When you try to cross J Street, or are tailgated down H, you realize that speed limits are often scoffed at in East Sacramento. As residents we need to work together to get traffic speeds under control.

ESPTF has offered a unique crosswalk solution to the city. We crafted Pedestrian Flag Stations for intersections throughout East Sacramento. The idea is for pedestrians to pick a flag from the station at the crosswalk, use the flag as signal to motorists as they cross in the crosswalk, and then return the flag to the stand on the other side of the street. The flags catch the drivers' attention and bring most drivers to a stop.

World-class cities such as Salt Lake City, Seattle and Washington, D.C. successfully use this technique and now East Sacramento will as well. The city plans to launch the first flag crossing at 33rd and H Street, the McKinley Rose Garden crossing. Call Councilman Cohn's office to encourage expansion of the ESPTF flag crossing effort: 916-808-7003.

In the meantime, make sure to drive at or safely below speed limits. Always check to see if someone is waiting at one of the white crosswalk areas. When you stop, come to a complete stop and let the pedestrians completely clear the crosswalk before continuing. Rolling through a crosswalk before pedestrians have cleared the crossing can result in a \$400+ fine! Pass bicyclists with extreme caution at or under the speed limit. Working together we can slow down the traffic and make these congested streets safer.

## Farm Fresh Saturdays/National Night Out

Take time on a Saturday morning to bike or walk over to McKinley Park. In front of the library you'll find a farm stand featuring fresh, seasonal, local, organic vegetables and fruit. Sacramento's Soil Born Farms is selling certified organic produce Saturdays, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. The business will run until October 30, 2010.

Join ESPTF on August 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 35<sup>th</sup> and McKinley (Shepard's Garden Center lawn) at 7pm to celebrate National Night Out (a national crime/drug prevention event). SPD will provide information. Bring chairs. Refreshments will be provided.