

Dec/Jan 2021 Member Newsletter from:
Beresford/Hillsdale
Neighborhood Association
Box 6764 San Mateo CA 94403

Presorted
Standard
U.S. Postage Paid
San Mateo, CA
Permit No. 677

Change Service Requested



Beresford/Hillsdale Neighborhood Association

www.beresfordhillsdale.org

Dec/Jan 2021

BHNA January 12th Member Zoom Meeting

We look forward to continuing to serve you virtually until we can again meet in person. 2021 will be a very challenging year for our city, with Covid-19 impacting businesses, jobs, and more. Our congrats to incoming Mayor, Eric Rodriguez. One of his first stops will be with BHNA members on **January 12th at 7:30 p.m.** via the Zoom link below.

Rodriguez will join us to take a look at what we'll be facing as a City this upcoming year. Additionally, if you send us questions by Dec. 31st, we will forward these to the Mayor in advance of the meeting. (Send questions with your mail-in 2021 BHNA Member renewal OR via email at board@beresfordhillsdale.org.)

Also joining us will be our Area Lt. Art Sanchez, with the San Mateo Police Department, to update us with crime reports pertinent to the BHNA region. There have been some crime spikes, and the SMPD has been working to curb some of our area issues. Communication with residents is key. Awareness is even more important as the holidays approach to reduce your risk of becoming a victim. (Questions for Lt. Sanchez? Let us know by December 31st.)

ZOOM MEETING INFO: Utilizing this link and ID will bring you to our waiting room. Link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89109198894> & Meeting ID is **891 0919 8894**.

ZOOM MEMBER MEETING

Tuesday, Jan. 12th @ 7:30

LOADS OF UPDATES

with

**New Mayor Eric Rodriguez
& Local Crime Report by
San Mateo Police Dept.**

DON'T WAIT - RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP NOW FOR 2021!

Your membership keeps the BHNA going! No need to miss out on news that impacts your neighborhood - You can renew today for just \$12 for the entire year online at www.beresfordhillsdale.org, or via USPS by filling out the form below with a check made payable to "The BHNA" to: BHNA, P.O. Box 6764, San Mateo CA 94403.

2021 - BHNA RENEWAL/MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Send newsletter by () US Mail Only or () Email Only

Member Checklist for All Newsletter Items This Month!

- ___ Renew BHNA Membership for 2021 (ASAP)
- ___ Send in questions for Mayor and SMPD (deadline Dec. 31st)
- ___ Send in nomination info for Holiday Lights Contest (deadline Dec. 31st)
- ___ Let us know of your interest in the BHNA Board (ASAP)
- ___ Recommend a Special Place to Support (ASAP)

Do You Have a Special Place?

Our members know that the BHNA annually looks to make donations to organizations that serve our community. **Do you know of a place** that serves the BHNA region that you think may not be as well-known as Samaritan House or the Police Activities League? Please let the board know at board@beresfordhillsdale.org so we can continue to do good things for our residents in need!

A Win for San Mateo Height Limits/Measure Y

BHNA Members voted to endorse Measure Y, and against all odds, this measure has passed – by 42 votes! (Every vote DOES count!) Special interests outspent the grassroots resident effort 40:1, but the voters have spoken. What does this mean? Residents *will continue* to have a seat at the table regarding development decisions. Protections provided by expiring Measure P will *remain in place* to retain the suburban character of our City. Inclusionary affordable housing requirements *will prevail*. While essentially splitting the vote and causing confusion, competing Measure R went down in defeat. But those who worked hard to defeat Measure Y have already voiced they are ‘deeply disappointed’ with the result and stated, “We’ll see how the next vote turns out in 2-4 years.” This refers to the percolating new General Plan, which will likely be put up for a resident vote once it is completed – and *could* include changes to Measure Y. This underscores why **ALL of us** should participate in the general Plan process. Residents need to stay involved, informed and vigilant. The fight for our City will never be a spectator sport. (Sign up to be on the General Plan mailing list for updates at <https://strivesanmateo.org/>.)

BHNA's 1st Holiday Lights Contest - Send Your Nomination!

What better way to bring a festive spirit to the season than beautiful holiday decorations? Have a home on your street that shines? Nominate them to win a gift certificate to a local eatery (takeout included). We'll also give them a free year of BHNA membership! Email a photo and the address (and name, if known) of your nominee so we can contact the eventual winner. Send to board@beresfordhillsdale.org by December 31st.

Virtual Halloween Costume Contest

Congratulations to Brendan and Anthony, who won the BHNA Virtual Halloween Costume Contest, dressed as historical figures Charles Lindbergh and George Washington. The boys received a gift

certificate to our local small business, Reach & Teach, a wonderful toy and bookstore right here on 25th Avenue. Visit their website for unique holiday gifting at <https://shop.reachandteach.com/>.

Library News During Covid-19

San Mateo's libraries have plenty of resources you can still access and curbside pick-up is available at ALL branches now! You can browse the library catalogue at:

[https://smplibrary.bibliocommons.com/?_ga=2.213831447.288271642.1605817828-](https://smplibrary.bibliocommons.com/?_ga=2.213831447.288271642.1605817828-1509246898.1587510291)

[1509246898.1587510291](https://smplibrary.bibliocommons.com/?_ga=2.213831447.288271642.1605817828-1509246898.1587510291). Select books and media to borrow. When your items are ready, you'll receive an email to make an appointment to pick them up. Don't want to leave your house? Visit the eLibrary where you'll find streaming movies, TV shows, eBooks, magazines, audio books for download, financial databases, educational games and test preparation, academic research and much more.

Be a Part of Something Good!

In tough times, sometimes all it takes is 'doing for others' to give us our own personal lift. Start today by becoming a part of the 2021 BHNA Board!

Even the challenges of 2020 couldn't keep us down. In-person meetings during the first quarter of the year included hosting Senate hopefuls, the new police chief, a County Supervisor to update us about our Event Center, and more. Once Covid-19 hit, we still churned out informative newsletters, helped members with issues near their homes, co-conducted a City Council Candidates' Night Zoom meeting, supported local small businesses, and held a virtual Halloween Costume Contest! None of this happens without a terrific Board, and you can be part of that in 2021. Contact us with questions and/or your interest at board@beresfordhillsdale.org. There are many opportunities!

3 Years Ago & Today: No Changes/Traffic Fears Persist

Development plans for the outdated Hillsdale Inn location (477 E. Hillsdale) were first introduced 3 years ago to include 152 residential units. These plans immediately concerned San Mateo Villages' residents. Neighborhood Association President Dennis Murphy notes that those worries remain since the developer (Swensen Builders) is "bringing forward the exact same plan they presented 3 years ago without addressing our traffic concerns." Murphy points out, "Our biggest concern is how this development will affect traffic at the corner of Hillsdale and Saratoga...the main artery into and out of the Village. This intersection has been rated an 'F' forever." He acknowledges some recent improvements, but says they aren't enough, "Other than moving a crosswalk, nothing has been done to fix this intersection." It's still rated an F. Since this is an intersection we all travel, you may want to take note of upcoming meetings, including a **Dec. 10th Community Zoom Meeting at 7 pm** at zoom.us/join (Meeting ID: 831 7689 4633, Passcode: 341477). For more info, call Associate Planner Phillip Brennan at 650-522-7218 or go online to: <https://www.cityofsanmateo.org/3277/477-E-Hillsdale-Boulevard>.