

# SERRA MESA OBSERVER

PUBLISHED BY THE SERRA MESA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

VOLUME 40 ISSUE 4 JULY/AUGUST 2026



250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary — Happy Fourth of July

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*You are invited to participate in the next Serra Mesa Community Council  
General Meeting on Tuesday, September 29, 6:30pm, at  
Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library*

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*Zone Zero Presentation at May 26 Serra Mesa Community Council Meeting. Article on p. 6-7.*

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***Serra Mesa Observer***  
 is published bimonthly  
 by the Serra Community Council

**Articles, Ideas, & Upcoming  
 Events** are welcome.  
 Editor reserves right to edit  
 articles.

For articles, e-mail Editor -  
[observer@serramesa.org](mailto:observer@serramesa.org)

**Deadline:** Sept/Oct 2026 Edition,  
**August 29**

For ads: [www.serramesa.org/smcc/  
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**CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS**

**Location Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library**

July 7, 6pm	Friends of Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library, Email <a href="mailto:serramesalibraryfriends@gmail.com">serramesalibraryfriends@gmail.com</a> for the log in information for online meeting
July 16, 7pm	Serra Mesa Planning Group, Community Room
Aug 20, 7pm	Serra Mesa Planning Group, Community Room
Sept 7, 6pm	Friends of Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library, Email <a href="mailto:serramesalibraryfriends@gmail.com">serramesalibraryfriends@gmail.com</a> for the log in information for online meeting

## IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Abandoned Vehicles & Police Non-Emergency	(619) 531-2000
Airport Noise - Montgomery Airfield	(858) 573-1436
Animal Control-Incorporated S.D.	(619) 299-7012
Bus & Trolley Schedules	(619) 233-3004
Canyon Cleanup	(619) 533-4411
Child Abuse Hotline	(858) 560-2191
City Clerk - Docket Information	(619) 533-4000
Crime - General Business	(619) 531-2000
Crime Stoppers	(619) 235-8477
Dead Animal Removal	(858) 694-7000
Emergency Information - Earthquake	(858) 565-3490
Fallen Trees-Urgent	(619) 527-7500
Fire Department - Non-emergency	(619) 533-4300
Flies & Vermin	(858) 694-2888
Graffiti	(619) 527-7500
Hazardous Chemicals & Waste	(858) 694-7000
Health Violations	(619) 338-2222
Litter - City Owned/Private Property	(858) 694-7000
Meals On Wheels	(619) 260-6110
Neighborhood Code Compliance (Barking Dogs, Code Violations, Noise, Safety)	(619) 236-5500
Police Department - Eastern Division	(858) 495-7900
Post Office	(800) 275-8777
Poison Control Center	(800) 222-1222
Rape /Domestic Violence Hotline	(858) 272-1767
RSVP (Retired Seniors Volunteer Patrol)	(858) 495-7990
SDG&E Emergencies	(800) 411-7343
Senior Citizen Services	(619) 236-6905
Serra Mesa Library	(858) 573-1396
Serra Mesa Recreation Center	(858) 573-1408
Sidewalk Repair	(619) 527-7500
Stolen Property/Bicycles - To Report	(619) 531-2000
Storm Drain Misuse	(619) 235-1000
Street Repair - Faded signs, pavement	(619) 527-7500
Traffic Signal Maintenance	(619) 527-8650
Water Emergencies - City & Private	(619) 515-3525
Weeds	(619) 533-4444
Zoning/Permits - Questions &Violations	(619) 446-5000

## Serra Mesa Community Council

### Officers

Joseph Konieczka, *President*  
 Jon Cima, *Vice President*  
 Andrea Eaton, *Treasurer/Community Events*  
 Cindy McIntyre, *Secretary*

### Board Members

Debbie Campbell, *Communications*  
 Tyler Denstad, *Community Safety Liaison*  
 Claudia Haines, *Birdland Representative*  
 Alexia Longley, *Audio-Visual*  
 Judi Mitchell, *SDSU Mission Valley*  
 Cindy Moore, *Observer Editor & SMPG*  
 Carmen Ojeda, *Community Involvement*

### Appointed Positions

Carl Demas, *Advisor*  
 Colin Dowling, *Webmaster*  
 Sam Yo euth, *Friends of the Library*  
 Geralyn White, *Neighborhood Awareness*

### Key Serra Mesa Volunteers

Chris Rosemond, *SMPG President*  
 Monica Fuentes, *Friends of Ruffin Canyon*  
 Kristine Webb, *Serra Mesa Food Pantry*  
 Karl Doering, *SM Community Garden & Orchard*  
 Preston Chipps, *Serra Mesa Village*

### Serra Mesa Community Groups

Serra Mesa Community Council,  
[communitycouncil@serramesa.org](mailto:communitycouncil@serramesa.org)  
 Serra Mesa Planning Group, [smpg@serramesa.org](mailto:smpg@serramesa.org)

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## ELECTED OFFICIALS

Board of Education Shana Hazan	(619) 725-8000
City Councilmember Raul Campillo	(619) 236-6677
Mayor Todd Gloria	(619) 236-6330
County Supervisor Joel Anderson	(619) 531-5522
County Supervisor Monica Montgomery Steppe <i>Birdland &amp; Phyllis Pl Area</i>	(619) 531-5544
State Assembly Member Chris Ward	(619) 239-7801
State Senator Toni G. Atkins	(619) 645-3133
Governor Gavin Newsom	(619) 525-4641
U.S. Representative Sara Jacobs	(619) 280-5353
U.S. Senator Adam Schiff	(415) 393-0707
U.S. Senator Alex Padilla	(619) 239-3884

## President's Column

Hello Serra Mesa Community,

Happy Summer! Earlier this month, I had the opportunity to attend an “[Inside the SDPD](#)” event at the SDPD headquarters. For those of you unaware, the HQ is just next door to us in Kearny Mesa at the old Chargers training camp. It was a very eye-opening experience, as I got a brief taste of what it's like to be an SD police officer for a few hours. I highly suggest attending the next time they do an event like this if



you are interested in what the SDPD does on a daily basis. You will likely gain a new level of appreciation for the job that they do here in our city. I was shocked to learn how often the SWAT team is used monthly in the city!

**Trash and Parking Fees:** The people of San Diego scored two rare “wins” recently when it comes to fee reductions. The Trash fees have been cut nearly in half from \$57 monthly to \$38.75 for folks with large trash bins and to \$32.30 for smaller bins.

Balboa Park fees will end on January 2027. This only occurred because the people of San Diego pushed back on these obviously very unpopular fees. News article with more details [Here](#).

**New Recycling Bins:** The new baby blue Recycling bins will be delivered by the end of July in Serra Mesa. To see when your new light blue recycling bin containers will be delivered, check [Here](#).

**City Budget:** After an \$118 million dollar shortfall, the mayor has finalized the budget. The City's arts culture programs took the biggest hit initially as they were slashed from \$11.8 million to \$2 million, but now the Prebys Foundation is working with some councilmembers to restore the funding.

Other Cuts include: Middle Managers, Library hours (Serra Mesa's included), Fire department (reduction of staffing), some public restrooms, some shelter beds, and Safe Parking (Aero Drive Safe Parking in Serra Mesa included).

Funds that were saved from cuts include: Clearing stormwater channels (City Council added \$1.1 million in one-time funding) and \$841,000 in ongoing funding for wetland and channel maintenance, Traffic Safety (Multi-Modal Team and Speed Management), Flock cameras, and most of the police budget.

Most concerning in this is the staffing cuts to our Fire Department. Another concern is how bad our roads are in general around the city... it doesn't look like they are going to be fixed anytime soon. A really good article with more details can be found [Here](#).

Thanks for checking out our newsletter again this month. As a reminder, check out our [Hot Topics](#) section on our website to stay up to date on the latest happenings in Serra Mesa. Also, don't forget to check out at the annual [Serra Mesa Big Block Party](#) on July 11th.

I hope to see everyone on Tuesday, September 29th at 6:30pm for our next meeting. Have a safe summer and [Happy 250th birthday to the U.S.A!](#)

**Joe Konieczka**

**President, Serra Mesa Community Council**

[Website](#) | [Observer Newsletter](#) | [Serra Mesa on X](#) | [Serra Mesa on Youtube](#)

## Serra Mesa Planning Group News

**Meetings:** The Serra Mesa Planning Group (SMPG) is officially recognized by the City and makes recommendations on land use issues to the City. SMPG meets the third Thursday of the month, 7pm, at the Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library, 9005 Aero Drive, and via online meetings. To receive notices about meetings, which would include a link for the online meeting, sign up at <http://www.serramesa.org/>. Next meetings: July 16 and August 20. To contact us, email [smpg@serramesa.org](mailto:smpg@serramesa.org). Agendas and minutes are at <https://www.serramesa.org/smpg/smpg-documents/>.

**Elections:** SMPG's bylaws allow fourteen Board members. Anyone who is at least 18 years old, affiliated with the community as a property owner, resident of Serra Mesa, or a local Serra Mesa businessperson. The City provides training. See <https://www.sandiego.gov/planning/community/resources>. There are openings.

SMPG only meets when there's an agenda item pertinent to Serra Mesa or along our border (e.g., Aero Drive). SMPG's bylaws and community plan are [HERE](#). The Serra Mesa Community Plan, adopted in 1977, is one of the oldest community plans in the city. At some point the City will schedule an update and the community needs to be involved, including interested residents and professionals (e.g., experts in land use, planning, housing, recreation, etc.). Now is a good time to become involved and to begin thinking about Serra Mesa's future!

### May & June Update

**Taft Middle School Drop-Off/Pick-up Safety Concerns** — Passed a motion to request that the safety issues regarding drop-off and pick-up at Taft Middle School be addressed. Letter addressed to Shana Hazan, Trustee, District B, San Diego Unified School District, asking for a meeting to discuss the issues. The letter is [HERE](#). A response letter indicated district personnel are being identified for a meeting on this topic.

**Stadium Trolley Station Parking Request** — Passed a motion to request that SDSU Mission Valley West provide parking at the trolley station. Letter addressed to Dr. Adela de la Torre, President, SDSU, requesting a meeting. The letter is [HERE](#). Response is [HERE](#).

### Future Agenda Items:

**Unscheduled, Birdland Housing Project Proposal:** San Diego Unified School District's proposal to build affordable multi-family housing for educators and staff at their Cardinal Lane property in the Birdland area. Refer to article [HERE](#) (<https://www.serramesa.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/Observer-Jan-Feb-2026-Final.pdf>), p. 9. Currently SDUSD is negotiating with the developer, Decro Corporation, and when ready to present SDUSD will contact SMPG.

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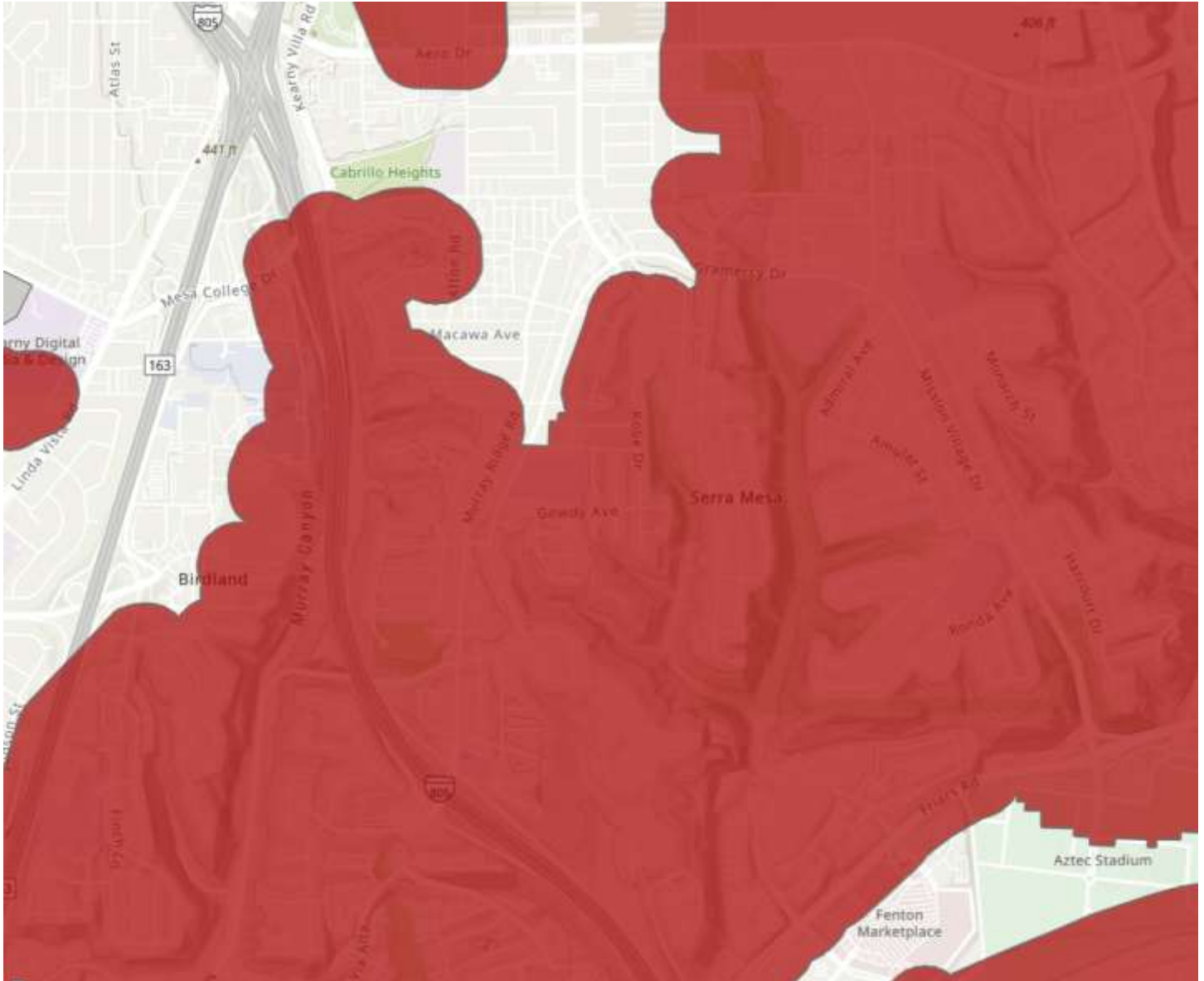
**Housing Development:** CityMark developed the rental properties at 2696 and 3222 Mission Village Drive. In construction are 60 units (35 rentals and 25 for sale) at 3241 Mission Village Drive called Dezi.

CityMark's [description](#) of Dezi: "Central. Established. Effortlessly Connected. Dezi is located in Serra Mesa, a centrally positioned San Diego neighborhood known for its quiet streets, proximity to open space, and unmatched access to the region's major destinations."

[Floor plans](#) for the 25 for sale units show a range of 3-4 bedrooms, 2.5-3.5 baths, approximately 1700-1800sf, and 2 car garages for each unit.

## Zone 0 News

Zone 0 was the main topic at the Serra Mesa Community Council meeting on May 26. Zone 0 is a state-mandated program applicable to homeowners in Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones. Zone 0, ember-resistant zone, refers to area within 5ft of a structure. Enforcement begins on February 28, 2027.



*Most of Serra Mesa Located in Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones*

Raquel Elias and Helen Sylvia, Wildlife Management, provided a slide presentation and answered questions. Their presentation is [Here](#).

Highlights of the presentation (summarized/added information):

- 3-year City-Wide Compliance Plan
- Focus of City – “Education first...Reducing obvious ember ignition hazards, such as combustible storage near homes and accumulated debris...City is not focused on minor issues”

*continued on next page*

- Zone 0 – “Highest priority area of ignition prevention: Reduce combustible materials, use non-combustible materials, limit vegetation, address common ember traps.”
- Home Risk Assessment – For a fee of \$163 property owners can request an assessment, a walk around with you for about an hour. Will receive a report that includes details of recommendations that you can do. Report only shared with homeowner. If report is perfect and your insurance company wants to cancel you, it can be shared and used as bargaining tool with them. Request assessment: [Here](#)
- Community Fire Safe Councils (FSC) works to reduce fire risk. A community can form a group that will work with fire agencies and other groups (e.g., Canyonlands providing lots of assistance). Compared to Neighborhood Watch. If community forms a Fire Safe Council, 3-4 Home Risk Assessments offered for free. FSC can apply for grants to get things done and City will drop off 10 dumpsters free of charge for Dumpathon event for two weeks. Some areas with an FSC: Alvarado Estates, Golden Hills, Kensington, Mid-City Coalition, Talmadge, Tierrasanta. Resource: [Here](#)
- Proactive Door-to-Door Brush Management Program for High-Risk Homes (e.g., homes along canyon; Zone 2-30-100ft) – Door-to-door inspections; will knock and leave door hanger.
- Get It Done – Can submit weed abatement and brush complaint [Here](#); including for city-owned land that’s a fire risk and it will be routed to appropriate department.
- Vinyl Fence – Can be located within 5’ of structure with additional requirements listed [Here](#), p. 8
- Fire-Resistant Paint – Very expensive
- Ice Plant – Heavy; remove slowly and allow natives to grow
- Active Fire – SDFD will triage if there’s an active fire area; determining homes that can be protected (lacking combustible materials)

#### Resources:

- AlertSanDiego (San Diego’s emergency mass notification system) — [Here](#)
- Genasys Protect map provides evacuation information for your address — [Here](#)
- Wildlife Prevention and Mitigation Hotline — 619-533-4444
- Wildlife Prevention and Mitigation — [Here](#)
- Sign Up for Email Updates about Defensible Space & Brush Management (scroll to bottom) — [Here](#)
- Complaints Related to Brush Management or Weed Abatement — [Here](#)
- Zone 0 Guidelines — [Here](#)
- Ready, Set, Go Guide — [Here](#)
- Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone Map — [Here](#)
- UT Article on Wildfire Safety (comprehensive) — [Here](#)

***Should Serra Mesa form a Fire Safe Council? Email [communitycouncil@serramesa.org](mailto:communitycouncil@serramesa.org).***

## Lack of Stadium Trolley Station Parking

On May 21 the Serra Mesa Planning Group (SMPG) sent a letter to Adela de la Torre, President, SDSU, requesting a meeting. The [letter](#) stated that “During community presentations from 2018-2020, SDSU repeatedly assured the community that trolley parking would be available” and included references to the environmental document that supported this position. The letter concluded with “We are hoping that SDSU will be a good neighbor and provide parking at the trolley station.”

SDSU sent a timely response. In the [letter](#) SDSU indicates “...metered street parking is available at the site for individuals who choose to drive and then use the trolley”...”MTS offers a variety of park-and-ride locations throughout the region that are specifically intended to support transit users who drive, and provide convenient access to the trolley network.” There wasn't any response regarding the meeting request.

Facts (Map from [SDSU website](#))

- Available parking spaces are located adjacent to River Park, almost .4mi from trolley station.
- Free two hour parking available at River Park Road, south of trolley and parallel to the park, almost .4mi from trolley station.
- Street parking is either metered or time-limited. Metered parking, south of the park, is \$3.35/ hour, up to 6 hours.
- Two ADA parking spaces are adjacent to the children's play area on River Park Road. These spaces are almost .4mi from trolley station. Insufficient?

Possible Solution: Provide parking in southeast corner of Stadium Event Parking Only lot.



*Editor's Note: In 2018 when SDSU was trying to obtain voter approval for expansion of a Mission Valley campus (Measure G), they assured the community at numerous meetings that trolley parking would be provided and the cost would be appropriate. SDSU's environmental response (FEIR, I6-9) to a question about free parking spaces for trolley riders stated, "As demand dictates and in coordination with the Metropolitan Transit System (MTS), the trolley operator, the appropriate number of spaces will be determined and identified as part of the project."*

*Bait & switch? SDSU's letter makes it clear there aren't any plans to provide parking near the trolley station and that the community can access other stations that provide parking. **Serra Mesa deserves a "good neighbor".***

**2026**  
**SERRA MESA**  
**BLOCK PARTY**

**SATURDAY**  
**JULY 11,**  
**2026**

**1PM - 7PM**

GREYLING DRIVE  
 SERRA MESA  
 BETWEEN POLLAND  
 AND GOWDY

**DONATIONS NEEDED!**

We're gathering donations to help make the Serra Mesa Block Party a fun, safe, and memorable event for our entire community!

**WE WELCOME DONATIONS OF:**

<p><b>MONEY</b>        Every dollar helps make our event a success!</p>	<p><b>GIFT CERTIFICATES</b>        From local businesses we can use for giveaways or raffles!</p>	<p><b>RAFFLE PRIZES</b>        Items, experiences, or services to raffle off!</p>
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**DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE!**

*Your generosity supports our community and helps create lasting memories!*

**TOGETHER, WE CREATE CONNECTION. COMMUNITY. AND MEMORIES.**

**TO DONATE OR LEARN MORE:**  
 619-980-2721  
 SerraMesaBlockParty  
 @serramesabigblockparty  
 www.serramesabigblockparty.com

**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY!**



## Celebrating Independence by Supporting Aging Adults

As our nation celebrates the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, it is also fitting to celebrate the independence of older adults. The Serra Mesa Village promotes "aging in place"—or, as we like to say, "**Aging. Better.**"

The Declaration of Independence reminds us:

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness..."

At Serra Mesa Village, our goal is to help older adults to pursue Happiness by fostering friendship, learning, and community.

We gather in person three times each month for social, educational, and enrichment activities. Recent presentations have featured a death doula, experts on artificial intelligence, Jewish Family Service, and St. Paul's PACE. Villagers have also enjoyed board games, greeting card making, and outings to local parks and gardens.

We meet for lunch on the **first Thursday** of each month, coffee on the **second Friday**, and our general meeting on the **third Thursday**.

There is currently no charge to participate in any of our activities. Annual membership dues of **\$25** will begin in **2027**.

Visit [serramesavillage.org](http://serramesavillage.org) for contact information and more details. We invite you to meet your neighbors, and discover the friendships, support, and Happiness we can share together.

*Preston Chipps*



Serra Mesa Food Pantry has a drive-thru distribution every Wednesday from 10am-1pm at 2650 Melbourne Drive.

## My Tour of Montgomery-Gibbs Executive Airport



Hi, folks, I wanted to share my recent experience meeting with Economic Development Deputy Director (Chief of Airports) Jorge Rubio. As part of my introduction to the Airports Advisory Committee (AAC), I was invited on a personal tour of the Montgomery-Gibbs Executive Airport (MYF) grounds and operations by Mr. Rubio.

I arrived at the terminal and took in the history posted on the walls. There was a good timeline of the early days of Gibbs Field (1937), later renamed to Montgomery Field (1950), and finally renamed Montgomery-Gibbs Executive Airport (2016) to honor both of our local aviation legends. In addition, terminal displays included a detailed [Noise Abatement Procedures](#) poster with departure and arrival guides, noise limits, and prohibited operations.

Mr. Rubio met me with a warm greeting and off we went along the taxiways in one of the official airport vehicles. Driving by the transient aircraft and tie-down parking, I saw a plane wash area — a very familiar sight from my Navy days.

Seeing the backside or front flightline side of some of the major corporations and flight schools was an impressively new and different point of view for me. The event space of The Hangars by Crownair Aviation was as luxurious as their website advertises. The modern hangar that Coast Air Center built in 2021 has a unique design that hinges vertically rather than the horizontal sliding doors I was used to flying with the Navy.

We also drove by the San Diego Fire-Rescue Air Operations hangar they lease from MYF for helicopter maintenance. I saw one of the three S-70 Firehawks being worked on; the other two were out on their pad next to the Air Traffic Control Tower (ATCT). These are essential aircraft uniquely designed for aerial fire-fighting, and project estimates suggest they will have a new hangar by late 2029.

In addition, there are a multitude of smaller hangars for private owners. Some are quite spacious, and I found it interesting that some of the older ones were brought in as trailers (like mobile homes) and still have the hitches attached. All of them are periodically inspected per the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) hangar use policy for fire and safety and appropriate usage: Hangars are strictly for aviation related purposes, so you can't rent one to store an RV camper, for instance.

After exiting the airfield onto Gibbs Drive, Mr. Rubio and I talked about some of the leasing business that the airport is involved in. The three commercial office buildings and light commercial storefront strip mall

*continued on next page*

*My Tour of Montgomery-Gibbs Executive Airport continued from previous page*

are owned and managed by the airport. These leases are used as revenue for the Airport Enterprise Fund along with user fees and various airport services. I hear that improvement opportunities are planned but haven't gotten the green light yet due to other priorities.

We followed the airport property, turned the corner around the Four Points by Sheraton hotel, and noted the new Altitude Disc Golf Park was a recent addition. Passing the historical hangars on Kearny Villa Road, Mr. Rubio described the San Diego Community College District plan to build a new aviation instruction center. The project would provide an 18,000 square foot facility for aviation maintenance technology and related FAA certified programs to serve Miramar College students and regional workforce needs.

We continued around the airport to a dead-end road off Balboa Avenue and the very secure entrance to the Air Traffic Control Tower and San Diego Fire Department Air Operations. This area is where some of the rare endangered San Diego fairy shrimp call home; there are signs posted to not drive offroad and preserve both their habitat and population.

We checked in with FAA Air Traffic Manager Mr. Ryan for a guided tour of MYF's 3–4 story air tower... I say 3–4 as the circular stairway makes for a somewhat dizzying ascent. From the top, the view was breathtaking with a full view of the runways and clear sightlines for miles. At the time I was there in the morning, only one Air Traffic Controller was on shift as flight traffic was light but they were fully staffed for the daily traffic by the end of our visit.

When asked about noise complaints and low-flying aircraft, Mr. Ryan explained their team's overall goals and responsibilities. There are an incredible number of factors involved in managing the flight paths of 5,000+ aircraft a day, but ultimately the first and foremost priority is safety and maintaining safe separation to prevent collisions. As a resident under the flight path, I've seen the adjusted loops some pilots make; these types of maneuvers are necessary to space the aircraft out to safer distances.

We talked about the airport's dual runway with its Northern versus Southern pattern traffic; smaller planes generally use the Southern pattern as runway 22L is shorter to allow larger traffic to use the longer and wider 22R runway. I also learned that this tower is one of the few in the entire country that is facing both South and West. This is critical in late afternoons when the sun is shining directly into the AT Controllers' eyes, and this unique location is why the FAA selected Montgomery-Gibbs to have a new ATCT built. I believe plans include a site closer to the Operations terminal but everything is only getting started in the design phase.

After Mr. Rubio's time and tour, I have a new appreciation for our local airfield, its staff and operations, and its importance to our community. I look forward to sharing more information with you all in the future. If you have comments, questions, or ideas, you can contact me at [aac@serramesa.org](mailto:aac@serramesa.org).

*Have a safe and memorable semiquincentennial 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday!*

*John Embree, San Diego Airports Advisory Committee, Serra Mesa Representative*

# MONTGOMERY-GIBBS EXECUTIVE AIRPORT NOISE COMPLAINT GUIDE

Does that airplane over your house sound too loud?

## REPORT IT!

Detailed complaints help identify and track problem aircraft, activity, or areas. File an official Noise Complaint:

**Airport Noise Abatement Officer**

Phone: 858-573-1436

Email: [Airports@sandiego.gov](mailto:Airports@sandiego.gov)

Online: <https://www.sandiego.gov/airports/noise/complaintform>

Or scan this QR code →



**REQUIRED INFORMATION:** Exact time, date, and address or location where the noise was observed.

**OPTIONAL INFORMATION:** Aircraft type, tail number, direction, decibel level, and if it was landing, taking off, or level flight all help but aren't required.

### RESOURCES CAN BE FOUND IN YOUR APP STORE:

**Flight tracking** applications such as Flightradar24, FlightAware, or websites like <https://globe.airplanes.live/>

**Decibel level measurement** applications such as NIOSH Sound Level Meter or Decibel X

### WHAT NOISE LIMITS ARE IN EFFECT AT MONTGOMERY-GIBBS EXECUTIVE AIRPORT?

- Daytime limit of **88 decibels** from 6:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m.
- Nighttime limit of **70 decibels** from 11:30 p.m. to 6:30 a.m.
- Military, law enforcement, emergency, fire or rescue aircraft, and medical flights **are exempt** from the noise limits

### CAN THE CITY REQUIRE AIRCRAFT TO FLY AT HIGHER ALTITUDES OR NOT OVER MY HOUSE?

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has the sole authority to control air traffic. Neither the City of San Diego nor the state of California can regulate the altitude, speed, direction, or location of aircraft in flight. If you have any questions about aircraft in flight or wish to report unsafe flying, contact the local Flight Standards District Office (FSDO) at 858-502-9882.

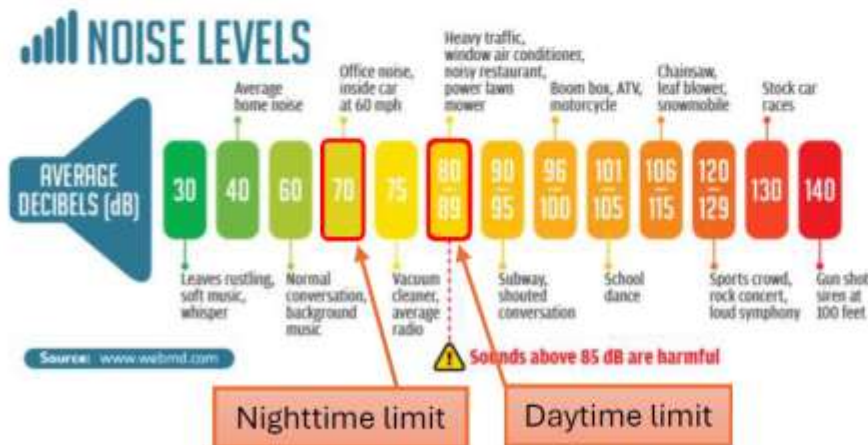
### FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT, THE AIRPORT NOISE MANAGEMENT FAQ:

<https://www.sandiego.gov/airports/noise>

Scan this QR code for more information



### WHAT DOES 70 OR 88 DECIBELS SOUND LIKE?



## SERRA MESA SEED LIBRARY



The Serra Mesa Seed Library opened on June 16, 2026, to provide non-GMO, organic heirloom seeds to our patrons. To this end, we have provided these seeds to promote self-gardening in the hope of developing sustainability for both our seed library as well as for our patrons.

It is noted that the food prices have increased exponentially in recent years and have strained food budgets here in San Diego. Therefore, the seed library is offering a small respite from the high cost of food by offering seeds for vegetables at no cost that can be consumed at the dinner table. It is our belief that sustainability will allow for a healthier lifestyle as well as having a less deleterious effect on the planet.

The Serra Mesa Seed Library is dedicated to expanding our inventory to include a larger variety of vegetables as well as fruit seeds. In addition, we will seek to request seeds that promote flowers that encourage pollinating insects.

These insects are a major component in our effort to maintain our planet.

Rules of the Serra Mesa Seed Library are as follows:

1. Currently, since we are just starting out, we request that patrons take only 3 seed envelopes every 3 weeks.
2. If you harvest your plants and they produce seeds, please consider donating some of the seeds back to the seed library. This will assist us in maintaining our inventory.
3. In addition, we are going to print a seed library newsletter which will have helpful tips on growing plants and vegetables as well as healthy recipes.

Please join us in the Serra Mesa Library to obtain your seeds and become part of this community project. It our hope that you will find gardening to be an enjoyable and worthwhile hobby!

*Editor's Note: The article was provided by library staff. If you need additional land for growing, the Serra Mesa Garden & Orchard, 2650 Melbourne Dr, behind Mission Village Christian Fellowship, established in 2011, offers 4'x12' plots at minimal cost. More information [Here](https://www.serramesa.org/smcc/victory-garden/) (https://www.serramesa.org/smcc/victory-garden/).*

## Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library Donation & Groundbreaking



On May 27, 1998 General Dynamics presented a check for \$250,000. Pictured are community members and former City Councilmember Valerie Stallings with staff. The sign built by a community member listed SMCC's phone number.



Groundbreaking occurred on October 9, 2004. Shown are dignitaries, staff, former City Councilmember Donna Frye, & community members.



# Grand Opening of Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library Dec 2, 2006



*Marilyn Gibbs, Branch Manager (since retired & Serra Mesa resident), with former City Councilmember Donna Frye. Refer to Observer, May/ June 2026, for history & Frye's involvement.*

The Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library will be 20 years old in December 2026. The last edition included a timeline.

This copied article (original [Here](#)) provides the architect's statement.

## Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library History

### Architect's Design Statement

The opening of the distinctive Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Branch Library on Aero Drive continues the distinguished heritage of library development by the people of San Diego. The resulting facility is the realization of more than a decade long labor that came about as the result of the vision of the Mayor, the City Council, and Library Commissioners. The library was encouraged by the committed and persistent citizen effort of the Serra Mesa and Kearny Mesa communities. The extensive community input and recommendations incorporated by a legion of city staff and departments allowed Coombs Architecture & Planning Inc., of Santee, Calif., and its team of talented consulting engineers to imagine and create a blend of art and science fitted to improve the quality and environment of the people, young and old, who will learn, grow and benefit as a result of the vision, commitment and investment of the people of the City of San Diego.

The library building and improvements were situated in harmony with the manmade surroundings in the area, while at the same time great care was taken to respect the environmentally sensitive habitat present at the site. The existing trees and natural vegetation were protected and augmented by the incorporation of native landscape plant materials. A large portion of environmentally sustainable building materials were used along with other Green Building Technology and techniques to provide a facility that is highly rated and will be economic to operate and maintain. Additionally, the accessibility needs of all individuals were given priority in an effort to provide a barrier-free design.

The Community Group asked for “a library with a look and feel that blended the styles and iconic architectural elements of the Spanish Revival, Craftsman and Arts and Crafts movements.” The building was to hearken back to the turn of the last century, a gentler era.

Thus the library has a traditional library has a traditional feel, even though it contains vast technological capability and state of the art library services. Various architectural features were used to reinforce the theme of the project. The exterior plaster walls are finished with multiple textures and distinctive detailing. Warm colors were selected that are soft and subtle. The building walls were enlivened with vibrant multi-colored ceramic tile mosaic details, accent colors and other symbolic ornamentation which provides variation and sparks of whimsy.

The building walls are offset to provide shade, shadow and silent clues to the many and varied interior spaces. A tripartite scheme, consisting of firmly grounded *base*, a definitive and pronounced roofline *cap* and the somewhat simpler intervening *wall* surface, define the traditional strength and civic purpose of the building. The roof forms also vary in height, form and material. The numerous roof heights and deeply shaded clerestory windows also define the hierarchy of the complex and multiple-use interior.

Windows are plentiful and provide varied views of the site and the wooded draw leading down to the existing Serra Mesa Park. The majority of the windows are set deeply into thick walls and covered archways shading them from the hot environment, which enhances patron comfort while lowering energy costs. The windows provide significant day lighting, which also saves energy. Additionally, the many glass exterior doors, in each area, allow natural ventilation during times of moderate weather.

The Community Room, Children and Adult Areas each have an exterior courtyard. Each courtyard is landscaped and has numerous seating options. But each has a unique feel and provides very different views and opportunities for shade or sunshine, which will enhance the library experience, in our temperate climate.

Many of the exterior architectural elements are continued inside in an inviting and colorful way. The library facility has two main areas. The Community Room that can be used during the day or evening for community meetings, art shows and the like; and the Library proper that contains all the functions of a full service branch library.

*continued on next page*

*Serra Mesa -Kearny Mesa Library continued previous page*

The Circulation Counter and Library Services area is right off the lobby entrance. From there the high columned Gallery, with clerestory windows, will contain displays, artwork, and showcase newly arrived volumes and seasonal library materials. Off this central Gallery there is a state of the art Computer Lab, a Reference Department and various media and homework/study areas. The Children’s Learning Center, the Young Adult area and the main book stacks are on the other side of the Gallery. Within the Children’s Learning Center there are learning opportunities for all ages and a special area that is being developed to assist children in the “first five” years. Lastly, at the end of the Gallery there is a light-filled Adult Reading Room with tables and big easy chairs. The extensive newspaper and periodical selections are located in this area.

Throughout the library seating of various sizes and configurations is provided, such as nooks, tables, chairs, easy chairs, homework carrels and computer carrels. The complete interior has colors, finishes and materials of great interest.

The architect, M.W. Rusty Coombs, AIA, has designed many Arts and Crafts era items of furniture that are unique and one of a kind for the Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa community. The furniture was constructed of solid Quartersawn White Oak, Maple and Cherry with old school craftsmanship in its joinery, such as through-tenons, stile and rail construction, simple half-lap and “tusked” or pinned through mortise and tenon joints carved ornamentation accents and incorporates lead framed art glass. He has also designed several art glass windows and ceramic tile motifs. There is a subtle nature theme throughout the library, with representations of clouds, trees, leaves, flowers and creeks. The most dominant of these is the stylized roses, hollyhocks and eucalyptus.

The entire library, it is hoped, will be a magnet for young and old to gather, learn and build community ties. The Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Branch Library will be a fun place as well as a serious location to seek knowledge and understanding about our changing world.



### **Siting of Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library**

The discovery of vernal pools in the west area of the site required relocation of the library to the east. The vernal pool area was fenced off. Map courtesy of Google Maps.



# Cookie Decorating Class

Presented by Blaire of *& Everything Nice* bakery

*& everything nice*

Saturday, August 1, 2026 • 3:30-5:00pm

**“Unleash your inner artist and satisfy your sweet tooth! In this beginner-friendly class, we dive into the colorful world of royal icing and custom sugar cookies. ... By the end of the session, you’ll head home with a set of beautifully decorated treats and the skills to recreate the magic in your own kitchen.”**

All materials provided. To guarantee a spot, RSVP online; otherwise, spots will be first-come, first-served until capacity.

**RSVP here!**



Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Branch Library  
9005 Aero Dr, San Diego, CA 92123 • 858-573-1396  
[facebook.com/SerraMesaLibrary](https://www.facebook.com/SerraMesaLibrary)



## Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Branch Library

(858) 573-1396 [facebook.com/SerraMesaLibrary/](https://www.facebook.com/SerraMesaLibrary/)

Email Questions to [SMstaff@san Diego.gov](mailto:SMstaff@san Diego.gov)



### Library Hours

Tuesday: 11:30 m - 8pm  
Wed through Sat 9:30am -6pm  
Sunday & Monday: Closed

### Holiday Closures

July 3 & 4, Fourth of July

### Online library services available 24/7

• **eBooks, eAudiobooks and Digital Magazines:** take a look at our eLibrary resource, we've got

some new resources for the kids and adults <https://sandiego.gov/eLibrary>

- **Movies:** Free access to movies with your library card <https://sandiegopl.kanopy.com/>
- **Online Book Clubs:** <https://sandiego.gov/bookclubs>
- **Program Videos:** <https://sandiego.gov/public-library/program-videos>

### New or Special Programs/Events

#### Summer Reading Program 2026!! June 1 to August 15

Join the Summer Reading Program and Plant A Seed, Read! It's free to sign up for ALL AGES at [www.sandiego.gov/summerreading](http://www.sandiego.gov/summerreading). Keep track of the books you read this summer with your online reading log and earn prizes for reading! Join us for a special Summer Reading Event throughout the summer featuring clowns, magicians, animals, and more!

#### Friends of the Serra Mesa Library Piano Concert, 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday, 1:00pm

Piano and vocal concert with various genres of music.

#### July 1, 2:00pm Summer Reading Program: From the Page to the Stage

"From the Page to the Stage" is a fun and engaging presentation that shows how works of literature from Cervantes to Mark Twain to Charles Schulz can end up on the musical stage, demonstrating the power of imagination in both reading and watching live theatre.

#### July 10, 4:00 p.m. Summer Reading Program: Michael Rayner's Found Object Juggling

A juggling show like no other! See Michael Rayner perform strange and amazing feats with everyday objects!

#### July 17, 4:00pm Summer Reading Program: Sparkles the Clown

Join us as Sparkles the Clown drops by to give us a hilarious and whimsical magic and bubble show!

#### July 24, 4:00pm Summer Reading Program: Scientific Serenade

Investigate and visualize sound through your eyes and ears in this high-energy, louder-than-life show. Learn the components of sound and how they all combine to create the beautiful (and not-so-beautiful) sounds that we hear every day.

#### July 31, 4:00pm Summer Reading Program: Wild Wonders

Come meet and learn about real life wild animals! Wild Wonders will bring a variety of live wild animals to the library.

*continued on next page*

**August 1, 1:00pm Teaching your Kids about Financial Literacy**

You don't need to wait until your kids are teenagers to start talking about money. In fact, you shouldn't. Learn the ways you can teach healthy personal finance habits to your children and how to help set them up for financial success. This program is geared toward parents and caregivers.

**Regular Programs****Pajama Storytime with Ms. Carrie – Tuesdays at 6:30pm**

Put on your favorite PJs and join Ms. Carrie in the Community Room Tuesday evenings at 6:30pm for a pajama storytime. Pajamas are encouraged, but not required. No sign up required.

**Chair Yoga – Tuesdays at 1:00pm**

Work on your flexibility, strength building, and quiet your mind with functional movement practice Tuesdays at 1:00pm. Participate at your own ability. Suitable for adults of all ages. Wear flexible clothing and bring any preferred yoga equipment. Chairs provided.

**Serra Mesa Book Club — 2nd Thursday at 6:30pm**

Love to read and talk about books? Join the Morning Book Club! Join the Serra Mesa Book Club! July 14 will discuss *The henna Artist* by Alka Joshi, and June 11 will discuss *Fever in the Heartland* by Timothy Egan.

**Baby Toddler Time – Thursdays at 10:00am**

This loosely structured, baby-led time for play, bubbles, stories, and more. Designed for little ones 0-2 yrs.

**Lego Club — Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday at 4:00pm**

Come build with us and become a Master Builder! Join us each month to enjoy an hour of free building and then see your Lego creations displayed in the library.

**Knitting and Crochet Circle — Saturdays at 11:00am (except July 4)**

Join the knitting and crochet circle. Improve your skills in these traditional art forms. Bring your project for social crafting!

**Adult Craft Time – 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday at 3:00pm**

Join us for a fun adult book-making craft with Envisionit San Diego! All materials provided. Call the Serra Mesa Library to register: 858-573-1396

**Celebrity Memoir Book Club — Last Saturday of the month at 10:00am**

Join us each month as we dive into the inner lives of celebrities in their own words. Ask at the circulation desk for this month's book.

**Friends of the Library****Friends of the Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library Meeting — Tuesday, July 7, 6:00pm**

Community members are welcome to join, become a member, & discuss ways to support the library. This meeting will be held on Zoom. Please email [serramesalibraryfriends@gmail.com](mailto:serramesalibraryfriends@gmail.com) for the log in information.

**Friends of the Library Donations:** The Friends of the Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library are currently accepting book donations during the library's open hours.

**Friends of the Library Volunteers Needed:** Looking to get more involved with your community? Love books and your library? Reach out to Friends of Serra Mesa Library to hear more about how you can help! Email us at [serramesalibraryfriends@gmail.com](mailto:serramesalibraryfriends@gmail.com) or DM on Instagram @serramesalibraryfriends.

# Piano Concert

EVERY 3<sup>RD</sup> SATURDAY, 1-2PM

SERRA MESA-KEARNY MESA LIBRARY



**Live piano and vocals from Joe Cromwell and Friends (previously seen weekly at the Red Fox in San Diego), specializing in 50-60s gentle jazz/pop. Come by and hear your favorites from the likes of Sinatra, The Beatles & Billy Joel, etc. Requests welcome!**

**Saturday Dates:**

May 16, 2026

June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026

July 18, 2026

August 15, 2026



**Sponsored by the Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Friends of the Library a §501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation**



## Serra Mesa Recreation Center

9020 Village Glen Dr. (858) 573-1408

<https://www.sandiego.gov/park-and-recreation/centers/recctr/serramesa>. Program Guide: [HERE](#)

### Schedule

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 11am - 7pm

Friday, 12pm - 7:00pm

Saturday: 9am - 3pm

Closed Sunday

**Holiday Closure:** July 3-4; September 7

**Open Play:** Basketball: Mon-Fri, 12pm-4:00pm; Sat, 9am-12pm;

Volleyball: Sat, 12pm-3pm; Monthly schedules are posted online at <https://www.sandiego.gov/park-and-recreation/centers/recctr/serramesa>.

### **Basketball League**, June 8-Aug 8. Fee: \$77

7U Pee Wee (Age: 7 & under): Mon, 4:00-4:45pm

10U (Age: 8-10): Mon & Wed, 5:00pm-6:00pm

12U (Age: 10-12): Mon & Wed, 6:00pm-7:00pm

14U Boys (Age: 12-14): Mon & Wed, 7:00pm-8:00pm

14U Girls (Age: 12-14): Mon & Wed, 7:00pm-8:00pm

### **Volleyball Clinic**, July 7-Aug 13. Fee: \$54

12U (Age: 9-12), Tues 4:30-5:30pm

14U (Age: 13-14), Thurs 4:30-5:30pm

**Ceramics**—June 3-Aug 26, Wed, Noon-4pm, Craft Room, Free. Create and work on projects at your own pace. Studio offers Potters Wheel, functional kiln, and table space to independently build your projects. Some tools offered but participants need to bring supplies. To participate, contact Serra Mesa Recreation Center.

**Teen Program** —June 3-Aug 26, Wed, Noon-4pm, Craft Room, Free. Designed to provide safe, supportive environment where teens can explore their interests, build life skills and foster meaningful connections. Local teens will lead this program and advise on offering academic support and social events. To participate, contact Serra Mesa Recreation Center.

### **San Diego Civic Dance Arts**, June 26-Aug 28

Beginner Hip Hop 1A/1B: 4:15pm-5:00pm, Fee: \$42.46.

Beginner/Advanced Hip Hop 1B/2A: 5:00pm-5:45pm. Fee: \$42.46.

### **Vendor Programs**

**Advanced Volleyball Clinic:** 17U Advanced (Age: 13-17, July 7-Aug 13, Tues & Thurs, 5:40pm-7:00pm. Fee: 144. Clinic for students who want to compete on their school teams and local club teams. Rotating themes to improve overall play. Program to improve skills, knowledge, and fitness.

### **Community Sports Information:**

AYSO Soccer: Region 780- Registrar, <https://www.ayso780.org>

Serra Mesa Little League: <https://www.serramesalittleleague.org>

## Development Project Resource Guide

To obtain more information about a project, refer to these San Diego City and County resources\*.

**Zoning and Parcel** Information Portal (find zoning designation for parcel) - <https://www.arcgis.com/apps/instant/sidebar/index.html?appid=75f6a5d68aee481f8ff48240bcaa1239>

**Mapping and Geographic Information** (many resources) - <https://www.sandiego.gov/planning/work/mapsua/map>.

SanGIS Interactive **Parcel Map** - <https://www.sangis.org/pages/interactive-map>. Find out addresses and parcel information.

**Municipal Code**, Chapter 13 & 14 (describes zones and uses) – <https://www.sandiego.gov/city-clerk/officialdocs/municipal-code>

**Citizen Portal** - <https://aca-prod.accela.com/SANDIEGO/Default.aspx>

**Lookup Property** Information (enter address) - <https://aca-prod.accela.com/SANDIEGO/APO/APOLookup.aspx?TabName=APO>

DSD Permits: **Create an Application** - <https://aca-prod.accela.com/SANDIEGO/Login.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2fSANDIEGO%2fCap%2fCapApplyDisclaimer.aspx%3fmodule%3dDSD%26TabName%3dDSD>

DSD Permits: **Search Applications** (enter address) - <https://aca-prod.accela.com/SANDIEGO/Cap/CapHome.aspx?module=DSD&TabName=DSD>

Enforcement: Private **Property Investigation** Request (submit complaint) - <https://aca-prod.accela.com/SANDIEGO/Cap/CapEdit.aspx?Module=CE&stepNumber=2&pageNumber=1&isFeeEstimator=&TabName=CE>

Enforcement: Search for an **Existing Investigation** - <https://aca-prod.accela.com/SANDIEGO/Cap/CapHome.aspx?module=CE&TabName=CE>

**Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU)** - <https://www.sandiego.gov/development-services/news-programs/programs/companion-junior-units>

**Sustainable Development Area (SDA)** <https://webmaps.sandiego.gov/portal/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=0295d35b03a14d929d3459fe0b9b50cf&search=92116&extent=-13039150.8811%2C3862903.0948%2C-13035938.1373%2C3864964.5059%2C102100>. Part of Birdland and areas near Aero Dr are included in an SDA which is used to permit Bonus ADUs and Complete Communities projects.

**SDA Description** (Municipal Code, Chpt 11, Art 3, Div 1): "...the area within a defined walking distance along a pedestrian path of travel from a major transit stop that is existing or planned, if the planned major transit stop is included in a transportation improvement program or applicable regional transportation plan, as follows:

- (a) Within Mobility Zones 1 and 3, as defined in Section 143.1103, the defined walking distance is 1.0 mile.
- (b) Within Mobility Zone 4, as defined in Section 143.1103, the defined walking distance is .75 mile.
- (c) For parcels located in Mobility Zone 4, in an area identified as a High or Highest Resource California Tax Credit Allocation Committee (CTCAC) Opportunity Area, the defined walking distance is 1.0 mile."

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*Development Project Resource Guide continued from previous page*

**Complete Communities Housing Solutions** - <https://www.sandiego.gov/planning/work/housing/toolkit/housing-solutions>

**Property Ownership** – County’s website at <https://sandiegotparcels.com/>. Enter APN or address or move to desired parcel and click on it.

*\*Disclaimer: It’s possible the content on a website may not reflect the most recent development.*

## **Example – Find Information on Project at southeast Ruffin & Mission Village Corner**

CityMark confirms they’re the owner of the property. Lot information at <https://sdgis.sandag.org/>. Clicked on APN Labels, Parcel Polygon and Existing Land Use > **Click on the desired lot**. Parcel information displays.

Zoning: <https://www.arcgis.com/apps/instant/sidebar/index.html?appid=75f6a5d68aee481f8ff48240bcaa1239>

Permits at - <https://aca-prod.accela.com/SANDIEGO/Cap/CapHome.aspx?module=DSD&TabName=DSD>, enter 3222 Mission Village Dr. Click on **Building Construction permit**, PRJ-1076402. At bottom of page, click **Application Information** for details.

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## **Kids Book Sale, Bubble Party & Face Painting by Fannie the Clown, Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library, June 6**



*Tim Srock, Friends of Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library, organizer of Kids Book Sale, and volunteer extraordinaire.*

## Projects & Other Information

*(Current April 2026)*

### Serra Mesa Projects

**Franklin Ridge Road Connection** – Schedule for implementation of mitigations and road connection pending. The developer submitted a design plan for 5 travel lanes and 2 bike lanes for the Murray Ridge bridge (the configuration that's described in the approved October 2017 plan). This differs from Caltrans' draft plan which describes the redesign of the Murray Ridge bridge as 4 travel lanes (11' wide) and 2 Class IV Bikeways (9' separated for each bikeway). Also, other city-approved mitigations include 5 travel lanes and 2 bike lanes for Phyllis Pl from the Franklin Ridge connection to the bridge, and 4 travel lanes and 2 bike lanes for the connection.

**AT&T Wireless Communication Facility, 2696 Melbourne Dr** – 40' high tall faux eucalyptus tree; 12 antennas, 9 remote radio units; 300-foot ground level equipment enclosure, faux rock; located near labyrinth.

**Mission Village Drive Properties** owned by CityMark Development (purchased from Gleich Trust); zoned as a commercial zone that allows residential; qualifies for affordable density bonus; amenities minimal; Process 1 (staff approves project).

**2696 Mission Village Drive** (former gas station near corner of Shawn Avenue), called Dezi: 3 story, 18-unit apartment building with 1-2 bedrooms; rental units; 2 affordable housing units built off-site; 24 parking spaces. Construction completed. Leasing information at <https://www.deziapartments.com/>.

**3222 Mission Village Drive** (former Tom Russell Chevron Station): 3 story, 21-unit apartment building with 1-2 bedrooms on .96 acre; rental units; 2 affordable housing units built off-site; 21 parking spaces. Exit on Mission Village Drive. Construction completed. Leasing information at <https://www.deziapartments.com/>.

**3241 Mission Village Drive** (former medical building complex) - Two sections – 4 story building, 35-unit apartment building facing Mission Village Dr and 3 story, 25-unit townhouses with 3 bedrooms and 2 car garages; exit on Ruffin Rd; 92 parking spaces; townhouses for sale units. Construction started. Plans at <https://citymarkdevelopment.box.com/s/1p564mqdb76pbwtusug2o2p15kmpe4fr>

**Former Guild Mortgage Building, 9160 Gramercy Dr** – Vacant.

**Former Mission Village Shopping Center, across from Taft Middle School, 9280 Gramercy Dr.** : Approval in 2004 for 160 rental units and 15,000 s.f. retail (8,000 s.f. along Ruffin Rd and 7,000 s.f. at Ruffin/Gramercy corner). In 2005 approval for condominiums, required to make the community room available to community at no cost, and condominium owners have an assigned parking space deeded to them. In 2007 never expiring Site Development Permit, Approval #57551, created for a notification of no further action on 1/20/2022. July 2022 - Clean-up equipment removed from site.

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*Projects & Other Information continued from previous page*

9178 Gramercy Drive. Grading permit issued in 2006. San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board issued a notification of no further action on 1/20/2022. July 2022 - Clean-up equipment removed from site.

Work details for the site of a One Hour Dry Cleaners located in the former shopping center are posted on the gate at 9280 Gramercy Dr. Information:

*The applicable permit is PRJ-1108858 which was issued on 05/14/2024. The permit allows for excavation and offsite disposal of approximately 1,200 cubic yards of chlorinated solvent impacted soils from the site subsurface.*

**Sandrock Apartments, 3440 Sandrock Rd** – Community HousingWorks (CHW) received in March 2025 City Council’s approval for development agreement and lease to build 60 units (56 one bedroom and 4 two-bedrooms) on the .34 acre site, 22 parking spaces, 5 stories high, 100% units will have rents affordable for low- to middle-income families, 30 units reserved for veterans. Amenities include laundry room, multipurpose room with kitchen, computer lab, community garden, tot-lot, and management leasing office. Funding secured in summer 2025. Temporary Certificate of Occupancy anticipated by October 2027. For more details, refer to <https://www.serramesa.org/smcc/observer-newsletter/>, Sept-Oct 2025 edition.

### **Kearny Mesa Projects/Issues**

**Aero Drive Family Apartments, 8575 Aero Drive** – 100% affordable rate, 190 dwelling units in 6-story structure (5-story residential over a 1-story podium) with offices, community services space, and parking garage at ground floor; Mirka Investments, developer, [Affordable Housing Communities | California LIHC Communities](#). (PRJ-1138239)

**AMLI Aero, 8225 Aero Drive (3585 Aero Court)**– Former Kelco building; developer AMLI Residential; 434 apartments (1, 2, & 3 bedroom units), 7 stories high, 712 parking spaces, to be completed in 2025. Amenities include pool, spa, dog run, game courtyard, golf putting green, outdoor culinary kitchen, co-work space, conference room, clubhouse, fitness center, and bike repair room. Currently leasing.

**Drainage Issue at Corner of Aero/ Sandrock** – A solution was implemented to prevent water draining from the VA building. If the issue resurfaces, contact City Councilmember Raul Campillo’s office. Currently, water pooling at the corner seems to be the result of either landscaping watering or when it rains (infrastructure issue).

**Elowen, 8555 Aero Drive** – Construction of 7-story above grade and 1-story below grade for 302 multi-family dwelling units and associated accessory uses. Parking spaces: vehicle, 331; motorcycle, 32; bicycle, 136. (PMT-3158932) Currently leasing.

**9825 Stonecrest (former site of Fry’s)** – Phase 1: 319,702 sq ft apartment building, 310 multifamily housing units, 5 stories; pool and spa; entitled to 1,180 units (4 phases) on 18.8 acres; Wolf Properties, builder, more information including site plan at <https://alpaca-parrot-fkhk.squarespace.com/projects/stonecrest>; Reylenn Construction Company; city permit, PMT-3161757.

***Serra Mesa Observer***

Editor: *Cindy Moore*

Post Office Box 23315

San Diego, CA 92193

# Dated Material

## **Serra Mesa Food Pantry**

**Has a Drive-Thru distribution every Wednesdays 10:00-1:00 p.m.**

**Located at Mission Village Christian Fellowship**

**2650 Melbourne Drive 92123**

**858-278-2647**

