

THE ROADRUNNER

A Publication of the Baristo NOrg

December 2023 Edition

TRAFFIC SAFETY & SAFEGROWTH®

PALM SPRINGS IS INTRODUCED TO SAFEGROWTH

Earlier this year the Palm Springs Police Department engaged SafeGrowth® to conduct a training program in Palm Springs. Volunteers among the City Planning Department, PSDP and the Neighborhoods were recruited to learn about the SafeGrowth mission, “building neighborhoods of imagination, livability & safety for 21st century cities”, and how to make it happen. More on SafeGrowth: <https://www.safegrowth.org/>

The SafeGrowth process embraces CPTED (pronounced “sep-ted”) principles. CPTED stands for **Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design**. But SafeGrowth is about more than CPTED principles – **it’s about the neighborhoods themselves**, and teaching neighborhood residents how to make improvements happen.

Participants attended training at the PSPD Training Center in March. Following the SafeGrowth training six teams were formed. Each team was comprised of people from the city’s Planning Department, Police Department and Neighborhoods. Each of the teams selected a project, and one of the selections was the downtown parking garage at the corner of Baristo and Indian Canyon, well within the boundaries of our NOrg. What was the result of the project? See the article on page 2! In the meantime...

SAFEGROWTH & EL SEGUNDO

The Traffic & Pedestrian Safety Workgroup met Thursday, November 02, with Lt. Hutchinson, just three days following the most recent injury-accident on El Segundo. They discussed our concern about safety on El Segundo. Patrick Vincent had previously brought the lack of MPH signs to the City’s notice. The city promptly installed one new 35 MPH sign on El Segundo, which helped address our issue of speeding traffic headed west on Ramon (45 MPH limit) and turning onto El Segundo without decreasing speed.

However, much work remains to be done. Lt. Hutchinson suggested the formation of a SafeGrowth project to develop an effective set of traffic calming / control solutions for the ½ mile length of El Segundo that resides in the Baristo Neighborhood. Using Safe Growth’s proven processes, and working with experts from the city, we can make El Segundo safer for all. Fortunately Baristo has the leadership (Patrick Vincent, Baristo Vice Chair) to guide it. **If you would like to help make El Segundo safer for Traffic & Pedestrians, please send a note to admin@BaristoPS.com or contact us through the website.**

Agenda

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Board Members

- Ned Barker** (Village Traditions)
Board Chair
- Patrick Vincent** (Village Traditions)
Vice Chair
- Michael Conway** (48@Baristo)
Treasurer

Tee Shirts



STAY IN TOUCH

<https://www.baristops.com>



Admin@baristops.com

2023 Baristo NOrg

TEE SHIRTS

There are now 52 Neighborhoods in Palm Springs, each with its own symbol, and WE have the roadrunner! David Carden, Baristo Founder, had the blade sign roadrunner symbol developed, and years later the current logo was created (thank you iStock!) for additional uses. The Board then agreed to develop a Baristo NOrg tee-shirt, partly to raise funds but mostly to support and grow the neighborhood’s culture. They are now available online, at the Neighborhood’s home page, <https://www.baristops.com/>, or its Donations page. Check it out!



GARAGE ART FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY



Downtown Detroit



Thorton Park / Orlando



Greensboro NC

PLEASE DONATE!

For those Baristo residents who can afford it, we're requesting a donation of \$25.00 per year. Strictly voluntary. Thank you! [click HERE](#) to donate.

THE BARISTO GARAGE PROJECT

While not a Baristo Neighborhood project *per se*, the garage certainly is a part of our Neighborhood, and some Baristo residents provided feedback.

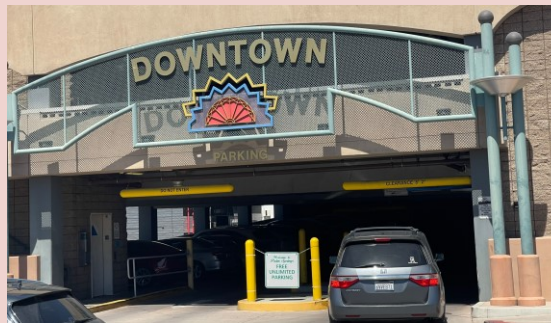
The Baristo Garage Team members conducted Safety Audits to uncover design elements that might support potential criminal activity, for example a lack of "natural surveillance", or a dark corner that could serve as an "entrapment area".



Corner of Indian Canyon at Baristo

While these CPTED features are important, the team and other Baristo residents interviewed users of the garage (it's popular and generally well liked) and recorded impressions of the facility floor-by-floor.

Construction of the garage was completed in 2002, and the parking structure continues to operate as a free parking garage for the downtown businesses. Additional research was conducted, leading team members to focus on late weekend evenings, the time period for most of the aforementioned calls.



Crime data, surveys and additional analysis were put together and developed into a report. This was submitted to SafeGrowth for review and feedback, updated and then re-submitted a few times.

The team made three recommendations:

- A. "Install access control measures", at least for weekend evenings.
- B. "Eliminate darkness and increase entrapment area visibility."
- C. "Create a welcoming perception of the parking experience."

Each of the recommendations was followed by detailed suggestions for meeting the objectives. The final report is available on the Baristo website, <https://www.baristops.com/baristo-norg-docs>.

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If you received this newsletter by email, you're already subscribed. Thank you! If you received it from a friend or associate, [click HERE](#) to subscribe.



WHAT'S WHAT WITH WORKGROUPS

SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS - YOU DON'T NEED TO BE A MEMBER!

You may be aware that three Workgroups were created following the Neighborhood-wide digital survey conducted earlier this year. Those Workgroups are now beginning to have meetings, which will be primarily discussion and planning meetings. The meetings will be in-person, and all Baristo Neighborhood members are welcome to join any of the meetings. WE WILL PUBLISH THE DATES, TIMES, AND LOCATIONS OF THESE MEETINGS AT OUR EVENTS & MEETINGS PAGE OF THE WEBSITE. Patrick Vincent is the board liaison for the Traffic and Pedestrian Safety Workgroup, Michael Conway for Beautification & Improvements, and Ned Barker for the Workgroup on Homelessness.

Our Workgroups

Traffic & Pedestrian Safety • Beautification • Homelessness

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE CATHOLIC CHURCH Baristo at El Segundo



On Friday's, Our Lady of Guadalupe generously allows organizations serving the homeless to use its sizeable parking area to provide their services. Homeless individuals are able to receive a medical checkup, showers, and more.

WORKGROUP ON HOMELESSNESS

The Workgroup on Homelessness met Saturday, December 2. They previously presented a four-part answer to the question "What can Neighborhoods do to help with Homelessness?". The four-part answer, pending Neighborhood feedback, is:

1. Provide residents and businesses with useful information such as local resources to help the homeless.
2. Identify homelessness-focused services within the Baristo Neighborhood / area that are in need of volunteers.
3. Advocate, as directed by the Board and the Membership, regarding citywide issues that impact homelessness.
4. Leverage support for City or County initiatives, such as approval for housing developments, to ensure that Neighborhood improvements accompany such initiatives.

At the December 02 meeting, members of the Workgroup agreed to work on gathering the information needed for numbers 1 & 2.

WELL IN THE DESERT UPDATE

A couple of years ago there was some concern within the Neighborhood about a city-contracted Well in the Desert services operation located on Calle Encilia. Eventually those services were moved to the Boxing Club.

In the meantime, Well in the Desert has continued to serve hot meals to the homeless, as it has since 1997. On weekdays, they serve 225 hot meals daily, each day at a local church. On Fridays, of course, that church is Our Lady of Guadalupe.

<https://www.wellinthedesert.org/>

HOUSING UPDATE: HOUSING ELEMENT V. 4.0

An updated version of the Palm Springs General Plan's Housing Element was released in November. A word search of the 247-page document revealed no changes related to Baristo specifically. We note that "City staff also met with the Agua Caliente Indian Reservation to review the potential housing sites in Section 14 prior to inclusion in the housing element."

The Board will obtain more information on the locations. We support additional development in Baristo while we monitor it closely, to ensure it results in improvements for all of us.

BEAUTIFICATION & IMPROVEMENTS. At this time a cleanup event is in the planning process. More information to follow, watch the Workgroup page of the website.



WORKGROUP ON HOMELESSNESS. This group will meet again in January. All residents are welcome to attend. Details will be posted on our Meetings & Events page.

Get This!! The MyPalmSprings App



NEWS FROM ONE-PS - A few highlights from Patrick, from the October 10 meeting

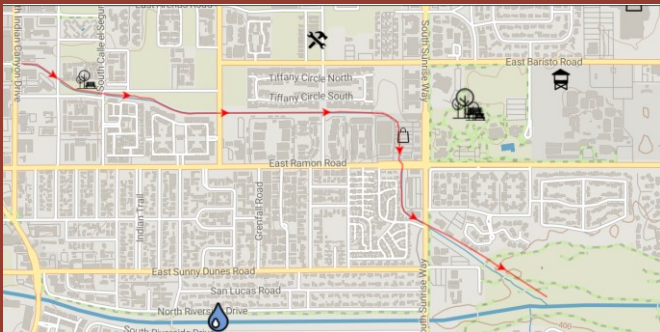
- The PSP airport is expected to double in traffic over the next 20 years. Plans for the expansion of the airport are underway with several options being considered including a new terminal. The Wexler terminal will remain intact despite the plan chosen.
- The city has finalized the street vending ordinance which required vendors to have a business license and health certificate to serve food.
- The College of the Desert met with City Council. The Palm Springs COD campus will have a full architectural degree program as well as programs in hospitality, healthcare, and more.
- The city approved a new art installation on Tahquitz called ‘the pillars’. It will represent the diversity and inclusivity of the city.
- Martha’s Village has been awarded the contract to manage the new Navigation Center in north Palm Springs. Initially a 50-bed dorm style space will open. Services such as healthcare, mental healthcare, and job assistance, are included.
- The city has approved a \$1 million fund to provide rental assistance to residents who are facing eviction and homelessness. The fund may pay up to 5-months’ rent for individuals.

BARISTO BITS: CLEANING THE CHANNEL

Our Neighborhood is blessed with a couple thousand (give or take) residents, dozens of great businesses (restaurants, shops, and more). We also are “home” to the Baristo Flood Control Channel, which travels eastward throughout the Neighborhood, from Indian Canyon to – almost – South Sunrise Way. Then it traverses southeast underground for a while, until it “hooks up” with Tahquitz Creek in the Prescott Preserve.

You may have noticed that the Channel is “occasionally” littered with debris. We’ve personally spotted mattresses, shopping carts, trash bags, and more. Did you know that periodic cleaning and maintenance of the channels is the responsibility of the county?

Recently the county has had a number of urgencies to deal with, many brought about by the recent rains and accompanying flooding the channels. So they haven’t had the resources to clean the channels in Coachella Valley. In steps the City of Palm Springs! They were recently spotted cleaning the Baristo Channel near El Segundo. Yay! Board member Michael Conway is working on a cleanup event that we’ll hear more about soon – glad that someone else is handling the Baristo Channel!



What’s Next?

The Board will meet **Saturday morning, December 16, at 10am via Zoom**. We prefer in-person + Zoom, but we’ve found it difficult to find a small meeting space. Please join us! Here’s the [Zoom link](#).

ANNUAL MEETING IN MARCH

What? Didn’t we just have an Annual Meeting? Yes, but the new Bylaws require Annual Meetings to be held in Q1. **SAVE THE DATE: March 16, 10:30am, PS Public Library. Zoom & in person.**

FEATURED COMMUNITY: VILLA CABALLEROS

Baristo may not be the center of Modernism in Palm Springs, but we hold our own in terms of famed architects. One example is Villa Caballeros designed by Hugh Kaptur. Leaving his home in Michigan, Kaptur visited Palm Springs in 1956 and never left. He apprenticed in the firm of Wexler & Harrison and has more than 200 residences and 40 commercial projects in his portfolio.



Villa Caballeros is a private, gated condominium association community of 59 residences with some very unique features, including a rooftop tennis court and an adjacent community space, both with spectacular views.