

## State of OPA from Ted Winterer, OPA President

The last year — our second — was very productive for OPA and we've enjoyed significant success in improving our neighborhood and assuring its fundamental character is preserved. We've persuaded City Hall to provide off-street parking and a bicycle valet for our Sunday farmers market; procured City funding for a full-time guard at our branch library; effectively lobbied the City Council to change the development standards on Main Street to protect its historic scale and character; and organized a clean up of our local beach. We've also held two community forums for neighbors with Santa Monica's chief executive, Lamont Ewell, as well as a forum with the city's new planning director. For those of you who missed our annual meeting, it was held at Santa Monica's *greenest* home on Highland Avenue and featured a tour of this first single family residence in the city to achieve a LEED Platinum certification.

In addition, OPA has continued our efforts to green Ocean Park Boulevard and make it more hospitable for pedestrians and cyclists. We've referred residents' concerns about sidewalk maintenance, speeding commuters, the college shuttle parking at the beach and a variety of other issues to the appropriate city officials. And our annual barbecue at The Victorian on Main Street, graciously hosted by the owners of that establishment, was once again a success, bringing neighbors together for food and conversation.

Your donation to OPA helps to fund our efforts on behalf of Ocean Park and your support is much appreciated. Please take a moment to join OPA (or renew your membership) using the form enclosed or online at [www.opa-sm.org](http://www.opa-sm.org). Membership helps to give your neighborhood a voice and to preserve the character of our wonderful community.

Sincerely,

*Ted Winterer*  
 OPA President

## OPA 2nd Annual Meeting

### Board Members

Ted Winterer  
 Jacob Samuel  
 Mary Marlow  
 Susan Lewis  
 Mary Hubbell  
 Dana Ehrlich  
 Joel Brand  
 Dennis Allard  
 Bob Taylor  
 Lori Nafshun  
 Jan Ludwinski  
 Jeff Jarow  
 Ariene Hopkins  
 Kristina Deutsch  
 Pauline Bohannon

The Ocean Park Association held its annual board elections meeting on November 12, 2006. Over 150 neighbors attended and were fortunate to tour the home of fellow Ocean Park resident, Steve Glenn. Steve's house on Highland Avenue is the first home in the country to be given *platinum* status in the U.S. Green Building Council's influential LEED rating system (for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design). Steve gave an informed presentation about his home and its *green* characteristics.

Ted Winterer, OPA President, called the meeting to order. OPA member and noted co-host of NPR's Morning Edition, Renée Montagne spoke to the



group regarding her thoughts & feelings about the grassroots neighborhood movement and OPA's contribution to Santa Monica. A Santa Monica City council member shared the City Council's upcoming actions regarding the Land



Use Circulation Element (LUCE).

Ted Bardacke of Global Green (located on Main Street, between Pacific and Strand), a community resource for sustainable design, gave his insight into the greening movement.

Ted Winterer introduced the newly elected Board members, then opened up the meeting to questions and comments. State Senator Shiela Kuehl made several points regarding OPA's role in the LUCE process. Residents dialogued about the challenges homeowners face when dealing with the City regarding home improvement. Member Mike Bone spoke about the need for a stop sign at Highland and Ashland. One week later a new stop sign was on the corner.

## OPA Accomplishments

- New off-street parking and a bicycle valet for our Sunday farmers' market.
- City funding for a full-time guard at the Ocean Park branch library.
- Lobbied the City Council to change development standards on Main Street to protect its historic scale and character.
- Held community forums to introduce new Santa Monica City Manager Lamont Ewell and new Planning Director Eileen Fogarty.
- Community forum with Lauralee Asch and Lt. Al Venegas from SMPD to discuss OP Safety and other pertinent issues.
- Provided free tours and lecture on the first LEED Platinum Certified house which is located in Ocean Park.
- Organized & manned OP station with Heal the Bay for Beach Clean-Up Day.
- Macerich Company presented scaled-down plan for redevelopment of Santa Monica Place and discussed public concerns at OPA meeting.
- Collected 400 plus names on petition to green Ocean Park Boulevard and make it more hospitable and safe for pedestrians and cyclists.
- Met and corresponded with Santa Monica College and City officials regarding college shuttle parking at the beach.
- Annual barbecue hosted by the The Victorian on Main Street, successfully brought neighbors together for free food and conversation.

## In the Works:

Horizons West Surf Shop: Demolition? Historic Landmark? Weigh in at our next meeting.

Wish the Tide had longer hours or the Big Blue Bus had a route that was more convenient to our neighborhood? Visit an OPA meeting to find out how you can help.

Join us or contact us: [contact@opa-sm.org](mailto:contact@opa-sm.org)