



NORTH OF MONTANA ASSOCIATION
A CALIFORNIA NON-PROFIT PUBLIC BENEFIT CORPORATION

Summer 2006

NOMA Survey Results Are In!

Overdevelopment, Traffic Congestion, Shortage of Parking, Homelessness and Loss of Trees/Green Space are Top Concerns of Residents

A recent neighborhood-wide survey sponsored by NOMA has revealed the top concerns of residents.

The survey, sent to each residence North of Montana, consisted of 21 questions about the overall quality of life in the neighborhood and in Santa Monica. Many thanks to the more than 400 residents who completed the survey. Here's what you had to say...

Neighborhood Character #1; Overbuilding Is Greatest Concern

Residents ranked the character of the neighborhood as the number one thing that they liked about the area. However, **61 percent of residents said that their greatest concern about the neighborhood was overbuilt houses;** "overbearing and ugly" were some terms used to describe the size and design of new houses. 55 percent thought that zoning laws regulating the overall size of houses should be changed to reduce the size of new developments.

Parking An Issue

Residents were also concerned about the lack of parking for employees and shoppers on Montana, but 68 percent did not support selling residential permits to employees. Instead, the preferred options were to **shuttle employees from existing underutilized local parking lots** and to **require businesses with parking lots to use those for employees.**

TO SEE SURVEY RESULTS ON A QUESTION-BY-QUESTION BASIS, LOG ONTO WWW.SMNOMA.ORG.

Trees & Green Space

Residents also feared for the loss of greenery in the neighborhood, with **80 percent in support of regulations to protect older trees** from being cut down when houses are built, provided the trees are not in the path of new development.

Homelessness Biggest Problem Facing Santa Monica

When it came to city-wide issues, North of Montana residents echoed the concerns of the majority of Santa Monica residents, with 50 percent stating that **homelessness is the biggest problem facing the city.** This was followed by traffic (34%) and overdevelopment (20%).

Overdevelopment & Traffic

Opinions ran strong when it came to development and traffic in Santa Monica. **64 percent of North of Montana residents said that we don't need more growth** and that the current height and scale of buildings should be retained (89%). In keeping with this sentiment, 81 percent of residents favored requiring voter approval of large developments above a certain size.

Residents wanted to see less development and growth (39%) as a solution to dealing with downtown and residential traffic problems, as well as synchronized traffic lights (37%) and more public transportation (24%).

NOMA Neighborhood Survey— What's Next?

So you filled out the survey and voiced your concerns. Now what's NOMA going to do about issues like homelessness and overcrowding? Well, that's up to you.

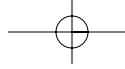
NOMA is a volunteer organization, so we can only be as involved and active as our members. We need YOU to help us move forward, address concerns and advocate for specific issues. If we all do just a little, we can make NOMA a very powerful voice in the city. Please contact the following NOMA Board members about getting involved in these issues:

PRESERVING OUR TREE CANOPY –
Doris Sosin folkartldy@aol.com

CITY DEVELOPMENT ISSUES
Victor Fresco v.fresco2@verizon.net

**NEIGHBORHOOD ACTIVITY/
SPECIAL EVENT –**
Brian Varnum brianvarnum@yahoo.com

If you would like to help NOMA on other issues you're interested in, please e-mail noma@smnoma.org.



News Briefs FOR YOUR ATTENTION

Preserving 415 PCH

The former beachfront estate of Marion Davies is at risk of losing a \$25 million gift from the Annenberg Foundation because of a lawsuit by some neighboring residents. If you would like to see this beachfront estate preserved for a neighborhood public beach club, please log onto www.friendsof415.org to lend your support and find out how you can help.

Sale of Veterans' Land

The Bush administration has announced plans to sell or give away Veterans' land at Wilshire and Federal. If you think this land should remain in use for Veterans, and are concerned about loss of green space and increased density and traffic, then log onto www.federalbuilding.org to send Senator Dianne Feinstein a letter and find out how you can help.

Neighborhood Playground

The Recreation and Parks Commission has recently approved a proposal put forth by residents Helen and Louis Landon for a new tot playground to be built in the northern area of Palisades Park. A staff report verified that there are many more children being born in this area than in previous years and that children in the area north of Montana near Ocean Avenue are currently not within walking distance of a playground. If you are in support of this idea and would like to be included on an email list to receive more information, please contact helen@drhelen.com.

All About NOMA

What We Do

- We **AMPLIFY** your voice at City Hall
- We **REPRESENT** your interests and keep you informed about issues that affect the quality of life North of Montana and in Santa Monica
- We **NOTIFY** neighborhood residents about and attend City meetings that directly impact our neighborhood
- We **COLLABORATE** with other Santa Monica neighborhood organizations to bring a collective neighborhood voice to City Hall
- We **WORK** to bring our neighbors together.

Who We Are

NOMA is a non-profit volunteer group of residents working to improve life in our neighborhood and in Santa Monica. NOMA is bounded by Montana Avenue, Ocean Avenue, the northern City Limits, and 26th St., an area comprising approximately 5,200 homes.

NOMA has no agenda of issues or established position on any issue, except as defined by a majority of residents in the area, nor do we endorse any candidate(s) for political office.

Don't Forget...

To check NOMA's web site for periodic updates and announcements. Go to www.smnoma.org. NOMA members, **please make sure to send us your e-mail address**, as NOMA sends out announcements and updates primarily through e-mail.

NOMA Board Members

Elizabeth Riel Co-Chair
Mark Armour Co-Chair

Shannon Daley Doris Sosin
Dwight Flowers Mary Jo Stenger
Victor Fresco Brian Varnum

NEWSLETTER CONTENT PROVIDED BY NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION;
PRINTING & MAILING PAID FOR BY THE CITY OF SANTA MONICA.

NOMA Membership & Renewal Application

NOMA was pleased to gain more than 100 new or renewed members through our recent neighborhood survey mailing.

Annual membership fees are \$25; lifetime membership fees are \$150. Fees are tax deductible. Each membership comprises a family or group of persons at the same mailing address. All of our income is from membership fees and related donations. All income goes directly to expenses, mainly costs of printing newsletters and insurance. All work is performed by volunteers.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

Please return membership form and dues in the postage paid reply envelope enclosed. Don't forget to include your e-mail address. To find out if your membership has lapsed, email noma@smnoma.org.

