

Meeting Summary for SCNA April Board Meeting

Apr 16, 2026 05:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada) ID: 893 1005 7243

Meeting summary

Quick recap

The Southern Crossing Neighborhood Association board meeting focused on several key topics including the upcoming NSSP 2027 open house on April 23rd, where the community expressed disappointment with limited city engagement. The board discussed next steps for the Reed Market Roundabout project, deciding to focus their energy on the roundabout rather than smaller NSSP projects, and planned to coordinate with other Southwest Bend Neighborhood districts for a united front with the city. The board reviewed land use updates including the Century West project approval for 295 units and fire safety concerns with the Sunny Breeze subdivision. They also addressed the need for a written policy regarding political advocacy to clarify the neighborhood association's role in community communications. The conversation ended with planning for the summer party, including venue considerations and potential catering options, and the board scheduled their next meeting for May 14th at 5:30pm.

Next steps

- Todd: Write up information for the main newsletter about the City Council presentation on June 3rd regarding the NSSP projects, including notice of the date and encouraging concerned members to attend.
- Kyle: Attend the NSSP 2027 open house on April 23rd at 4:30 to monitor and report back on bike plan proposals for Blakely Road.
- Todd: Include Kyle and others interested on the email chain for the luncheon meeting with other Southwest Bend Neighborhood Districts next Thursday at Stax Deli in Old Mill.
- Todd: Work with Lowell and Robbie to prepare a new survey about the Reed Market roundabout, aiming to have it ready to send out in early June.
- Todd: Schedule a meeting with City Council liaison Gina Franzosa after the meeting with other neighborhood districts to brief her on neighborhood concerns and collaborative efforts.
- Lowell: Add the May 6th Sunny Breeze subdivision public hearing and the April 23rd NSSP open house to the SCNA website calendar and upcoming events.
- Robbie: Post reminders about the May 6th Sunny Breeze hearing on Nextdoor and SCNA social media for community awareness.
- Lisa: Research and, if possible, find city policy or state law regarding neighborhood associations' advocacy limits; if not found, draft a sample policy for board review at the next meeting.

- Lisa: Contact HOA board members to arrange a collaborative meeting between SCNA and Old Mill HOA representatives to discuss overlapping neighborhood issues (fire mitigation, repairs, traffic, parking, safety).
- Robbie: Send out invitations (including text reminders as needed) for the summer party planning committee kickoff meeting at Robbie's house on April 30th at 6:30pm.
- Robbie: Invite previous and new committee members to the summer party planning meeting and coordinate distribution of Welcome to the Neighborhood postcards to Caitlin.
- Todd: Contact Safeway to request in-kind or cash sponsorship for the summer block party.
- Robbie: Follow up with Tony for the bill/receipt for Welcome to the Neighborhood postcards and send to Lowell for reimbursement.
- Lowell: Update the website calendar with the new May 14th 5:30pm board meeting date.
- All (implied Todd/Lowell): Set Wednesday, May 6th as the deadline for newsletter stories for the next newsletter.

Summary

NSSP Project Open Houses

The group discussed their disappointment with the city's lack of engagement during a recent open house at Blakely Park for 2026 NSSP projects. Robbie suggested focusing their energy on larger battles, particularly the roundabout project, rather than smaller NSSP projects that are nearly complete. The group agreed to include information about the upcoming City Council presentation on June 3rd in their main newsletter to inform members who have concerns. The group also discussed an upcoming 2027 NSSP projects open house on April 23rd at 4:30, with Kyle agreeing to lead follow-up efforts as information will be posted online.

Roundabout and Traffic Concerns

The group planned a luncheon meeting next Thursday at Stacks Deli in Old Mill to discuss overlapping interests with other Southwest Bend Neighborhood Districts regarding the Reed Market Roundabout survey. Todd explained that Southwest Bend and Century West districts would be involved due to traffic concerns on Brookwood and Reed Market, noting that Old Mill is entirely within their area. The conversation ended with Todd deciding to return to a community organizing approach similar to last year, working with Lowell and Robbie to distribute surveys and gather public feedback.

The group discussed plans to address traffic concerns, including potentially flooding email inboxes to gain attention and preparing a survey to be ready for distribution in early June before the fiscal year starts. They agreed to meet with their City Council liaison, Gina Franzosa, either at the May board meeting or separately, to brief her on neighborhood concerns and coordinate advocacy efforts. The discussion also covered the Century West project, which was approved in 2021 and is moving forward with modifications, including adding parking spaces and amenities. Concerns were raised about the potential traffic impact of the 295-unit development on Reed Market and Mount Bachelor Drive.

Sunny Breeze Subdivision Application Appeal

Robbie reported that the Sunny Breeze subdivision application was approved by the city on April 1st with numerous conditions, including the requirement for a second emergency vehicle exit due to wildfire safety concerns. The developer is appealing this decision and a public hearing is scheduled for May 6th where community members can attend or submit comments. The group discussed promoting the hearing through social media and adding it to the website calendar, with Lowell confirming it would be included in upcoming events.

Pedestrian Bridge Project Assessment Update

Robbie reported on her assessment of a proposed pedestrian bridge project, highlighting concerns about environmental impact, the potential disruption to the Good Dog Park, and the opposition from the dog community. She informed the group about an open house on the Bend Parks and Rec website where community members can provide feedback until the 24th.

Treasurer and IT Report

Lowell updated the group on budget matters, including the payment for Blakely Park rental and event insurance costs, and clarified the timeline for city engagement grant applications. The group briefly discussed transitioning from MailChimp to Sender for newsletters and emails, noting that the new service is more cumbersome to use.

Lowell estimated the annual cost of staying with MailChimp at around \$350. He plans to complete the transition by the end of June, with Sara Santa offering to help with the final step of setting up the email list sign-up process. Robbie suggested finding someone to learn the new Sender tool to provide backup support for newsletters. Robbie also mentioned a potential opportunity for the neighborhood to use a city-designed newsletter template system, though this is not mandatory.

Board Communications and Minutes Review

The board discussed the potential for board members to join the newsletter and electronic communications team, with no immediate volunteers coming forward. Lowell raised concerns about someone attempting to access February meeting minutes, but this was resolved as Susan explained she had shared the meeting link with someone who was interested in volunteering. The board then approved the minutes from the previous month after Robbie made a correction regarding the Planning Commission roundtable date and topic. Todd raised concerns about some board members attempting to use the neighborhood district for political advocacy, emphasizing that the group's purpose is to advocate for neighborhoods rather than serve as a political distribution platform.

Political Advocacy Policy Development

The board discussed handling requests from external groups to use the neighborhood association for political advocacy or messaging. Todd provided updates on recent requests he had declined, emphasizing that such activities were not appropriate for the forum. The group agreed to research

existing city policies and bylaws to create a clear policy document that board members could reference when similar requests arise in the future. Lisa volunteered to investigate specific regulations regarding public records and neighborhood association activities, while Robbie noted that current bylaws appear to prohibit supporting candidates but allow advocacy for ballot initiatives within scope.

Old Mill Safety Concerns Meeting

Lisa raised concerns about safety issues at the Old Mill, including fire mitigation problems and deteriorating stair railings, highlighting a lack of transparency and inadequate repairs in certain areas. She proposed organizing meetings with representatives from the Mile High Management Homeowners Association and SCNA to improve communication and address these issues collaboratively, particularly focusing on fire safety and traffic management before summer.

Neighborhood Collaboration Planning Discussion

The group discussed potential collaboration between the Southern Crossing Neighborhood Association (SCNA) and the Old Mill Homeowners Association regarding shared concerns. Lisa proposed organizing a meeting to identify overlapping issues, particularly around concert-related traffic and safety problems like bridge jumping and unleashed dogs. The group agreed to explore this collaboration as a two-phase process, with Lisa taking the lead to coordinate with the HOA board and identify common interests, though they emphasized this would not involve intervention in matters outside SCNA's jurisdiction.

Summer Party Planning Meeting

The board discussed plans for a summer block party, including venue arrangements and potential catering options. Robbie proposed holding a planning meeting at her home on May 30th at 6:30pm to brainstorm ideas for activities, food, and fundraising, with a goal of raising \$1,500-2,000. The group also discussed potential sponsors, including Safeway and Craft Kitchen. They explored alternative venue options like the brewery in the box factory or The Current for future meet-ups. The next board meeting was scheduled for May 14th at 5:30pm, with a newsletter deadline set for May 6th.

AI can make mistakes. Review for accuracy.