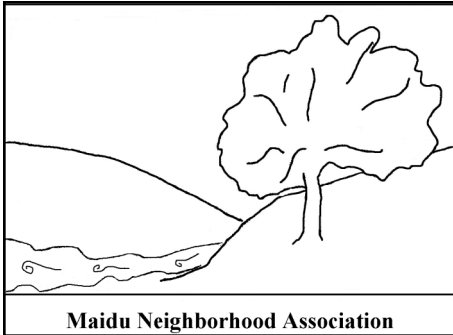


# MAIDU NEIGHBORS

RCONA

## MAIDU NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

June 2018



### New Meeting Location, New Volunteer Board Member

If you've attended one of our meetings, you know we're usually at Sargeant School in the Activity Room. However, each summer, while Sargeant School is closed, we need to find somewhere else we can meet.

This year, our newest Board Member, Mary Hoff-Ernst, found us our summer meeting spot. We'll be meeting in a room at Cool River Pizza, right after Cool River's Family Night activity concludes at 7 p.m. This is a new location for us and we look forward to trying it out. At the end of summer we'll be returning to Sargeant School.

As mentioned, we have a new Board Member, Mary Hoff-Ernst. We started to see Mary in the spring as she became involved with our neighborhood association and she volunteered to pass out garage sale maps at our April 28 Garage Sale event. If you approached the neighborhood along Parkhill Drive on Garage Sale day, you would have seen her offering maps to all comers. Since then, Mary decided to take another step to help us; she offered her service as a Board Member. Mary was then appointed in May to fill an empty Board seat. Mary is a long-time Maidu Neighbor and we look forward to her contributions, her suggestions, and her enthusiasm.

Like Mary, all members of the Board are volunteers who think it's important to keep neighbors informed about what is up in our neighborhood, and to have a bit of fun along the way. At our meetings we often get a local crime report from Roseville Police officers, when they are available, and we can ask them questions. We have had, on occasion, visits from members of Roseville's Fire Department Station Number 4 who are also our neighbors. And then we seek out speakers on various topics as our interest or those of our neighbors is sparked by local events.

In addition to our Board Members, the Association is ably served by a legion of people, our "Block Captains", who deliver your copy of *Maidu Neighbors* to your doorstep each month. And of course every Block Captain is a volunteer as well.

We thank all our volunteers. And we welcome each new person that decides our efforts are worthwhile and decides to lend us a hand for as short or as long as they are willing to participate. Maybe you will be one of those neighbors who takes that next step!

#### Board of Directors

**President:**  
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Scott Reid 916-773-3020

**General Board Members:**  
Dave Steele 916-783-7791  
Shirley Brown 916-955-1909  
Mary Hoff-Ernst 916-223-7252

**WatchMail Host:**  
Jim Kidd 916-871-3574  
jckidd@hotmail.com

**Web Master:**  
David Allen

**For Emergencies: Call 9-1-1**

**Police Officers:**  
Joe Patton 916-774-5000

**The monthly meeting of the Maidu Neighborhood Association will be held Tuesday, June 26, 2018, at 7 pm at Cool River Pizza at the T-corner of Rocky Ridge and Cirby Way. We will meet in one of the separate rooms apart from the main dining area. We invite you to attend. The Association is not ordering food for this event, but you are welcome to use our host business, Cool River Pizza.**

During the summer months, while Sargeant School is closed, we continue to meet on the fourth Tuesday evening of the month, just in an alternate location. If available, a Police officer will speak about local crime.

Search for **Maidu N.A.** on Facebook and "like" us. Feedback or Questions? Email us at [feedback\(at\)maiduna.com](mailto:feedback(at)maiduna.com)

## **Maidu Park Tree Hit by Lightning**

By Lance Hibben

The morning of Wednesday, May 16th brought rain showers, hail, and thunder storms to the Sacramento Region. The Spring storm also delivered a lightning strike to a big oak tree inside Roseville's Maidu Park estimated to be about 125 years old (see "before" and "after" photos of the tree). Just think, the oak tree was over 15 years old at the time Roseville became an incorporated city back in 1909.

The stately oak was prominently located inside the park about 35 feet from McLaren Drive near the intersection with Van Ness Drive. The incredible power from the sky obliterated the mighty trunk by exploding the top portion from the trunk and splitting the remaining trunk vertically to the ground.



According to city staff, the trunk was approximately 42 inches in diameter.

The lightning sent large tree parts high into the air, with some portions landing up to 50 feet away inside the park, and all across McLaren Drive. A neighbor on the



other side of the street, who was looking outside at the lightning flashes nearby, witnessed the explosive strike. Needless to say, the strike startled him and other Maidu Neighborhood neighbors living across the street who were home at the time, and it could also be seen and heard by other neighbors living several streets away.

Seeing the branches in the street, the neighbor called 911. The City of Roseville sent workers very quickly to secure the site for safety purposes and began cutting up the remains of the tree within an hour. Local television news crews and the Sacramento Bee covered the story and provided more information on their web sites. Sacbee.com includes a one-minute overhead drone video showing workers at the site.

According to city staff, some of the wood from the tree was removed already; however, a lot of wood remains at the site. As of this writing, a City decision has not been reached yet whether to leave the remaining wood for animal habitat, remove it to the Roseville Corporate yard for chipping, or some of both. For more information from the city, contact the City Urban Forester, Michael Neumann, at 916-774-5579.

### **Remembering the Tree**

As a result of the tree's sudden transformation, people stopped their cars to look. People chatted on Nextdoor and other social media about it. One neighbor living on McLaren Drive a few houses away recalled in years past he used to take his now-grown children across the street to stand in front of the tree when they graduated to take their pictures.

An elderly couple who live across Rocky Ridge stopped by and reminisced how their children used to climb and play on the tree which had several branches that came low to the ground. Those low branches also made a ready pathway for squirrels that ran throughout the tree's branches. It was under those low branches that a local Sierra College student found Miner's Lettuce, a native edible plant, as she surveyed the area for a biology class assignment. The Maidu Museum lists the plant as one that the Maidu used for food. Without protective shade from the tree, this too will likely be just a memory.

## **City to Pitch Half-Cent Sales Tax on November 2018 Ballot**

You may be aware that the Maidu Museum holds monthly campfires every third Friday, April through October. It has done so for the last several years. But recently this message appeared on the City's web page for the Museum's campfire program:

### **June 15 may be the last campfire program, pending budget approval.**

The 2018—2019 budget vote and the fate of this, and in fact of all the programs at the Maidu Museum was scheduled for the City Council meeting on June 20th. As outlined in a document, called the *Parks, Recreation & Libraries—10 year service level reductions*, for the next budget year the Museum will see:

- Staff hours reduced from 39 hours to 9 hours per week, and
- The elimination of all 53 annual events and programs serving 4000 people.

In similar documents covering all departments the City has documented all that it has done between 2007 and 2017 to reduce the annual budgets. And in it we can see the outline of one of the arguments the City will be making for their latest proposal: a sales tax increase.

On June 6th the Roseville City Council unanimously voted to put a “half-cent locally-controlled general sales tax measure” on the November 2018 ballot. It appears the Council's argument for voting yes is threefold:

1. The City has cut the budget for 10 years, yet Roseville has been growing. Some structural changes to things like employee pensions won't significantly reduce costs for years.
2. Tax revenues are decreasing as people buy fewer things here (taxed) and buy more things online. Also people are buying more services (not taxed).
3. Through the “Engage Roseville” effort, the Council heard loud and clear that the City's residents want neighborhood police patrols, fire protection, 9-1-1 emergency response, crime suppression, street and pothole repair, libraries, parks and recreation, job creation and economic development programs. Also, the City used reserve funds to weather the recession, and they need to rebuild those funds for future economic downturns.

Therefore, the Council seems to be saying, with costs already cut, revenues decreasing, yet demands increasing, a half-cent sales tax increase is needed to close projected budget gaps in the future.

### **Local Effects of 10-year Budget Reductions**

Here are some of the budget reductions the City has made over the last 10 years with an emphasis on the ones with likely local impacts. Because we have two parks, a library, a community center, and several open spaces within our neighborhood, this is limited to the Parks and Recreation Department.

- While adding 22 Parks, over 1,000 acres of open space, Martha Riley Community Library, and Mike Shellito Indoor Pool, the department reduced 29 General Fund positions.
- Reduced open hours from 68 hours to 41 hours per week per Library.
- Cuts result in one of the State's lowest per-resident library budgets: Roseville \$1.65 - State median \$2.83.
- Eliminated goat grazing in General Fund open space (all open space maintenance in our neighborhood is paid from the City's General Fund rather than from special local taxes).
- Increased frequency of homeless camp cleanup from monthly to weekly. This work is being done by existing staff, removing them from performing other core services including cleaning creeks to avoid flooding, bike trail maintenance/trash removal, tree pruning, and open space maintenance.
- Reduced restroom cleaning from daily to twice a week
- Reduced trash pickup from daily to three times per week
- Increased average fees for recreation programs including adult sports by 56%, swim lessons by 23% and special interest classes by 40%.

For more details on 10-year budget deductions across all departments including Fire and Police, go to [www.roseville.ca.us/reductions](http://www.roseville.ca.us/reductions). *This story is for your information is not an endorsement of any particular point of view regarding this proposal.*