

KPPCSD Update

Kensington Police Protection and Community Services District

Welcome to our initial newsletter which we plan to publish twice a year to keep residents informed of District business.

Emergency Planning

The KPPCSD recently approved a contract with Nixle, that allows the District to send text, email and web alerts notifying residents about local emergencies, road closures or even community events. In the coming months we will be advertising easy ways to opt-in to these alerts on your computer or mobile device.

Nixle is a complement to the Contra Costa County's Community Warning System (CWS) which sends automatic notification when residents are under eminent threat to life, health or safety. The CWS uses the 911 database to send notices to listed and unlisted landline phones, and it is TTY/TTD capable. To receive notices on your cell phone, you must register at <https://cwsalerts.com>.



Board Assesses Police Services

The KPPCSD is on fact-finding mission to evaluate the Kensington Police Department (KPD) and assess approaches to providing outstanding community policing and law enforcement services. We have contracted with The Matrix Consulting Group (Matrix), an organization that has conducted police studies of over 100 departments throughout California. This approach was recommended by our 2016 ad hoc committee on governance and operations.

The first phase of work includes interviews with all members of the KPD, an assessment of all aspects of current operations and an opportunity for community input. Matrix is

convening the first meeting on **Saturday, March 17 at 10 am at the Kensington Community Center, 59 Arlington Avenue.**

Richard Brady, the President of Matrix, will discuss the scope and purpose of the study, review 21st century law enforcement practices and share ideal characteristics of community-oriented police services and the strategies for applying best practices. All Kensington residents are welcome. Positive RSVPs to rbrady@matrixcg.net are appreciated.

A second community meeting will take place **Saturday, April 28** and focus on Matrix's findings.

Recycling and CFB's

While Bay View offers convenient recycling options for paper, plastic, and metal, there are additional materials that can be re-used or recycled by other organizations. A prepared flyer on these options was included in Bay View's December invoice.

We have been working with John Gioia's office and the County to get a new contract in place so that Kensington residents will be able to bring their compact fluorescent bulbs (CFBs) to the El Cerrito Recycling Center. This program was put on hiatus several years ago because disposal costs were not being reimbursed. We hope to announce a new contract soon!

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KPPCSD Has a New Website

On January 11, 2017 the KPPCSD launched a new website: www.kppcsd.org. We made the change in order to provide a better user experience and comply with various rules and regulations governing California Special Districts. The new domain name better reflects who we are, as well as being easier to type! Please notice our handsome new District logo, designed by graphic artist Michelle Zatzoff.

Since the site has been up and running we've gotten a few questions, and there is an FAQ page on the site that answers many of them.

Who should I contact if there is something missing on the new site?

Direct email to webmaster@kppcsd.org.

Why did you create a whole new site?

The new site provides automatic compliance with a number of legal requirements, including accessibility standards. The site uses a template system that makes sure the pages are correctly formatted. The new site also helps us track our progress towards a Transparency Certificate.

There are number of other benefits, such as the ease of adding new content, thus reducing staff time needed to maintain the site.

How can I see the agenda for the upcoming board meeting?

Upcoming meetings (Board and committee) are shown in the lower half of the Home page. Click on the meeting you're interested in and it will take you to a page containing the agenda and any other relevant information. Information for past meetings is also available and historical data is continually being added.

Where can I find the old agendas?

They are located in the Meeting Archives section under Governance,



Our new website — www.kppcsd.org

separated by year, along with minutes and recordings.

Where can I find the old site?

To smooth the transition to our new website we had hoped to keep the old site live for a few months. Unfortunately, the old site had some serious security holes that were very difficult to fix, and we recently had to completely shut down access to it (www.kensingtoncalifornia.org). Please bear with us while we make sure all the old content is accessible on our new site.

Where is all the extra information that used to be contained in the agenda packet?

Miscellaneous information that used to be included in the agenda is now contained in monthly reports. You can find them in the Governance section.

Why do I have to call the office to request a vacation watch? What happened to the form?

The system had some serious security issues because of the way emails were sent to the KPD and back to the resident. To compound the potential problems, the old website was visibly hacked around the first of the

year. The new site is much more secure, but until we can design a better system those needing a vacation watch are encouraged to call 510-526-4141.

New Email Addresses

Along with our new website, we have new emails. Instead of @kensingtoncalifornia.org, we will be using @kppcsd.org.

Tony Constantouros
General Manager
tconstantouros@kppcd.org

Christopher Deppe
Director
cdeppe@kppcsd.org

Sylvia Hacaj
Director
shacaj@kppcsd.org

Rickey Hull
Interim Chief-of-Police
rhull@kppcsd.org

Eileen Nottoli
Vice-President
enottoli@kppcsd.org

Rachelle Sherris-Watt
President
rsherriswatt@kppcsd.org

Len Welsh
Director
lwelsh@kppcsd.org

Enhancements Coming to Park and Community Center

This year marks an important milestone for Kensington — residents will make their last payment of the 20-year special property tax assessment to fund the purchase of the parkland. The Kensington Fire Protection District is working with the KPPCSD to turn an underused corner of the park next to the library into a “fire-wise” demonstration garden. Not only will the garden educate residents about fire-resistant plants and gardening practices, it will offer a lovely place for conversation and contemplation.

After the park, the Community Center is perhaps the most cherished

of our community’s assets. It hosts adult and afterschool classes, civic and scouting meetings, fundraisers, school dances, graduation ceremonies and family celebrations.

Built with residents’ funds and sweat equity in 1955, the Community Center (then called the Youth Hut) was renovated and expanded in 1987. In the latter half of this year, it will undergo significant and necessary structural upgrades to protect occupants in the event of an earthquake. It will be made

more accessible and comfortable for all users by meeting Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements and state energy efficiency standards.

The main sources of funding are the KPPCSD operating budget and committed reserve, a grant from East Bay Regional Parks

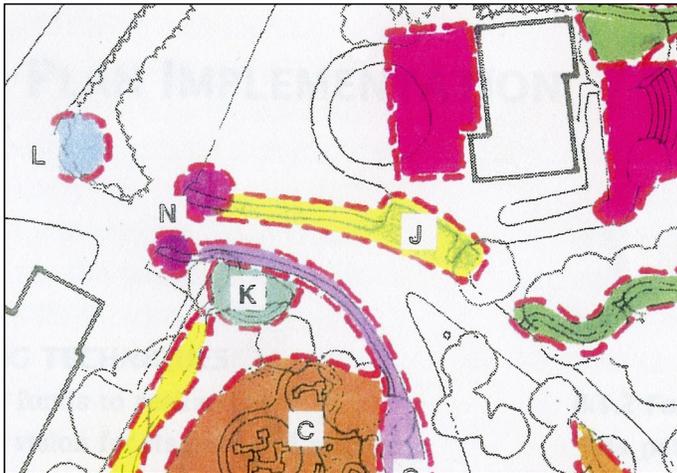


The interior renovation will provide a fully-accessible kitchen and bathrooms. Graphic courtesy of Glass Associates, Inc.

and significant contributions from the Kensington Community Council and the Kensington Improvement Club.

The renovation will bring other improvements, most notably the opening of the wall facing the front lawn, connecting the indoor and outdoor spaces. You can see the latest designs at KPPCSD.org under the Community Center Renovations button under Parks and Recreation.

This is a once-in-a-generation chance to make a significant impact on this community gem and leave a legacy for future Kensington residents. We look forward to providing these enhancements and encourage you to generously support Kensington360, the community fundraising campaign. Kensington360: a view to the future. Kensington 360 aims to raise \$360,000 over the next 2 years and plays on the 360° views that Kensington enjoys. This view will be enhanced with the new open design as we look to the future and invest in the community’s safety, accessibility and sustainability for years to come. Check out www.Kensington360.org for more information.



Area “K” behind the library will be developed into a fire-wise demonstration garden.



A rendering of how the facade and entry of the Community Center will look following the renovation slated to begin later this year. Graphic courtesy of Glass Associates, Inc.

Kensington Police Protection & Community Services District

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(510) 526-4141 Office
(510) 236-0474 Dispatch
911 Emergency

Presorted Standard
U.S. Postage
PAID
Oakland, CA
Permit No. 591

Public Safety Building

The Kensington Fire Protection District and KPPCSD are working together on the location and design for an improved Public Safety Building. As the lead agency and landlord of 217, the KFPD is evaluating options on whether it can renovate the existing building to meet essential service building codes and accommodate the office and equipment space requirements for our fire and police services or whether it will need to rebuild at another location.

Food Composting

Many Kensington residents have inquired about having food waste taken as composting along with our green waste. Currently, most communities in California have weekly food compost/yard waste pickup. Studies found that most household waste is food waste, and composting will put food waste into productive use and save space in our landfills.

At present, Bay View Refuse picks up unlimited green waste twice a month. For residents to place food

waste with their yard waste, the service would require weekly pickup. Residents would be able to place out a rolling cart for food compostable/green waste along with 10 additional green waste containers. To add this service, residents would see a 10 percent increase in rates (this would include the 3 per cent increase allowed annually under the current contract).

At the district's request, Bay View would increase the service to have food waste composted with weekly pickup and provide these carts to each household: one or two (65 gallon) food compost/yard waste rolling cart/s plus one (65 gallon) blue recycling cart.

Bay View will include a survey card with your next bill in May to determine possible interest in this expanded service.

