



Historic Folsom Residents Association

Volume 1, Issue 5

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Presidents Message

Wishing everyone a happy new year!

As some of you may already be aware by the signs posted on Figueroa and the feeder streets, the resident parking permit pilot commenced on Dec 17th (see more detail in the Parking Pilot overview section). In addition to the signs and resident permits, the City has committed enforcement resources and put in place additional wayfinding signs to assist visitors to the Historic District in finding the parking garage. There is a broader effort with other Historic District stakeholders focused on additional short and medium term solutions to improve parking and traffic. Updates will be shared through the newsletter as they become available.

Overall development in the Historic District has remained relatively quiet, but the Barley Barn Project, formerly Folsom Prison Brews did come up for review and was granted a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) by the Historic District Commission (HDC) on Nov 18th. Multiple parties, including HFRA, submitted appeals and that appeal will be heard at the January 11th City Council meeting. The concerns around parking articulated at the HDC were the basis of the HFRA appeal with omissions of specific traffic and parking analysis data in the staff report identified as the basis for the submission.

The HFRA Board believes the gaps in the Barley Barn project staff report highlight the continued focus required to make the development and planning process more systematic and transparent in their process. The HFRA Board has expressed these concerns to create more awareness within the Council.

In closing, the HFRA Board is in the process

of updating focus areas for 2022 and I will share those in the April newsletter. Until then, as always, we value the feedback from the HFRA community and are available by email or phone anytime.

Michael J. Reynolds

President,  
 Historic Folsom Residents Association

Calendar of Events

**January 11, 2022—Folsom City Council Meeting**—Barley Barn Tap House, Appeal Hearing, 6:30 p.m.. (See page 2 for further information).

**HFRA Board Meetings** are held the 1st Monday of every month (via Zoom for now). (Meetings may be rescheduled due to holidays or conflicting schedules).

**HFRA General Meetings** are held three times a year (dates and location TBD).

**Historic District Commission Meetings** are held the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of every month in the Folsom City Council Chambers, City Hall, 50 Natoma Street, Folsom, CA. at 5:00 p.m.

**Folsom City Council Meetings** are held on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month in the Folsom City Council Chambers, City Hall, 50 Natoma Street, Folsom, CA at 6:30 p.m.

MARK YOUR  
 CALENDAR!

### City of Folsom, Historic District, Residential Permit Parking (Pilot) Program



The City of Folsom, in cooperation with the Historic Folsom Residents Association (HFRA) initiated a temporary permit parking program in a portion of Folsom's Historic District. The 6-month long pilot program is intended to provide parking relief for residents along Figueroa Street and intersecting streets, but will also help City staff to evaluate the benefits and disadvantages of such a program were it to ultimately become permanent.

The pilot took effect Friday, December 17, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. Permits are required to park in the permit boundary area on Fridays and Saturdays between 6:00 p.m. and midnight. The pilot will run through mid-May, 2022.

state laws, including data from the federal census. The city has hired a professional demographer to assist in the creation of proposed district boundaries based on demographics and input from Folsom residents.

The Folsom City Council held the first and second of five required public hearings September 14 and October 12. Additional public hearings have been rescheduled for January 11, February 8, and February 22 to allow additional time for the community to submit comments and draw potential district maps. The hearings will provide an opportunity for public input about the content of the draft district maps.

Learn more at [www.folsom.ca.us/districtelections](http://www.folsom.ca.us/districtelections).

### Barley Barn Tap House

A Special HDC meeting was held on November 18, 2021 that included a Public Hearing to consider a Conditional Use Permit request for the Barley Barn Tap House (previously presented in July as Folsom Prison Brews) within the existing 4,377 square foot building located at 608 1/2 Sutter Street.

After a lengthy discussion which included significant concerns and comments from the floor regarding parking, traffic and the impact of adding additional liquor to the existing Sutter St business mix, the Commission moved to approve the Conditional Use Permit and the Design Review for the Project. As a result, multiple appeals were filed - the HFRA, Jerry Bernau, and Bob Delp each appealed the Historic District Commission's decision.

The basis of the HFRA appeal was the board's assessment that the staff report failed to provide an impact study on parking and traffic in the residential neighborhoods that would result from the use type change from daytime retail to nighttime entertainment. Coupled with the city's recent decision to support a resident parking permit pilot which only kicked off on Dec 17, the omission of a parking and traffic impact data in the staff report, we believe, prevented the HDC from having the full perspective necessary to render an informed decision on the project.

***The Appeal Hearing is scheduled for January 11, 2022, at the Folsom City Council Meeting, Folsom City Council Chambers, 6:30 P.M. Public support for HFRA and the other appellants is important for communicating to the City Council that the residents expect a balanced and fair analysis from City Planning for any project brought before the HDC.***

### Keeping You Informed

There were several items pertaining to the Historic District at the Folsom City Council Meeting on 12/14/21:

1. Under "Public Hearing" the Council voted 4-1 approving the sale of surplus city-owned land located at 300 Persifer Street (northeast corner of Persifer and Coloma Street) to Habitat for Humanity of Greater Sacramento, Inc. for the purpose of developing affordable housing.
2. Under "Old Business" the Council voted 3-2 to *not* execute an agreement with SiFi Networks Folsom LLC for the installation of a Fiber Optic Network in the City of Folsom and would require trenching in city streets to install.
3. There were three open seats on the Historic District Commission. The Council re-appointed two Historic District Commissioners: Historic District Resident – Kathleen Cole and Business Owner with Sutter Street Subarea - Mark Dascalos. The "Historic Preservation" seat remains open.
- d. The Council selected Kerri Howell as Mayor and Rosario Rodriguez as Vice Mayor for 2022.

### City of Folsom—By District Election System

The City of Folsom is transitioning to a by-district election system for electing Folsom City Councilmembers. The process for establishing districts is controlled by federal and

### Meet and Greet with the Preserve Neighborhood

On Saturday, October 23, 2021, the HFRA Board along with residents of the Preserve neighborhood, gathered at the Sutter Street Mini Park for an opportunity to meet our neighbors, talk about HFRA’s mission, and to chat about things happening in the Historic District. It was so nice to see friends and neighbors face-to-face since it’s been so long that we’ve been able to connect in person due to the Covid 19 pandemic. HFRA plans to do more Meet and Greets with Historic District neighbors in 2022 (depending on the virus of course)!

Thank you to the Preserve Neighborhood for your help putting this event together and also for providing yummy cupcakes!



Folsom suffered heavily from fires, including one in 1866 that burned a number of buildings on Sutter Street. By the time this photo was taken in 1890, many of the buildings were rebuilt.



In 1908, Sutter Street was just a dirt road with very few buildings.

Credit: Folsom Historical Society

### HFRA Newsletter Outreach Ideas:

Do you have an article, story or handy tip that you would like to share with other HFRA members for a future HFRA Newsletter?

Do you have any suggestions for things that you would like to see in future HFRA Newsletters?

Do you have a favorite local contractor that you would like to share with others? Perhaps someone you hired that did a great job and that you would recommend? For example: Roofer, plumber, painter, gardener, tree trimmer, handyman?

Let us know your ideas/suggestions at [thefra@gmail.com](mailto:thefra@gmail.com).

What’s the difference between restoration and rehabilitation? To restore a home means to return its interior and exterior appearance to a particular date or time period. Strict restorations eliminate everything not present during the period chosen. This is rare for homes, with most owners opting to maintain modern systems (plumbing, anyone?).

To rehabilitate a home means to make it useful and functional for contemporary living while preserving important historic and architectural features. A rehabbed historic old house would include modern electrical, mechanical, and plumbing systems, a modern kitchen, and other attributes

Credit: City of Orange, Old Towne Preservation Association

## 7 Simple Way to be more Neighborly

The days of living in a small town where people know each other to the point that everyone knows what everyone else was doing last night seems like a distant dream. Nowadays, many people live next-door to someone that they have never meet. This is not only a sad trend, but makes our neighborhoods just a little bit less safe. Here are 7 tips and tricks to help you be a little more neighborly.

### 1. WAVE WHEN PEOPLE DRIVE BY

A simple thing that you can do that won't take you too far out of your comfort zone is to wave at people when they drive by. It's a simple gesture that will help people feel more at home in the neighborhood. Even if you don't know the person who is driving, you should wave anyway. Who knows, they might know who you are and they might be upset that you didn't wave.

### 2. INTRODUCE YOURSELF TO YOUR NEIGHBORS

Your neighborhood will be a safer place if you know your neighbors. Walk over to their houses knock on the door and introduce



yourself. This will feel a little bit awkward at first, but if you want to make new friends you have to make an effort. If you need to, give yourself an excuse to go over to their house, i.e. you had some extra vegetables in your garden that you wanted to get rid of before they went bad, you made far too many cookies and would like to share them with someone, or notice that they're out doing yardwork and you're about to do yardwork too, so say hello.

### 3. GO FOR A WALK

One of the best things that you can do if you want to be more neighborly is go for frequent walks in your neighborhood. it will give you the opportunity to see and meet new people, as well as get familiar with the neighborhood that you live in. Of course you should always be safe when going out for walks, so don't go walking by yourself late at night.

### 4. BORROW SOMETHING

This seems like a silly thing to do, especially if you don't know your neighbors real well, but by borrowing something you open the door to fur-

ther interaction. Start with something small such as an egg or a cup of sugar. In a few weeks they might come over to your house to borrow something too. Pretty soon you will have a friendship blossoming.

### 5. INVITE YOUR NEIGHBORS OVER

Once you have established a good relationship with your neighbors, you should invite them over to your home for a movie night, dinner, a party, etc. even if they decline the offer, they will appreciate that you went out of your way to invite them over to your home. In the future they might return the gesture. You can host a large potluck and invite many families, or you could keep it simple and invite just one family over.

### 6. THROW A NEIGHBORHOOD PARTY

Collaborate with a few other families in the neighborhood, and throw a fun neighborhood party. Pick a date, reserve a local park or community center, and then hand out invitations to everyone in the neighborhood. Make sure that you remember to plan games and other activities for the kids. To relieve some of the pressure and stress, ask everyone to bring a treat or side dish to share. It may also be a good idea to ask for RSVP's so you have an idea of how many people to plan for (keep in mind that only one-third to one-half of those who will attend will also RSVP). Of course you should always ask around to make sure that your party is not conflicting with any city events, or neighborhood events that are already in place, such as a summer block party.

### 7. USE YOUR CHILDREN AS AN EXCUSE

Children have an easier way of making new friends than adults, so you can use them to meet your neighbors. If it's too uncomfortable to meet new people, have your children meet them first. If you notice a group of kids playing outside, send your children to join them. After a while you can pick up your kids and hopefully meet their parents too. You can sent up a play date and get to know your neighbors while your kids go off and play.

Credit: <https://crayonsandcravings.com/>

