



NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

FISHER PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

SUMMER 2025



Browsing the classic cars along the Promenade during West Floral Park and Fisher Park's 2025 Open Garden Day.

SUNNY SUMMER DAYS THE FISHER PARK WAY

Spring and Summer in our wonderful Southern California climate offer ample opportunities for Fisher Park residents to gather and enjoy our beautiful neighborhood.

On Saturday, May 10, West Floral Park and Fisher Park hosted the annual Open Garden Day, which offered neighbors and garden enthusiasts the chance to tour ten open gardens and enjoy vendors, live music, food, classic cars, garden talks, and cooking demos at The Promenade. Despite being a scorcher, the event was very well received and we are already looking forward to next year!

Fisher Park residents also gathered under the shady trees of W River Lane to enjoy mini pancakes with all the toppings at our annual Pancakes on the Lane event on Saturday, June 14. Our favorite mini pancake chef, Lourdes, served her delicious treats as neighbors and friends mingled. It was a beautiful morning!

Finally, on the Fourth of July, Fisher Park residents assembled at the Sharon Rd/River Ln intersection for patriotic swag, cold treats, costume/decorating contests, and the arrival of the OCFA fire truck before beginning our annual march around the loop. Our modest parade is a favorite neighborhood tradition and we thank everyone for their enthusiastic participation again in 2025!

As summer winds down and students of all levels are heading back to school, we invite you to enjoy ice cream and neighborhood updates at our **Ice Cream Social and General Meeting on Wednesday, August 20** (see the events calendar on the back for more information) and to be aware of a couple changes to traffic flow entering Fisher Park (see page 3).

Your Fisher Park Neighborhood Association Board wishes a successful school year and fall to everyone!



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OPEN GARDEN DAY: SATURDAY, MAY 10, 2025

Open Garden Day 2025 was certainly a hot one, but successful nonetheless and a true testament to the abilities of the Open Garden Day Committee and the dedication of the featured garden owners. In addition to the return of favorites such as the Promenade and its vendors, classic cars, cooking demos, and garden talks, Open Garden Day welcomed artists from the Southern California Plein Air Painters Association who captured the beauty of the gardens in their chosen media. Thank you to the Open Garden Day Committee and all volunteers who made the day a success! Open Garden Day 2026 will be held on Saturday, May 9.

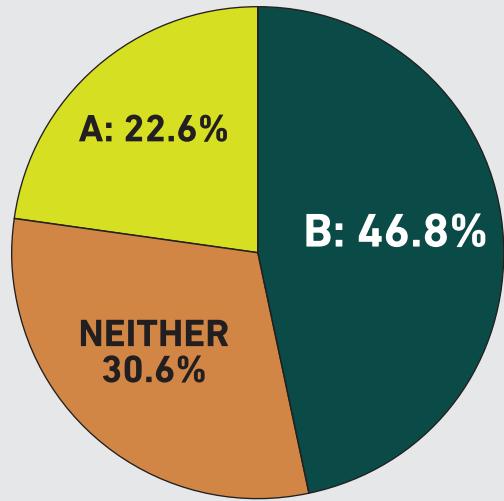


FISHER PARK TRAFFIC PLANS

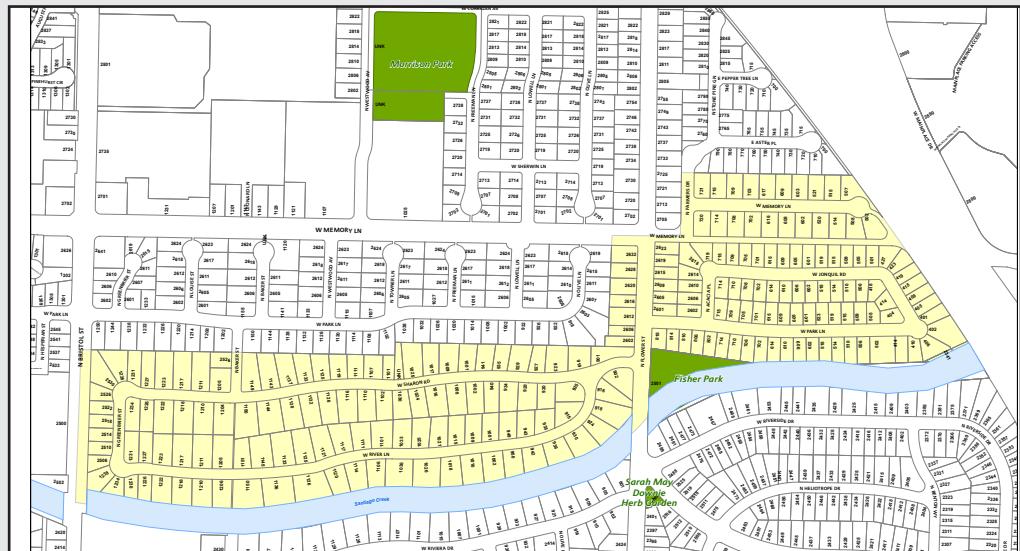
Our Spring 2025 Newsletter discussed continuing efforts by Santa Ana Public Works to improve the safety of Fisher Park and Morrison Park residents by reducing the speed and volume of weekday morning commuter traffic cutting through the neighborhoods. For Fisher Park the main issue is traffic along Sharon Road endangering residents trying to exit their driveways and pedestrians walking along the street. For Morrison Park the issue is the same traffic coming from Bristol Street and Memory Lane, racing along Park Lane and Westwood Avenue, also causing danger to residents and endangering students and others walking along Baker Street. For students living in Morrison Park and walking south along Baker Street to the Santiago Elementary School, traffic is particularly dangerous because most of the morning traffic also goes south and comes from behind the students.

Public Works had developed 2 concept plans in an effort to help improve the situation: Alternative A which permanently closed Baker Street to southbound traffic, and Alternative B which limited southbound traffic on Baker Street weekday mornings from 6AM–9AM. This would match the time turns are prohibited by the No Right Turn sign at Memory Lane and Flower Street.

Fisher Park residents were asked if they preferred Alternative A, Alternative B, or neither, and also asked to make comments and provide input re: the alternatives.



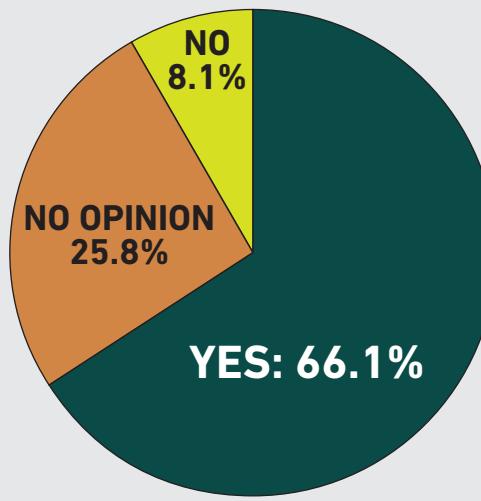
Over 22% of residents who responded preferred completely closing southbound traffic on Baker Street to solve the traffic safety issue on Sharon Road, despite the more serious inconvenience that would cause. Over 69% of residents who responded preferred some traffic limitations to make life safer for Fisher Park residents living or walking on Sharon Road, even though that might cause some personal inconvenience. However, it



Fisher Park neighborhood boundaries

turns out both Alternative A and Alternative B would cause a serious problem for Morrison Park residents living south of Memory Lane to exit their neighborhood weekday mornings.

Fisher Park and Morrison Park residents met with Public Works about our Traffic Survey and the community input we received and discussed options. Fisher Park's traffic survey in the Spring 2025 Newsletter also asked a separate question about adding a No U-Turn to the left turn lane from Bristol Street (south) to Park Lane due to the number of accidents and near misses at that location.



RESPONSES: NO U-TURN FROM BRISTOL STREET SOUTH ONTO PARK LN

A huge majority of Fisher Park residents who had an opinion wanted a No U-Turn sign installed, and many neighbors who responded also said they thought this was one of the most dangerous intersections in the whole area. During the discussion with Public Works it turned out there had been a previous traffic survey given to Morrison Park residents, and they were basically unanimous in wanting all left turns to Park Lane from Bristol

Street (south) prohibited because of multiple accidents. Public Works decided to test a new Alternative C that might help solve 2 serious safety issues at the same time.

Public Works' plan is to test the following concept plans for several months:

- Removing the Left Turn Lane from Bristol Street (south) to Park Lane.
- Prohibiting right turns from Memory Lane to Westwood Avenue weekdays 6AM-9AM.

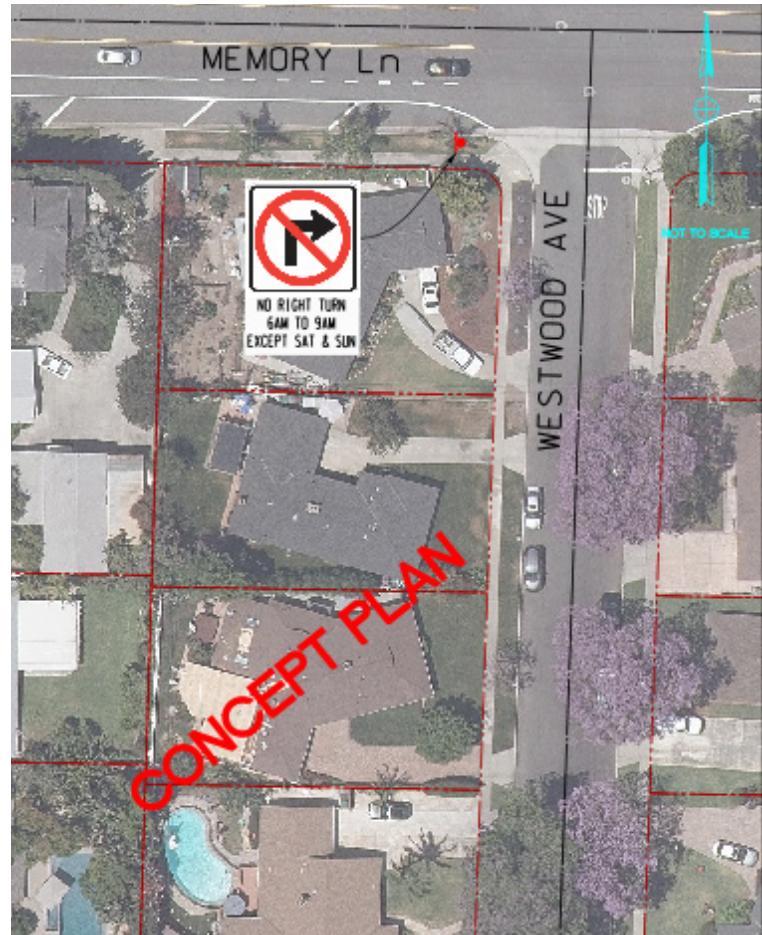
The current plan is being treated as a test for several months to see how traffic patterns change. Because it's a test there won't be any additional traffic enforcement as that would skew test results. But, the Santa Ana PD could still decide to enforce turning restrictions at any time so compliance with the new restrictions is advised. After several months there will be a decision about whether to make these concept plans permanent. Hopefully they will improve traffic safety issues.

Our understanding is that there has already been some reduction in morning traffic along Sharon Road. We're hoping that continues.

We should also give a shout out to Santa Ana Public Works for their efforts and assistance. In order to allow traffic to flow safely and efficiently through Santa Ana, Public Works is constantly monitoring traffic and making adjustments to traffic signals, adding and removing lanes and various traffic signs, and responding to community input into what they're doing or should be doing. Almost any change that benefits residents can also impact other residents who blame Public Works for the changes. It's an almost impossible job to satisfy everyone but that is still the job. We need to thank them for their hard work, thick skin and continuous innovation.

There's a long back story to these traffic flow changes that's also important to understand.

Continued on page 4...



Two concept plans showing the two traffic mitigation strategies currently being tested to help alleviate traffic cutting through Fisher Park via Sharon Rd.

One huge issue for many years has been Santa Ana's efforts to keep traffic flowing efficiently through the city without overly impacting residents' safety. In our area most weekday morning commuter traffic flows through Morrison Park, Fisher Park, West Floral Park and Floral Park from the northwest towards the southeast portion of these four neighborhoods.

Some history: at several Santa Ana City Council meetings 40 years ago, the North Central Santa Ana Traffic Protection Plan was presented, discussed and finally approved by the City Council. The Plan had been in the works for a year and its purpose was "to discourage commuter traffic through the neighborhood" "through such methods as traffic signal timing, street-striping, addition of four-way stop signs and peak hour turning prohibitions." The plan was supported by many residents and opposed by others, and was a subject of many City Council and other meetings over several months. There were neighborhood surveys, staff and consultant input, and a huge number of speakers from the community at more than one City Council meeting. The Plan was adjusted over the course of several months, and one part of the Plan was the installation of a No Right Turn sign at Memory Lane and Flower Street with peak hour turning restrictions which eventually were determined to be 6AM-9AM weekdays. Turning restrictions from 4PM-7PM were also considered but not approved.

Please visit fisherparkna.com/traffic to view:

- Minutes of the April 15, 1985 City Council meeting where it appears the Plan was first presented, and there's a list of speakers who gave input.
- The No Right Turn Installation Order (Installation Date: June 21, 1985)
- Minutes of the September 17, 1985 City Council meeting where the Plan (including the No Right Turn sign at Memory and Flower) was unanimously approved.

The No Right Turn sign was always controversial, but it was originally supported by most residents in the local neighborhoods and by the entire Santa Ana City Council. There are some residents who feel that just removing the No Right Turn sign may be an easy option to fix traffic issues, but that's apparently not the case. Santa Ana Public Works has been using various traffic control efforts for 40 years to reduce overall commuter traffic through local neighborhoods. There's concern that reversing those efforts and changing Memory Lane and Flower Street back into a major commuter traffic corridor would flood local streets with even more new commuter traffic. Residents from at least four affected neighborhoods (Morrison Park, Fisher Park, West Floral Park and Floral Park) would also need to be involved in approving this major change, which does not appear probable. There's also some perception that traffic restrictions were first put in place and

maintained for the past 40 years to mainly benefit neighbors living on Flower Street. However, the original turning restrictions from Memory Lane to Flower Street were approved by a coalition of neighbors living in different neighborhoods and on many different streets. There still seems to be considerable support for those restrictions, especially to prevent new commuter traffic flooding through the southeast sections of our neighborhoods. That's something that hasn't changed for 40 years.

Public Works' basic strategy is that commuter behavior can be impacted and changed by adding minimal additional restrictions to commuter routes through residential neighborhoods, but without causing major inconvenience for local residents. Residents living on Sharon Road have born the brunt of morning commuter traffic being diverted and focused onto their street for too many years. The traffic control concepts being tested already seem to be helping this. Much better than maybe waiting for another 40 years for something else that may never happen.

Residents in all of our local neighborhoods will need to work together to divert and absorb commuter traffic in ways that balance negative effects among all of our neighborhoods. Public Works has the difficult task of doing this by continuing to fine tune how this happens.

PANCAKES ON THE LANE: SATURDAY, JUNE 14, 2025

Under the shady trees of W River Lane, Fisher Park residents gathered for mini pancakes with all the toppings and a lovely morning spent with friends and neighbors. Special thanks to Elaine and Russell Sarkin for always volunteering to host this event!



FOURTH OF JULY PARADE

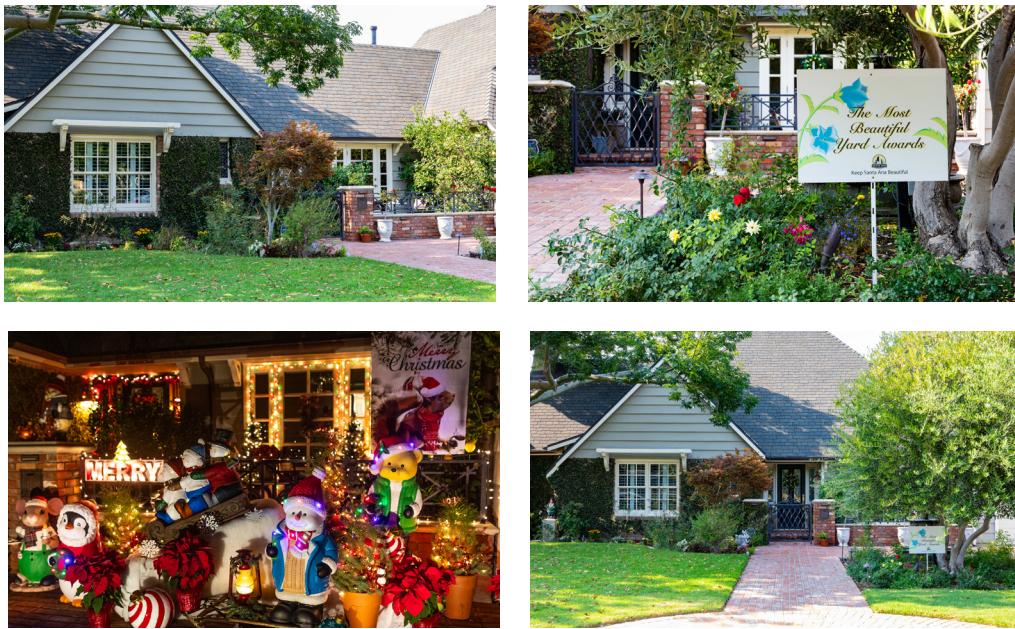


2025 MOST BEAUTIFUL YARD AWARD: 1117 W RIVER LANE

Congratulations to Mindy and Jeff Carlisle at 1117 W River Lane for winning one of Santa Ana's Most Beautiful Yards Awards for 2025, representing Fisher Park! Undeniably gorgeous at any time of year, Mindy and Jeff constantly go above and beyond with dazzling seasonal displays that attract passersby for photos and general admiration and appreciation.

Jeff and Mindy were honored at the Com-Link Recognition Night at Bowers Museum on Thursday, June 26, and received their "Most Beautiful Yard" sign to display in their front yard with a certificate of recognition presented by the City and elected officials.

Neighborhood associations nominate three yards every year for this honor and one per neighborhood is chosen by four members of the Com-Link board. Congratulations, Jeff and Mindy! Thank you for keeping Fisher Park beautiful!

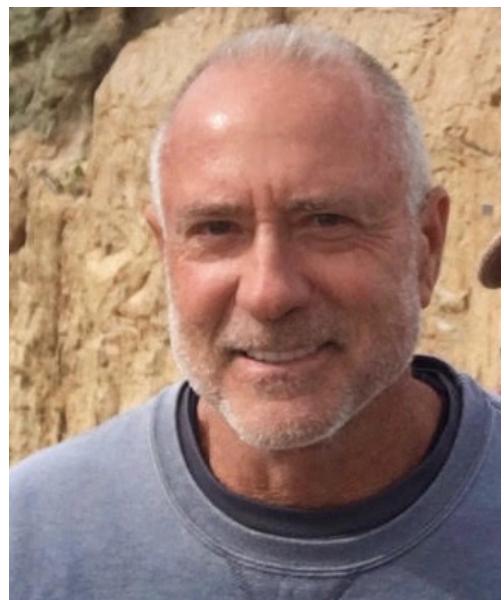


SUMMER 2025 YARD OF THE SEASON: 1150 W RIVER LANE



Another yard-congratulations goes out to 1150 W River Lane for winning Fisher Park's coveted title of Yard of the Season for Summer 2025! Surrounding a mid-century modern stunner of a home built in 1969 by famed architect, Ralph Allen, plants and geometric hardscaping contrast each other and are lush and wonderful year-round. This home was featured in Fisher Park and West Floral Park's Open Garden Day in 2023.

2025 NEIGHBORHOOD HERO: LES HALL



The Fisher Park Neighborhood Association would be remiss not to acknowledge Les Hall as the winner of the 2025 title of Neighborhood Hero! Les was honored, along with Jeff and Mindy Carlisle for their beautiful yard, at the Com-Link Recognition Night at Bowers Museum on June 26.

Les has been Fisher Park's most fierce advocate and works tirelessly to make sure that residents are informed, up-to-date, and have a voice in matters concerning the issues that affect us directly, including those surrounding Santiago Creek, traffic studies, neighborhood improvements, and countless more. He's established wonderful relationships between our neighborhood and our City Council representative, Public Works, Parks and Rec, and the City of Santa Ana.

Congratulations, Les! We are grateful for you!

UPCOMING EVENTS

FOLLOW @JACKFISHERPARK ON INSTAGRAM AND FACEBOOK.COM/GROUPS/JFPNA FOR UPDATES!

ICE CREAM SOCIAL & GENERAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY
8/20



Join your Fisher Park friends and neighbors for our annual Ice Cream Social and General Meeting at **6:30PM in Jack Fisher Park!** Returning this year are the delicious flavors of Michoacan-style paletas from Givo Ice Cream, located next to Northgate Market at 2525 Westminster Ave, Suite G. \$2 per paleta, cash or Zelle.

SCAN HERE TO RSVP:



DUMPSTER DAY

SATURDAY
9/13



Our next Fisher Park Dumpster Day is already set, running from approximately **8AM until 12PM** or until the dumpsters are full. Dumpsters will be located at **617 W Memory Lane, 1117 W River Lane, and 505 W Park Lane**.

As always, a flyer will be distributed prior to the event listing locations and dumpster dos and don'ts.

GARAGE & YARD SALE WEEKEND

SAT-SUN
9/6-7



Search for treasures or get a jump start on your autumnal purge during Santa Ana's quarterly Garage and Yard Sale Weekend! Sales may run from 8AM to 5PM. Be aware of increased neighborhood traffic this weekend and visit santa-ana.org/garage-and-yard-sales for a complete list of rules and regulations.

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QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, AND SUGGESTIONS FOR THE BOARD SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO BOARD@FISHERPARKNA.COM.

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A suggested contribution of \$35 per household per year allows us to hold events and support our community. Scan here with Zelle to contribute now!

