

The mission of The Springs at Santa Rita Homeowners Association Inc is to promote a friendly and enjoyable community where property values are enhanced by maintaining Common Areas and upholding community standards.

In fulfilling our mission we value honesty, fairness, consistency, equity, efficiency, effectiveness, transparency, common sense, participation, respect, cooperation and neighborliness in all our actions.

Let us, for a moment, focus on common sense. Our world is increasingly complex, so when I tell you I wish to talk about recycling, I know some eyes are going to roll back into their sockets.

However it really can be quite simple. First of all please do it. Secondly, do it right. On our website, under Notices is some recycling information from Republic. Please note, Styrofoam and plastic bags are not recyclable. Also things that fly out of your recycling box are not recyclable. Windy days can be a challenge, so try to put the heavy stuff on top. Our garbage hauler does not require separation of recyclables, but if inappropriate items are in the load, it makes trouble for the sorters and the load might be rejected. Please review what is allowed and if you aren't sure, leave it out until you have more information. Common sense and effectiveness.

The next things I want to focus on are cooperation and transparency. Our community is aging and starting to need more attention, and I am not talking just about people. Buildings and roads are very much in our thoughts as we plan for the future. And as we plan, it isn't just about money, it's about what will work best for the community. But, money is important. We have very good stewards helping the Board with financial planning and new board members have been purposefully learning about the Capital Reserve Fund and the history surrounding the building of our community. So as we move forward, folks are going to be asking some questions that might require us to think outside the box a bit or be willing to try something for a while because it could be more effective. We also want to learn about and have a transparent process so that people feel listened to. But some changes may be needed, and you need to be ready. For example, we spend a lot of dollars on weed control. So we ask homeowners to try to keep their yards weed free so they don't spread to neighbors' yards and common areas. It's common sense. Now, our roads are the largest item in our budget and they impact every homeowner. We need to plan and care for them very strategically AND COMMUNICATE CLEARLY so we don't get caught with unmanageable problems or safety issues. The better we plan and care for the roads in our community, the less disruption to your lives and to your pocketbook. Cooperation and transparency.

The last value I want to reflect on is effectiveness. Our volunteers are so awesome and often they not only help keep your dues at a reasonable level doing Grounds and Buildings work, but often projects are completed under bid because volunteer help has kept the contractors efficient. As we move forward and discuss potential projects, please know we want to be

careful consumers. And we value your input and your presence here. Keep it up. The more we work together when problem solving, the better our community gets. That is effectiveness.

Now that the sermon is done, I want to let you know that Thank You Notes were sent off to Lance Johnson for refurbishing the Perry Park signs, Del Harsh for supplying much needed landscaping rock, Cindy and Jim Uminski for a job well done with Meet & Greet, Nancy Kelly for organizing the New Owner workshop and subsequent debriefing, and Mike Kearns for his committee work for Architectural Review.

Lastly, a couple hours spent in a work planning session with Lee Blahnik and Rick Fillion were extremely helpful to me in understanding the nature of road projects, in starting to organize a work plan for the next several years, and were absolutely exhausting. Next, I plan to meet with Jim and Mark and do the same thing - have a work session to understand their goals for Grounds and organize them into a multi-year work plan.

Our Board is very focused on taking care of some existing issues, but also in moving forward. I thank you for all the hard work. (An upcoming CHAT article will summarize the above.)

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca Keenan, President of The Springs HOA