

THE TANO ROAD ASSOCIATION

POST OFFICE BOX 31967 SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87594-1967



.....AN INVITATION TO JOIN,

AN OPPORTUNITY

TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE.....

Welcome to high desert paradise!



Whether you are a new-comer or an old timer, we invite you to become part of The Tano Road Association and help us protect our high desert paradise. The strength of our efforts is in the number of our voices, and we would like to add your voice to our number.

Take a minute and learn something about your neighborhood association.

Who are we?

Our bylaws describe who we are. “The Tano Road Association is a non-profit paid membership of owners of real property located in the Tano Road area for whom the Association seeks to provide a forum of mutual interests, including communicating local current events, neighborhood crime watch and security patrol, county and city government liaison, road safety and maintenance, area beautification and enhancement, natural resource conservation and protection and other matters of common interest which may develop from time to time.”

Who we are not . . .

We are not a homeowners association . . . we are a neighborhood association, and there are important differences. First, our geographic scope of interest is much larger than a typical homeowners association. Our membership boundary begins at NM 285 and extends west on either side of Tano Road to Fin del Sendero.

But more importantly our membership is voluntary. The dues are voluntary contributions to our association. The Association has no power to impose any financial obligations on its membership such as assessments. You may terminate your membership at any time. Simply put, we are a group of neighbors banding together to protect and promote our common interests.

What can I expect from my membership in TRA?

First, through your membership you have an excellent opportunity to get to know your neighbors and others living in the Tano Road area. There are several occasions each year when we meet as a group, often over “pot luck” lunches where we renew and extend our network of acquaintances. We often have experts on topics of interest who speak at our events in a casual and open forum allowing for questions and answers.



Santa Fe Attorney,
Peter White, at a recent
TRA meeting,
discussing water rights
issues with TRA members.

F u r t h e r ,
participation in our activities will expand your awareness and knowledge of efforts undertaken by the Association. You may volunteer for any

committee established by the TRA Board, or ask to form your own committee. You may volunteer for the TRA Security Patrol, or help with our Spring and Fall Trash Bash and pot luck luncheon, or **participate to just the degree you can**, in any of our committees and events.

Equally important, your Association is an effective advocate at the City, County and State level. Issues which impact the quality of life of our area residents are important considerations to the Association. We win some, lose some, but we are taken seriously by administrative staff and elected officials. Many of our efforts have produced tangible results.

Here are just a few examples:

Residents in our area benefit from our volunteer services.

- **Security Patrol:** Every day Security Patrol volunteers mount our Patrol sign on top of their vehicle and patrol our Tano Road area. Visibility is an important part of effective crime prevention.
 - ◆ A cell phone owned by the Security Patrol is rotated daily to each volunteer to use in alerting the sheriff of any security event. Because of the number of individuals on the Security Patrol, volunteers are scheduled for duty only about once every 8 weeks.



Area roads are monitored by volunteer Security Patrol

◆ The result? The County Sheriff has noted that our security vigilance since 1989 has resulted in the lowest neighborhood crime area in the county.

➤ **Neighborhood Beautification-** Each Spring and Fall we organize an area **Trash Bash**. Trash is picked up and collected along our roads which the County later picks up free of charge.



Following the trash pick up, TRA members, as well as non-member residents, are invited to a volunteer host's house for a pot-luck get together, an event which serves as a wonderful opportunity to meet neighbors and learn about the current activities in our TRA area.



Tesuque Volunteer Fire Department equipment demonstration at a recent Trash Bash luncheon.

Our **Roads Committee** works with city and county road departments to keep our roads graded, plowed, maintained, and when possible, improved and paved. This committee was responsible for the paving of Tano Road, Camino de los Montoyas, and the new Ridgetop Road as well as significant improvements in the grading and drainage of our side roads.

- Our **communications network** of meetings, mailings, newsletters, e-mailings, web site/community forum at www.tanoroad.org keeps us all informed.



Residents within and nearby benefit from our volunteer services.

- **Traffic Safety-** We funded a professional traffic study which confirmed ever increasing traffic volumes on our roads. This study has been submitted to all pertinent agencies for review and action. The City and County, State Transportation Department and the Federal Highway Administration have all recognized the impending traffic problems and are now working with adjacent neighborhoods to develop proactive solutions.



The result: The **Secretary of Transportation has recently announced the funding of a comprehensive long-range traffic study** along the entire NM599 corridor from the Tesuque Interchange south to the I-25/599 intersection. This announcement also recognized the immediate traffic safety difficulties at the intersection of Camino de los Montoyas and 599 as well as the merge hazards at 285 South and 599 at Ridgetop Road.

As a part of the comprehensive traffic study, the TRA lead the initiative for on going citizen involvement which resulted in the creation of the **Citizen's Task Force Advisory**

Committee which provides structured and formalized comment and review of identified traffic conditions and proposed solutions resulting from the traffic study. A TRA representative is on this committee. All neighborhoods which border the NM599 corridor will benefit from our action as well as any who travel the highways of 84/285 and NM599.

Water Conservation and Sustainability- In year 2000, the TRA joined the Santa Fe Basin Water Users Group to protest the proposed excessive pumping of the city's Northwest Well. We asked our members for donations to fund a hydrological study by Hydrosience Associates. We presented our case to the Office of the State Engineer Examiners, who ultimately ruled to limit the annual production of this huge well.

◆ As a bonus, a number of deep monitoring wells were put in place by the USGS so that state and federal agencies can measure and evaluate the impact of the new city wells on the aquifer that serves our Tano Road area.

◆ Additionally, the TRA arranged for hydrologists from New Mexico Tech to monitor four inactive domestic wells in the Tano Road area, to further measure the effects on our aquifer. All of Santa Fe, present and future, will benefit from our success in conserving and monitoring the aquifer.

Aamodt Water Rights Litigation- The TRA secured one of the rare summaries of the wells previously named in the Aamodt water rights lawsuit as well as detailed mapping surveys of the exact boundaries of the Aamodt Settlement area. We are assisting all area residents by providing RG well numbers which may be involved in the Aamodt Lawsuit. [See www.tanoroad.org for the list of well numbers.]



- **Oversight-** Our monitoring and oversight of developers and contractors insures compliance with building codes, our local laws and ordinances and contractual agreements and serves all of Santa Fe.

- **Recreational Initiatives-** The creation of mapped, official hiking/biking trails in the Northwest Quadrant is a TRA initiative which serves all of Santa Fe County.



TRA Volunteers, Margaret Alexander and Lois Goodman, receive an Amigos Award from the Mayor, a certificate of appreciation for creating the La Tierra Trail bordering the Tano Road area.

- **Emergency Medical Services Enhancement-** Concerned about lengthy response to 911 calls in the Tano Road Area, the TRA formed a public service committee to bring to the attention of City and County EMS professionals the substandard service of EMS response. The TRA met with County Commissioner Virginia Vigil, Santa Fe County Fire Chief Stan Holden and Santa Fe City Fire Chief Chris Rivera to identify specific problem areas and possible solutions.

- ◆ the TRA addressed the Santa Fe Board of County Commissioners to create a ballot initiative on the November, 2006 General Election which would fund important enhancements to the County EMS resources.

- ♦ the TRA contacted and joined with other area neighborhood associations to form the Vote-for-Safety Committee. This committee, working with Commissioner Paul Campos and Chief Holden, formulated a public relations plan to inform the voting public of the County's proposed tax increase to fund enhanced emergency services.

- ♦ This EMS ballot initiative was approved by 62% of the voters, which will result in three new fully staffed 24/7 EMS substations near the Tano Road Area.

➤ **Fire Protection and Prevention-** Our extended drought has raised a growing concern among the Santa Fe County population concerned about possible fires in the wildland-urban areas. In response to this continuing threat, the Association:

- ♦ created the *TRA Fire Prevention and Evacuation Guidelines* booklet and distributed to all area residents. We are making it available to any interested neighborhood in Santa Fe County.

- ♦ donated GPS receivers to our Tesuque Volunteer Fire Department for their emergency use.

- ♦ completed a GPS mapping survey of our entire TRA area which assists emergency services in reaching hard to find locations.

- ♦ assembled a summary of GPS locations and descriptions of external water sources for emergency use by the fire department in case of a home, property or wildland fire.

➤ **Public Service Publications-** The Association created and distributed the *TRA Bark Beetle Guidelines*, a 28 page booklet which provides useful information about bark beetle infestation, treatment and prevention. The

Guidelines are updated periodically and made accessible on the Tano Road website, www.tanoroad.org, and are available to all Santa Fe residents. Nearby neighborhood associations as well as communities from around the state have requested copies of this publication.

These are just but a few examples of issues and initiatives our Association evaluates and responds to in a proactive way¹.

The TRA is a community voice, made louder and stronger by the synergy of its membership, and **your membership will add to this strength.**

Please join us....take a minute to complete the application form, enclose your membership donation and mail to:

**THE TANO ROAD ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 31967
Santa Fe, NM 87594-1967**

**Chrys Fisher, Membership Coordinator
(995-9742 for questions)**

Your membership does make a difference!

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² Photographs courtesy of Jim Dulaney.

FOLLOW-UP NOTES

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Fire & All Emergencies _____ **911** _____

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_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____