



# Bluff Park Neighborhood Association

December 28, 2018

Dear Friends and Supporters of the *Bluff Park Historic Lamppost Project*:

The BPNA has exciting news to share! The manufacturing of the 1st phase lampposts has now started with the newly re-organized Union Metal Industries Corporation. This is the company that originally made the neighborhood's E. 1st Street lampposts almost a century ago.

Let us recap 2018 and tell you about 2019:

## RECAP OF 2018

Exactly a year ago to the week, last December 2017 we got word of Union Metal Corporation's financial issues resulting in its abrupt shutdown. You may recall that we had been expecting the 1st phase lampposts to ship to us just a couple months later.

Undeterred by this setback, the *Project's* committee and the BPNA Board worked diligently and swiftly with the City and community and received bids from other interested streetlight manufacturers. Having read of the personal impacts of Union Metal's closing, we reached out to our lampposts' designer **Mike Basiewicz** whose sad story was featured in the local Ohio news. As the months passed, we learned from Mike that the company had been acquired, re-organized and re-opened at its same location where it started in 1906. Since the summer 2018, the company is now fully up and running; we secured a new and competitive bid; and we are now working again with Union Metal. Even Mike is back with the company.... and our *Project*!

A few months ago, we walked the streets with the City and its contracted installer and reached out to all of the homeowners along Paloma Avenue to clarify and review the specific installation locations.

## COMING IN 2019

We expect that the ten (10) first-phase lampposts will arrive in the second quarter of 2019. The City will fit them with the same energy-saving LED fixtures that have been in-place and demonstrated since June 2017 at the corner of Paloma Ave and E. 1st St. Once the new lampposts are installed, we will have a public dedication celebration, sponsored in part by a Port of Long Beach grant awarded to the BPNA, sometime in mid-2019. Stay tuned!

## THANK YOU

We could not do this without the support we continue to receive from our 3rd District Councilwoman **Suzie Price**, Mayor **Robert Garcia**, Public Works Director **Craig Beck**, and Public Works Manager of the Project Management Bureau **Eric Lopez**, along with their dedicated teams in the City.

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Continuing to raise funds for the 2nd phase, we received many donations, both small and large, over the last year. We held a fun, unique and successful fundraiser event "The Lamppost Love Boat" in May, the charitable "Community Yard Sale" in August, and the "Holiday Bow Breakfast: Decorating Our Icon" earlier this month.

There are too many to thank who have served as volunteers for the *Project* in 2018 -- most notably, committee members **Helena Segelhorst**, **Terry Beckman**, **Carmen Rodriques**, and **Susan Malecki**.

This year we also honored the lives of two devoted past BPNA leaders whose diligence helped establish the *Project's* foundations. In August, the Green Space at the corner of E. 1st St & Loma Ave was dedicated in memory of **John W. Parkin**. In September, we mourned the loss of **Elbert Segelhorst**, a visionary for early historic preservation efforts in the city.

The people, the stories, and the partnerships we encounter on this journey are priceless. And for that reason we are deeply grateful to **you**, our most cherished donors and supporters!

#### DONATIONS

If you are so inclined, please consider the BPNA for your year-end [Tax-Deductible Giving](#) that will help fund future phases. Significant donations will be acknowledged on personalized plaques affixed to the newly installed lampposts. Ask us about corporations that can even double employees' contributions.

Please reach out to us at any time for questions or ways you can help and get involved in the *Project* or the many other worthy endeavors of the Association.

Visit us online at [bluffpark.org](http://bluffpark.org) for more info and ongoing updates. Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#).

Come and bring a friend or neighbor to the next [Community Meeting on Wednesday, January 16](#).

All of us on the BPNA Board, including our colleagues **Michelle Murray**, **Sam Fandrich**, **Sergio Macias**, and **Wally Downing**, wish you and yours a bright and joyful 2019.

Thank you again for *BRINGING LAMPPOST HISTORY BACK*.

Sincerely,



**Jeffrey Mallin**  
BPNA President  
*Project* Co-Chair



**Marco Pizzo**  
BPNA Vice President of Events & Fundraising  
*Project* Co-Chair