

Monday Evening Edition



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MONDAY, JANUARY 22 - JANUARY 28, 2007 VOLUME 12, No. 7
A PUBLICATION OF CORE MEDIA GROUP INC. WWW.ARCADIaweekly.com

Rancho Santa Anita Residents' Association Endorses Caruso Project

Last Monday, the Board of Directors from the Rancho Santa Anita Residents' Association announced its support for Caruso Affiliated's proposed upscale, outdoor retail center called The Shops at Santa Anita. The Rancho Santa Anita Residents' Association is comprised of homeowners and residents in Arcadia's Lower Rancho and College Streets.

"The Shops at Santa Anita will be in our backyard, and we are convinced that it will not only help ensure that Santa Anita Park is a premiere destination for many years to come, it will also create a much needed 'town center' in the heart of Arcadia," wrote Rancho Santa Anita Residents' Association Board President Kevin Tomkins in a letter to Arcadia City Manager Bill Kelly posted Jan. 15.

"Because we live so close to Santa Anita Park, one of our biggest concerns was the additional traffic generated by your project. However, after reviewing the EIR and speaking with representatives of the City of Arcadia, Caruso Affiliated, and traffic consultant Sam Schwartz, we strongly believe that the only way to mitigate current and future traffic is to modernize our traffic system — and Arcadia's best hope for doing that is by bringing The Shops at Santa Anita to our community."

Caruso Affiliated, in partnership with the owners of Santa Anita Park, has proposed building The Shops at Santa Anita, on the parking lot south of the grandstand at Santa Anita Park. The new project would include new upscale shops, unique outdoor restaurants, lush-ly landscaped park-like settings and promenades where Arcadia residents can come to walk around, relax, and enjoy each other's company.

"We are proud that The Shops at Santa Anita is gaining support from local homeowners," *si* Rick J. Caruso, founder' and CEO of Caruso Affiliated. "We are committed to building a place that fits the community's needs and have appreciated the input we have received from those who live and work here. We look forward to working with all Arcadia residents as the project moves forward."

The Shops at Santa Anita is also supported by the Arcadia Firefighters Association, the Arcadia Police Officers Association and the Arcadia Chamber of Commerce.