

strategic petroleum reserve. The SPR is an emergency stockpile of 726.6 million barrels of crude oil that the U.S. has on hand to protect the country from petroleum supply interruptions.

The SPR has been used twice for emergency situations. The first time was in 1991 at the beginning of Desert Storm and the second time was in 2005 following Hurricane Katrina.

Seifert named vice president of national group

The Women of NACo Leadership Network on Monday unanimously elected Solano County Supervisor Linda Seifert as vice president of their national group.

The Women of NACo Leadership Network, founded in 1975, aims to improve the effectiveness of women officials both at home and within NACo by providing a network of support, encouragement, experience and unity.

"It is a real honor to be elected to this post," said Seifert, who represents Benicia. "I believe it also helps Solano County to have its officials in a position to influence policy on a national level."

NACo is the national organization that represents the nation's 3,068 county governments before Congress. The election took place in Washington, D.C., as delegates concluded the annual NACo Legislative Conference.

—From staff and wire reports

CENSUS

Continued from Page A1

Vice Mayor Alan Schwartzman said his initial reaction was surprise. "But when you think about it, I know we've added a lot of homes over the last 10 years, but we've lost a lot of residents to foreclosure," he said.

"How many have been foreclosed, how many have moved out? I know a lot of people moved out in 2009 and 2010, when the Census was being taken. Over the last three years (since the downturn) there have been a lot of people moving out — so it's almost like we've kept the status quo.

"And compared to other jurisdictions," he said, "that's pretty good."

doned bicycles.

The Bicycle Rack Task Force did agree that plaques are Good Neighbor Steering for the racks should discrete brass signs placed racks' bases. That settles

three decisions the task force must make about the downtown racks.

The panel also suggested that any racks in the downtown should be blue, matching trash containers and street lamps.

But the panel decided to delay making a recommendation on the types of racks that should go downtown until members hear what the costs would be for a couple of designs, and until they get a chance to take another look at where those racks might be installed.

Nine shiny, silver hoops began appearing downtown last November, the first of 22 circular racks and four tandem racks (designed to resemble bicycles) ordered using money from the 2010 amendment to the 2008 Valero Benicia Refinery-Good Neighbor Steering Committee Valero Improvement Project settlement agreement.

So far, of the \$30,000 allocation, \$19,000 has been spent to buy the racks and have them installed.

Almost as soon as the racks appeared, residents began objecting, saying the modernistic look wasn't compatible with Benicia's historic downtown. Others questioned the process by which the racks were chosen and bought.

Though the Community Sustainability Commission was able to weigh in on the racks' placement prior to their installation, other panels, such as the Historic Preservation and Review Commission and Benicia Main Street, didn't get a chance to comment.

At its Jan. 18 meeting, Benicia City Council agreed that a task force should be formed to meet no more than twice before making a recommendation on the final design and locations of bike racks.

Returning the nine hoops already placed downtown isn't an option, according to Melissa Morton, land use and engineering manager, and Mike Roberts, city engineer. Removing the bikes from the concrete sidewalk will cost more than \$100 for each rack, they said; installing them elsewhere may cost the same.

when some of the city's older

N00221_001651
MARE ISLAND
SSIC NO. 5090.3.A

Deco design was compatible with some portions of Benicia's downtown.

But others, such as Karen Burns and Larry Fullington, said the city didn't follow proper procedure in choosing the racks, nor were they appropriate for a historic district. "I would gladly write a \$2,000 check to have them relocated," Burns said.

Nancy Lund, a task force member from Benicia Bicycle Club, said bicyclists also weren't asked about where racks should go and what types of racks bicyclists want.

She and another Bicycle Club member, Lee Wilder Snider, said some cyclists travel in groups and simply want places where they can slip their bike tires into racks, because at least one in the group would be watching those bicycles.

Others, however, want places they can lock their bikes so they can browse through the downtown, Wilder Snider said.

The panel is examining a bollard type rack, similar to the black ones in front of the Veterans Memorial Hall, 1150 First St., that would cost \$365 each if ordered in a blue powder-coated finish.

It also is considering recommending a cyclone rack that could handle multiple bikes and would give group bikers the type of parking spot described by the bicycle club members. Staff members had no price for that rack, which Toni Haughey, representing the HPRC, said was not attractive and looked "heavy duty" instead of historic.

But Alvarez reminded the panel it only has two meetings to come up with a recommendation on what to do with the existing racks and what type of racks should go where.

No date has been set for the final meeting, said Gina Eleccion, management analyst. "We were hoping to do this in one meeting," she said.

"Let's do it at the next meeting," Alvarez said. "The decision may not be unanimous, but the majority rules."



NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY AND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD MUNITIONS NON-TIME-CRITICAL REMOVAL ACTION PRODUCTION MANUFACTURING AREA AND SOUTH SHORE AREA FORMER MARE ISLAND NAVAL SHIPYARD, VALLEJO, CALIFORNIA

The Department of the Navy, in coordination with state and federal environmental regulatory agencies, is announcing the public availability of the Engineering Evaluation Cost Analysis (EECA)/Interim Remedial Action Plan (IRAP) for the Munitions Non-Time-Critical Removal Action at the Production Manufacturing Area (PMA) and South Shore Area (SSA) located on the Former Mare Island Naval Shipyard (MINS) in Vallejo, California. Former MINS is located 25 miles northeast of San Francisco. The PMA and SSA are located at the southern end of former MINS. The sites were formerly used to manufacture and store munitions and munitions constituents. Previous munitions removals have been conducted at the sites since base closure in 1996. Possible remaining munitions and munitions constituents at the sites may pose a threat to human health and the environment. Surveys have been performed to detect metallic objects in the subsurface, which could represent potential munitions. The areas where the survey identified subsurface metal are called anomalies. The EECA/IRAP recommends excavation and removal of the anomalies in the areas most likely to contain potential munitions.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

The EECA/IRAP is available for public review, and the Navy will accept comments during the 30-day public comment period held from March 7, 2011 through April 4, 2011. Public comments submitted in writing must be postmarked or e-mailed no later than April 4, 2011. Please send all comments to the Navy Base Realignment and Closure, Environmental Coordinator, Ms. Janet Lear, 1455 Frazee Road, Suite 900, San Diego, California 92108-4310, (619) 532-0976, (619) 532-0780 (fax), or janet.lear@navy.mil.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Copies of the EECA/IRAP and other site documents are available for review at the following public information repositories:

JFK Library
550 Santa Clara Street
Vallejo, California 94590
Phone (707) 553-5568

Department of Toxic Substances Control
700 Heinz Avenue
Berkeley, California 94710
Phone (510) 540-3800
(by appointment only)