

**CASA CONEJO MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES
November 19, 2014**

**The Casa Conejo MAC held a Meeting Wednesday, November 19, 2014,
6:00 p.m. at Walnut Elementary School, 581 Dena Drive, Newbury Park**

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by **Chair Richard Twomey, Jr.** at 6:04 pm. MAC members **Richard Gaz, Steven Wasco** and **Dustin Woomer** were present. MAC members **Edward Villa, Sr., Shannon Prachyl** and **Janell Smith** were absent.

2. Flag Salute

Richard Twomey, Jr. led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Approval of the Minutes of July 16, 2014

The July 16, 2014 minutes were approved 4-0 on a motion by **Dustin Woomer** and a second by **Richard Gaz**.

4. Adoption of the Agenda

There were no changes to the Agenda.

5. Public Safety Reports (CHP, Sheriff's Department)

CHP Officer Musgrove said he has patrolled Lesser Drive during Walnut School drop-off and pick-up times. He said drivers are doing better reducing their speeds there. He will bring the accident portfolio for the area to the next Casa Conejo MAC meeting.

Senior Deputy Zapata said there were a couple of residential burglaries in the area that they believe are not part of a crime ring, as well as a couple of thefts from cars. He mentioned phone scams where callers impersonating law enforcement demanded money. He advised the public that no law enforcement agency does this. He also followed up on crime statistics mentioned by a member of the public at the last MAC meeting, saying the crimes in the statistics were in the city, not the unincorporated county area.

6. Comments of Ventura County Supervisor Linda Parks

Supervisor Parks announced that **Edward Villa, Sr.**, was unable to attend as he has just become a new grandfather. She also told the MAC that the Casa Conejo Community Survey is being used by the Public Works Department to identify needed road work. She also discussed the possibility of having the Board of Supervisors meet in Casa Conejo, and announced that Thousand Oaks Police Chief Hagel will be holding a "Coffee with the Chief" in Newbury Park in the coming week. **Richard Gaz** noted the headline news about the County paying for grinding sidewalks and thanked Supervisor Parks for her successful work on this.

7. Public Comments on Items not on the Agenda

Kimberly Schreiber asked for help regarding RV's parking in residential areas saying one near her home cuts off views of drivers navigating a blind corner at Shirley Drive. She said it makes it difficult to see the stop sign. Supervisor Parks said she would ask County Transportation Department to review the location. **Wendy Zimmerman** said there needs to be signage announcing MAC meetings at the intersection of Bella and Wendy Drive. She also expressed her concern that cyclists can't cross Wendy near McDonald's and that there is bad lighting there. She also reiterated her support for the multiuse pathway along the South Branch Arroyo Conejo and said opening it to the public could preclude the need for speed humps and signals elsewhere.

8. Council Comments on Items not on the Agenda

Richard Gaz and **Dustin Woomer** expressed concern about pedestrian safety at the Wendy Drive crosswalk at Gerald Drive and also regarding a back-up of cars when pedestrians are crossing. MAC member **Woomer** said someone had told him they almost witnessed an accident. He asked if the County could put flexible delineators in the median or other ways to better notice the crosswalk until a traffic signal can be installed. Supervisor **Parks** said she will follow-up with Transportation staff.

9. Advisory Matters

a. Report Back on Sidewalks

Barry Gabrielson spoke of his concerns with the County's sidewalk policy, liability, and what he considers to be a lack of criteria for when sidewalks need repair, and wants answers to his questions. **Nathan Borin** asked if residents in Oak Park share Casa Conejo sidewalk concerns and asked for the County to fix all the sidewalks in Casa Conejo at once. **Supervisor Parks** said the Board of Supervisors agreed to her request to provide grinding of sidewalks at no charge to residents. She said that could mean the majority of sidewalks will be repaired for free if the County sidewalks are similar to those in the City of Thousand Oaks where approximately 80% are repaired by grinding. In general, grinding can be done on sidewalks with an inch or less rise between slabs. Residents however will still be charged for slab replacement when the Transportation Department finds that it is necessary. She also said she will work to have all Casa Conejo sidewalks done at once.

b. Rodent Extermination Information

Supervisor Parks described an effort she is taking to install owl boxes as a way to eliminate rodents in the flood control channel in Casa Conejo. She said the Watershed Protection District currently uses anticoagulant rodenticides in PVC pipes to kill ground squirrels there. She said that before they can put up owl boxes, she wants the County to stop using these kinds of rodenticides because they not only kill rodents but also work their way through the food chain poisoning wildlife such as coyotes, birds of prey, bobcats, and mountain lions. She hopes to move forward on getting a pilot program in place to use more environmentally friendly and effective ways that avoid the unintentional killing of wildlife and sometimes pets.

c. Graffiti Removal Intervention Team Update

This item was continued to the next meeting.

10. Suggestions for Future Agenda Items

a. Study Session with Public Works on Comprehensive Solutions for Traffic Flow

Dustin Woomer said it is important to look at the big picture when looking at the MAC goals of reducing traffic and speeding. He discussed traffic calming measures and how they're needed particularly on long straightaway streets in Casa Conejo that encourage speeding. He said design improvements should be made with a comprehensive approach. **Richard Twomey, Jr.** said the effort should include pedestrian and bicycle and bus transportation and would like a free shuttle for residents to easily take to shopping centers. He said this particularly important for elderly residents. Supervisor **Parks** suggested a future transit workshop to discuss how to get bus service in the area.

b. Transit Workshop

c. Graffiti Removal Intervention Team Update

11. Adjournment at 7:30pm until Wednesday, January 21, 2015.