

DRAFT June 17thth, 2019 Ojai Valley MAC Meeting Summary

Steve Offerman of Supervisor Steve Bennett's Office called the roll. Members present were Chris Cohen, Jill Borgeson, Terry Wright, Grace Malloy, and Joe Westbury.

Under public comment, Lori Steinhauer introduced herself and other representatives of the Ventura Westside Community Council and noted common interest with the MAC in conserving open space. A man expressed interest in preventing overdevelopment and support desalination. Ron Solorzano of the County Library noted the summer reading program for youth and adults.

Representing the Ojai Planning Commission, Kathy Nolan said the commission is discussing downtown parking, a tiny homes on foundations village, and fences, walls, & hedges.

Regarding the County General Plan Update (GPU), Lori Steinhauer asked how best to engage on the project- at meetings and by written comments. Grace Malloy encouraged the County to issue a "how to review the GPU" document and a "what's new" feature. Jan Dietrick offered to share compilations of GPU topics by email. Renee Roth asked if there are multiple Climate Action Plans (CAP)- No. Luke Connelly, Ojai Community Development Director introduced himself. John Brooks noted the pressing need for climate change action, oil facility permit enforcement, and replacing the word "encourage" with "must" or "shall" in the GPU, and that oilfield flares should be eliminated. Kathy Nolan advocated a firmer CAP.

Steve Colume advocated deletion of policy HAZ 10:11 as it doesn't belong in the General Plan. He noted that more up to date models indicate that methane emissions should be a high priority for reduction measures through sources including pipeline leaks, landfills, and the oil industry. He advocates that the APCD prepare the County's GGE emission inventory, noted the GPU is nearly silent on the oil industry which should be addressed, that the combustion of local oil and gas be addressed regardless of where it's combusted, and oil production should be phased out, and that emissions from lawn and garden equipment are underestimated and will exceed cars. Grace Malloy expressed support for the CFROG position.

Judy Holman noted that the State Attorney General is suing the federal government over fracking, and that the County should meet or exceed State standards. Chris Cohen asked that the City of Ojai clarify their position, and Luke Connelly said that the City's main concern was to assure that the policies of the Ojai Plan were retained, and they have been. Ron Whitehurst advocated phasing out all oil and gas production over 10-20 years and public subsidies for EVs. Jan Dietrick advocated regenerative agriculture, preserving commercial zones, protecting neighborhoods, and not subsidizing parking. Kathy Bremer advocated not mandating mixed uses and supported preservation of open space. Lori Steinhauer advocated making the GPU process more accessible including night meetings, balancing industry to preserve jobs, keeping Canada Larga in open space, and coordination on water supply.

Jill Borgeson said she would like to see the letter from CFROG's attorney and would like to support CFROG. Grace Malloy agreed and would like to see elimination of overhead irrigation of agriculture, particularly during the day. Renee Roth advocated eliminating landscape irrigation during the day. Grace said she endorsed the CFROG positions and supports a climate change element, eliminating policy HAZ 10:11, and supports the Climate Change 350 comments. She advocates a more accessible GPU. Terry Wright supported these positions. Joe Westbury asked what regenerative agriculture is, and Grace said it incorporates carbon sequestration and soil health.

Chris Cohen made a motion to support the goals of CFROG and Climate Change 350 and to encourage the County to take their positions into account, to delete policy HAZ 10:11, to recognize

the oil industry in the General Plan and account for the true cost of oil and gas production in the county. The motion was seconded by Jill Borgeson and approved unanimously. The MAC also supported making the General Plan Update more accessible.

The meeting summary of June 17th was approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.