

CASA CONEJO MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES JULY 16, 2014

**The Casa Conejo MAC held an Official Meeting Wednesday, July 16, 2014,
6:00 p.m. at Borchard Community Center, 190 Reino Road, Newbury Park**

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by **Richard Twomey, Jr.** at 6:00 pm. MAC members **Edward Villa, Sr., Dustin Woomer, Shannon Prachyl, Janell Smith** and **Steven Wasco** were present, and **Richard Gaz** was absent.

2. Flag Salute

Richard Twomey, Jr. led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Approval of the Minutes of May 14, 2014

The May 14, 2014 minutes were approved by a vote of 6/0.

4. Adoption of the Agenda

Richard Twomey, Jr. moved to adopt the agenda moving the Workshop on the South Branch Arroyo Conejo Trail to follow Public Safety Reports. **Steven Wasco** made the second and the revised agenda was approved 6/0.

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

Administrative Sheriff's Sargent Paul Richards reported on theft from vehicles and warned residents to hide any belongings left in their car and to be sure to always lock their cars.

6. South Branch Arroyo Conejo Trail

Jeffrey Peters, consultant with Questa Engineering Corporation, presented a PowerPoint and discussed the proposal for a multiuse path along the flood control channel of the South Branch Arroyo Conejo. After the presentation the following people commented:

- **Roy Hogue** said because of his desire to see the County pay for sidewalk maintenance he can't support the trail at this time and understands the concerns of residents whose homes back up to the channel.
- **Roland Graham** expressed concerns that middle school students would hang out on the pathway and that it would bring increased access from the freeway and homeless people would live under the bridge and coyotes could pose a danger. He also suggested that if the trail was to be planted for shading, that any trees be planted on the north side of the channel to protect views.
- **Brian and Susan Stout** spoke of their concerns regarding increased crime, trash, and costs for insurance and maintenance if the path were to be built, and expressed concerns for the loss of privacy.
- **Jim Bovard** spoke of his concern of flood danger to people on the path, shared what he said were concerns of homes that paralleled the ditch, and requested a light at Gerald Drive and Wendy Drive.
- **Rachel Kleinzweig** stated her support for the path which she said would be great for the community.
- **Tess Hoff** said she'd like more people surveyed and said the trail is good now and that the gates should just be opened so people can use it.
- **Catherine Hogue** asked that the trail be accessible for people who are disabled.
- **Valerie Maslin** asked why residents can't use the trail now.
- **Julie Tan** asked if the traffic signal at Gerald and Wendy Drives was part of the trail project and was told that the signal had already been approved and would be installed in 2015.
- **Bob Wayne** asked that trail developers be respectful of residents and expressed his concern that it would increase vandalism and that children can drown if the channel area is opened to the public.
- **Carol Gonzalez** expressed some concerns but overall said she was in favor.
- **MAC member Steve Wasco** pointed out that kids are already going into the channel area illegally.
- **Debbie Ambrose** stated that the MAC has been discussing the project for some time and suggested that people attend the MAC meetings and participate in their community so their voices are heard.

- **J.C. Simmons** said the path would be a huge assist to cyclists who otherwise have to use Borchard and Lynn Roads which he finds more dangerous, and said a trail would reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Concerns and questions were also expressed about the presence of red legged frogs, protecting migratory birds, EPA and Fish and Game involvement, parking for trail users, bus stops, graffiti, drug dealers, and separating for safety the cyclists from joggers, pedestrians and disabled people, and the ability to traverse under the bridge at Wendy.

7. Public Comments on Items not on the Agenda

Jim Bovard asked for help getting a sound wall on Borchard Road and said 30 residents would benefit. The MAC offered to consider again at a future meeting.

Kim Shriver expressed concern with RV parking in general in Casa Conejo and said one RV near her home is forcing drivers to move from their lane to the middle of the road to bypass it. **MAC member Shannon Prachyl** recommended continuing to contact the CHP who has helped her with a similar situation.

Wendy Zimmerman talked about the City of Thousand Oaks' visioning project, educating the public, trash removal and how the trail fits into an overall vision for the area.

Danny Welsh asked about the possibility of a dog park.

8. Comments of Ventura County Supervisor Linda Parks

Supervisor Parks provided follow-up on a request regarding a partially built commercial building next to the Dollar Tree saying the City has asked the developer to enhance the appearance. Regarding Supervisor Parks' response to a concern raised by **Wendy Zimmerman** regarding traffic crossing the bike lane at NB Wendy Drive at EB 101 on-ramp, Ms. Zimmerman said she will explain her concern for the City of Thousand Oaks staff.

9. Advisory Matters

a. Community Health Assessment Presentation by Rigoberto Vargas, Public Health Director **Public Health Director, Rigoberto Vargas**

b. Goal Setting Using Casa Conejo Survey Results

This item was continued to a future meeting due to lateness of the hour.

c. Draft Wireless Communications Facilities ordinance

This item was continued to a future meeting due to lateness of the hour.

d. Traffic Flow on Old Conejo

This item was continued to a future meeting due to lateness of the hour.

e. Graffiti Removal Intervention Team Update

Edward Villa, Sr. described the graffiti removal team and said volunteers are always welcomed to join.

10. Suggestions for Future Agenda Items

- Goal Setting Using Casa Conejo Survey Results
- Traffic Flow on Old Conejo Road
- Empower Energy Grants
- Draft Wireless Communications Facilities Ordinance
- Rodent Extermination Information
- Sound wall along Borchard Road
- Graffiti Removal Intervention Team Update

11. Adjournment at 8:15pm until Wednesday, September 17, 2014.