

CASA CONEJO MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES
January 21, 2015

**The Casa Conejo MAC held a Meeting Wednesday, January 21, 2015,
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 6:02 pm. **Vice Chair Edward Villa, Sr.** and MAC members **Richard Gaz, Steven Wasco** and **Dustin Woomer, Shannon Prachyl** and **Janell Smith** were present.

2. Flag Salute

Richard Twomey, Jr. led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Dustin Woomer moved that the current Chair and Vice Chair continue for 2015. **Steven Wasco** seconded the motion and the motion passed 7-0.

4. Approval of the Minutes of November 19, 2014

The November 19, 2014 minutes were approved 7-0 on a motion by **Dustin Woomer** and a second by **Richard Gaz**.

5. Adoption of the Agenda

It was decided to move 10b in front of 10a.

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

CHP Officer Musgrove provided statistics on accidents and DUI's in the area for the last 3 years and introduced the new **CHP Commander, Ron Cohan**. **Janelle Smith** offered her appreciation for their good work.

7. Comments of Ventura County Supervisor Linda Parks

Supervisor Parks provided follow-up to the MAC regarding parking of an oversized vehicle/RV on Shirley Drive, coordination on posting signs announcing MAC meetings with Wendy Zimmerman, and efforts to have better signage alerting motorists of the crosswalk at Gerald Drive on Wendy Drive. She also mentioned there are flyers available to attend a quarterly dinner she is hosting on the topic of mountain lions, and other flyers announcing Unmet Transit Needs hearings. She also provided an update on the status of a county ordinance on cellular antennas and stated she will look at having the Board of Supervisors meeting in Casa Conejo when she is Chair of the Board in 2016. She answered questions on the status of sidewalks, explaining because of her recent efforts the County will now include grinding of sidewalks as a repair method when there is less than a 1-inch displacement, however if it is greater than 1-inch the slab will likely need to be replaced, and replacement of slabs will continue to be the financial responsibility of residents. She also stated the Transportation Department is willing to repair all the sidewalks in Casa Conejo at the same time, per the request of the MAC.

7. Public Comments on Items not on the Agenda

Dan Jee requested assistance with building a soundwall on Borchard Road behind his house. The need for the soundwall is due to increased traffic noise. Supervisor Parks recounted past requests from his neighbors and stated the most cost efficient way of doing that would be for all the neighbors to the pool their funds and have the construction job done together. She offered to assist with connecting

residents for this project. A member of the audience indicated he had pursued this and that such a project would cost over one million dollars.

8. Council Comments on Items not on the Agenda

There were no comments from the council members.

9. Advisory Matters

a. Update on the Study for a Multiuse Pathway along the South Branch Arroyo Conejo

Supervisor Parks presented the study of the multiuse pathway proposal that was paid for by the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG).

William Hayes expressed concern about privacy and noise and the impact on the environment and the safety of users of the pathway. He also suggested a bridge across the channel near Borchard Park could help keep cyclists off the street and said it would be better to have the cyclists and pedestrians in the front of people's homes instead of along the channel which is behind people's homes. He also questioned the assumption that there would be fewer vehicle collisions with pedestrians and cyclists if the pathway is built and asked if the pathway would be raised higher in areas where it is well below homes that back it. Supervisor Parks said it is not planned to be heightened.

Susan Stout expressed concerns for privacy and safety and suggested other measures instead of the pathway to increase safety for cyclists and pedestrians, such as speed humps and crossing guards.

Robert Wayne expressed concern from a risk management perspective mentioning the dangers of balls from backyards hitting path users, and slippery leaves.

Nathan Borin said it was horrible and a waste of money to try to preserve the wetlands, and that people can ride a bike on sidewalks instead.

Steve Forman supports the path and would like to see more of these pathways throughout the city.

Danny Welsh said he was undecided previously but knowing that the wetlands could be restored and that there could be environmental enhancement and flood protection makes him supportive of the path now.

Supervisor Parks said the next step will be doing a community wide survey if there is progress with the cooperation of property owners and their easements over the channel.

Other comments included appreciation for the quiet of the area and the environment as it is, and also how older residents don't want this active of a path built.

b. Bus Service in Casa Conejo

Supervisor Parks recommended that residents interested in better bus service contact the Ventura County Transportation Commission and attend their Unmet Transit Needs Hearings, details of which are on flyers that she brought. She said if they get several requests they will likely consider service enhancement. **Kathy Lowry**, a representative from the City of Thousand Oaks Public Works Department Transit Division, stated Casa Conejo is served by the City's Gold Route, and that bus stops are a distance of about five blocks from most residences. She said busses do not typically go into residential neighborhoods because the streets are narrow and noise increases. She said Dial-A-Ride could be a better alternative for residents who can't walk to bus stops, and assured residents that both city and unincorporated residents eligible for Dial-A-Ride can take advantage of this service. A resident noted that getting from Newbury Park to Ventura is difficult, and **Supervisor Parks** suggested concerns such as this be voiced at the upcoming Unmet Transit Needs Hearing.

c. Graffiti Removal Update

No graffiti was reported.

10. Suggestions for Future Agenda Items

- a. Study Session with Public Works on Comprehensive Solutions for Traffic Flow**
- b. Wireless Telecommunications Ordinance**
- c. Graffiti Removal Update**

11. Adjournment at 7:30pm until Wednesday, March 18, 2015.