



## CASA CONEJO MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

*Members of the Council:*  
Chair Wendy Zimmerman  
Vice Chair Edward Villa, Sr.  
Catharine Hogue  
R. Scott Horn  
Richard Gaz

### CASA CONEJO MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES September 21, 2022

The Casa Conejo MAC held a Meeting Wednesday, September 21, 2022,  
6:00 p.m. via Zoom and Teleconference.

#### 1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by **Chair Wendy Zimmerman** at 6:02 pm. MAC members **Edward Villa, Sr., Scott Horn, Catharine Hogue,** and **Richard Gaz** were present.

#### 2. Flag Salute

**Wendy Zimmerman** led the flag salute.

#### 3. Agenda Review

No changes were made to the agenda.

#### 4. Approval of Minutes from July 20, 2022

**Richard Gaz** moved to approve the minutes from July 20, 2022 with one correction in Item 7 changing [www.vcemergemcy.com](http://www.vcemergemcy.com) to [www.vcemergency.com](http://www.vcemergency.com). **Scott Horn** seconded the motion and it was approved 5/0.

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

**California Highway Patrol Commander Heather Hoglund** reported that the northbound scales began operating on July 25<sup>th</sup>. Construction on the southbound scales will begin on September 26<sup>th</sup> and could last about up to 2 months, and then construction will start on the north side lasting for half of next year. She said CHP will be getting new officers next year when both scales are functional and at full staff. She said trucks will bypass scales that are closed, but since construction is inside of the gates it should not affect traffic. Lastly, she said CHP is testing for commercial vehicle inspection specialists for anyone interested in joining the CHP in a non-uniformed position.

**California Highway Patrol Office Ryan Ayers** reported only one incident that shut down Wendy Drive between Michael Drive and Theresa Drive due to a house fire. He said the radar trailer stationed on Wendy Drive was vandalized and has been inoperable so they're hoping to get it fixed soon and back into the community. He said two enforcement details were recently on Wendy Drive and a third operation was on the 101 between the Conejo Scales and 23 Freeway. He announced there will be a CHP booth at Underwood Farms for Public Safety Weekend on October 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>, and also at the Thousand Oaks Farmers Market for the next two Thursdays. He said CHP will host a recruitment seminar on October 15<sup>th</sup> from 10am-2pm for those interested in a career in law enforcement with the CHP. He said the annual Moorpark ChiP Shot Golf Tournament at the Moorpark Country Club will be on October 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:30am to benefit the CAHP Widows and Orphans Fund.

**Wendy Zimmerman** commented that Caltrans had not provided adequate notification for ramp closures at Wendy Drive, and **Catharine Hogue** mentioned a backup off the 101 Moorpark Road exit. **Officer Ayers** said they addressed ramp closure issue with Caltrans and signage on the 101 was provided, and the Moorpark exit traffic pattern was also addressed with the private contractor on site that was redoing the ADA ramps at the corners. He said residents can call the non-emergency dispatch for any issues.

**Vanise Terry** provided a report on behalf of **Ventura County Sheriff's Senior Deputy Christopher Jones** that there were no crime trends to report, but catalytic converter thefts are still prevalent

everywhere and are occurring at all times of the day and night. If people see something suspicious, please report it to the non-emergency dispatch line at (805) 654-9511.

## **6. Comments of Ventura County Supervisor Linda Parks**

**Supervisor Linda Parks** said the Board of Supervisors honored the life and legacy of Supervisor Carmen Ramirez who was tragically killed in a crosswalk in Oxnard and talked about the great work she did in the community. She said the Governor will be appointing a new member to fill her seat hopefully by the next Board meeting to help defend the County's General Plan. She said the Board also approved guidelines for the new County flag designed by Carol Gravelle, and recognized Leroy "Buddy" Gibson who designed the first County flag approved in 1976 but was later rescinded. She said it should be available to the public for purchase at some point. She provided an update from Cal Am that they are waiting to hear if the Municipal Water District (MWD) will make further changes to the water guidelines and that customers are exceeding the call for a 20% reduction in water use. She said the issue with imported water from MWD is not that there isn't enough water from the Colorado River, but that there is no infrastructure to bring it to Ventura County. Lastly, she commended the Sheriff's Office and detectives with the Narcotics Street Team for their collaboration leading to the arrest of an individual who was unlawfully manufacturing and distributing firearms and firearm components using a 3D Printer.

**Scott Horn** suggested providing County flags to the schools.

**Richard Gaz** asked about desalinization plants.

**Wendy Zimmerman** confirmed that the new County Supervisor's term would begin on January 3, 2023.

## **7. Council Comments on Items not on the Agenda**

**Scott Horn** commented on a letter from the Conejo Valley Unified School District regarding the opening of school yards at Aspen, Walnut, Lang Ranch and Conejo Elementary Schools to the public for community use. He reported on his communication with the principal of Walnut Elementary School on ways the MAC can partner with them in the future. Lastly, he commented that the new City planner working on the Gateway Plaza project said it is moving ahead and there are now charging stations there. He also said there is concern about the area not having enough parking spaces.

**Ed Villa, Sr.** commented that Reino Road is now one lane from Borchard Road to Albertson's.

**Wendy Zimmerman** said the "lane diet" on Reino Road was done for cyclists to add protected bike lanes for safety, and there would be others implemented in several places by the City of Thousand Oaks. She said studies were done and input was provided from the Bicycle Advisory Team and community for this project. She also said residents should be aware of changes in the area with some bike lanes getting new resurfacing. She inquired about Casa Conejo's pavement plan and **Vanise Terry** said she would send that to the MAC. Ms. Terry also provided information on the Public Works Agency's online reporting app for issues in the community.

## **8. Public Comments on Items not on the Agenda**

There were no public comments.

## **9. Advisory Items**

### **a. MAC Approval of Comment Letter to the City of Thousand Oaks Regarding the Borchard Wetland**

**Scott Horn** moved to approve and send the comment letter as submitted. There was no second.

**Wendy Zimmerman** commended the amount of research that went into writing the letter. She said she would like to discuss whether the MAC wants to send a letter, if so what the timing would be, and then work on the actual editing of the letter. She said the current City Council is aware of the MAC's position on this issue and suggested sending the letter after the election when new councilmembers would be seated and may need education on this issue. She also said she has suggested changes to offer on the letter and attachments.

**Catharine Hogue** said she would prefer to have the letter done before the end of Supervisor Parks' term.

**Ed Villa Sr.** said he thinks the MAC should wait to see who the new Supervisor will be after the election and also expressed concern about the Brown Act.

**Supervisor Parks** said if the MAC chooses to send a letter that suggested changes could be provided to Ms. Terry to compile and be considered by the MAC at a later meeting.

**Scott Horn** said he preferred the suggested changes be submitted to the Borchard Wetlands Subcommittee. He also said he preferred to have the letter at the next meeting.

**Shawn Moradian** commented that he agrees with the MAC regarding the timing of sending the letter. He said that the request in the letter seems to advocate for the complete taking of the property by removing the R1 zoning, which would trigger immediate litigation. He commented that the letter assumes that governmental bodies will ignore the environmental sensitivities and allow development, but they would still have to show that there is no negative impact and no flood hazard in order to bring a project forward. He also said at no point has a project been submitted to the City for consideration, and if there was the MAC would be notified and comments would be welcomed.

**Wendy Zimmerman** motioned that the comment letter be continued to the November MAC meeting with any suggested edits to be submitted to Vanise Terry. **Catharine Hogue** seconded the motion, and it was approved 4/1, with **Scott Horn** dissenting.

#### **b. Casa Conejo Community Picnic**

**Supervisor Parks** said the Unity in the Community will not be moving forward, and while the idea of providing a community picnic for Casa Conejo is a good, suggested that since the role of the MAC as a government entity is to advise on specific issues, it would be better to have this organized either by another community group or have it as part of an off-site special MAC meeting. She also suggested possibly combining it with a community clean-up event.

**Wendy Zimmerman** said the goal of a community picnic would be to provide a venue for Casa Conejo residents to meet each other, learn about the MAC, and perhaps it could be next year as a special meeting and meet-and-greet with new representatives. **Catharine Hogue** commented that she would like to look into having it at the Borchard Community Center and maybe the Conejo Valley Recreation and Park District would want to help organize it. **Scott Horn** suggested Walnut Elementary School as a possibility since he is looking to find ways to partner with them already.

**Richard Gaz** said the Borchard Community Park could accommodate people to gather outside.

**Shawn Moradian** commented that his company would be willing to sponsor a community event.

### **10. Information Items**

#### **a. Graffiti Removal Intervention Team Update**

**Ed Villa, Sr.** said the two individuals likely responsible for graffiti on the Wendy and Gerald Bridges were arrested for an assault at the 7-11 on Kimber because since their arrest there hasn't been any graffiti anywhere in Casa Conejo.

**Scott Horn** said the graffiti he previously mentioned in the channel by Borchard Playfield #1 has been removed.

### **11. Correspondence**

There was no correspondence reported.

### **12. Future Agenda Items**

- a. Borchard Wetland comment letter
- b. Casa Conejo MAC Meet-and-Greet
- c. Wildfire Prevention Collaborative update

### **13. Adjournment at 7:36 pm to Wednesday, September 21, 2022.**