



REGULAR MEETING Minutes

JEFF GORELL
Supervisor, 2nd District

DALE THOMAS
Field Representative
Supervisor Jeff Gorell

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

- JANE NYE, CHAIR
- SEEMA CHANDRA, VICE CHAIR
- MICHELLE SANTUCCI
- JL DIAZ
- BRIAN TRUSHINSKI

October 26, 2023
7:00 PM

Municipal Advisory Council
Oak Park, California

Oak Park High School
Room G-9
899 North Kanan Road
Oak Park, CA 91377

WEB ACCESS

At: ventura.org/oakparkmac
MAC Calendar, Agenda, and Minutes

Welcome to the meeting of the Oak Park Municipal Advisory Council (MAC) an advisory council for the unincorporated area of Oak Park to Ventura County Supervisor Jeff Gorell.

LEGAL NOTICES

Persons who require accommodation for any audio, visual, language, or other disability to review an agenda or to participate in a meeting of the Oak Park Municipal Advisory Council per the American Disabilities Act (ADA), may obtain assistance by requesting such accommodation by calling (805) 214-2510 or e-mailing dale.thomas@ventura.org. Any such request for accommodation should be made at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting for which assistance is requested.

All agenda reports and supporting data, including those filed in accordance with Government Code Section 54957.5 (b) (1) and (2) are available from Ventura County Supervisor Jeff Gorell's office at 2100 E Thousand Oaks Blvd, Suite E, Thousand Oaks, CA 91362. The same materials will be available and attached with each associated agenda item, when received, at the following website: ventura.org/oakparkmac

Documents including staff materials, comment emails and letters, photos, etc., distributed to the Oak Park Municipal Advisory Council regarding any agenda item during an open session or after the meeting concluded, are posted online and made available for public inspection at ventura.org/oakparkmac

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment is the opportunity for members of the public to participate in meetings by addressing the Oak Park Municipal Advisory Council in connection with one or more agenda or non-agenda items. Public comments by a member of the public at a single meeting are limited to a cumulative total of five minutes at such meeting unless the time allotment is increased or decreased by the Chair depending on the number of speakers. The public comment period during the opening part of the meeting to address non-agenda items is limited to 30 minutes total for all speakers; this 30-minute limit does not apply to items on the agenda.

To maintain a public meeting environment conducive and welcoming to receiving public comments from all members of the public, the audience is discouraged from engaging in displays of support or opposition to staff reports or public comments, including clapping, yelling, booing, hissing or cheering, that may create a disruptive environment for members of the public wishing to participate. Any person who disrupts or impedes the orderly conduct of a meeting will be instructed to cease the disruptive conduct. Failure to do so may result in that person being removed from the meeting.

Members of the public who would like to augment their comments with visual or audio presentations must submit their materials to the dale.thomas@ventura.org for review at least 48 hours before the meeting. The review will be conducted to determine only whether the materials are on matters within the jurisdiction of the Municipal Advisory Council, would be disruptive of the meeting, or would foster illegality, such as identity

theft. If it is determined that materials are about matters not within the Municipal Advisory Council's jurisdiction, or would be disruptive of the meeting, or would foster illegality, use of County-provided equipment will not be allowed.

Email or Mail Public Comment in Advance of the Meeting

If you wish to make a comment on a specific agenda item by email or mail, please submit your comment by 12:00 p.m. on the day prior to the meeting. Indicate in the Subject Line the Agenda item number (e.g., Item No. 9) on which you are commenting. Your email or written comment will be distributed to the Municipal Advisory Council and placed into the item's record for the minutes of the meeting. Public Comments submitted in writing are public records and subject to disclosure. An unredacted version is made available when records are requested by a Public Records Act request. Please do not submit personal contact information you do not want to be made public. Please submit your comment to dale.thomas@ventura.org or mail to:

Oak Park Municipal Advisory Council
Ventura County Supervisor Jeff Gorell
2100 E Thousand Oaks Blvd Suite E
Thousand Oaks, CA 91362

In-Person Public Comment

If you would like to provide a verbal comment **in person** during the meeting, upon arrival at the meeting location, check in with staff and complete a comment card. When your name is called for public comment, please proceed to the podium. If you do not wish to pre-register but would like to provide in-person comments at the meeting, you must check in with the staff prior to the agenda item being called.

OPENING

1. Call to Order by Chair Nye at 7:03 p.m..
2. Roll Call

Members Present: Jane Nye, JL Diaz, Brian Trushinski

Members Absent; Seema Chandra, Michelle Santucci
3. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America led by Jane Nye
4. Approval of the Minutes of the meeting of the Oak Park Municipal Advisory Council held on Thursday, September 28. Motion by JL Diaz. Second by Brian Trushinski, Motion passed unanimously.
5. Agenda Review. Motion to approve by Brian Trushinski. Second by JL Diaz. Motion passed unanimously.

6. Consent Item 12. Motion to Receive and File consent items made by Brian Trushinski. Second by JL Diaz. Motion passed.

Jane Nye commented that, although important topics to the residents of Oak Park, neither the issue of Pickleball at Deerhill Park or the issue of redistricting are appearing on the MAC agenda as both subjects are under the direction of Rancho Simi Recreation and Parks District and are not actionable for the Oak Park MAC. Public Comments would be heard on the issues, however.

7. Public Comments- Citizen Presentations regarding Oak Park Municipal Advisory Council related matters NOT appearing on this agenda. (See Guidelines above).

The following residents (13) Ming Fei, Nina Rosenthal, Deet Erza (ceded time) Wendy Chatter, Pam (did not list name), Heidi Kuppinger, Chris Ruan, Rahne Gangulil, Kim Kavett-Moore, Denise Helfstein and Sue Dermott, all spoke in objection to the conversation of the Deerhill Park Tennis Courts to Pickleball courts, (a motion voted on by Rancho Simi Recreation and Parks District at a previous meeting). The reasons cited included parking problems, noise and lack of availability for tennis players. Speaking on behalf of the conversion were Steven Hoffman and John Dechene citing that there are no courts available for Pickleball players and several courts available for tennis in Oak Park while Pickleball is the most rapidly expanding sport in popularity with many players in Oak Park.

Carolyn Cass-Barton spoke about the need for evacuation plans for Oak Park residents in the case of fire. Separately she addressed her concerns about the removal of a Juniper tree in the median on Kanan Road and a large rock that she felt was dangerous to drivers.

Heidi Kuppinger spoke about the disruption of commercial aircraft noise at her residence. (She was advised that this should be directed to the FAA)

Steven Kozel repeated his request that a formal evacuation plan be designed for Oak Park in the event of a fire emergency. He also requested that to see a statistically detailed report of the crime in Oak Park for the past 5 years.

8. Comments by Mark Perryman, Chief of Staff for Supervisor Jeff Gorell

Mr. Perryman assured attendees at the meeting that their concerns about the transition of the tennis courts at Deerhill Park to pickleball courts have been heard and that it is his understanding that this decision is still being evaluated by the Parks District at the present time. He mentioned that he has met with members of the OPUSD Board and been attentive to their concerns as well. He reaffirmed that the MAC serves in an advisory capacity to the Board of

Supervisors only and mentioned his hope that a solution could be found that would satisfy both sides of the issue. Mr. Perryman's report focused on the activities of Supervisor Gorell since the last MAC meeting. The Supervisor recently held a press conference advising residents of the discovery of the Queensland Fruit Fly which meant that a quarantine was in effect for a 72 square mile radius that would include Oak Park. The discovery of this fruit fly could have a devastating effect on the agriculture industry, and it is imperative that it be contained as quickly as possible. Organic insecticide will be sprayed in the area by the Department of Agriculture beginning immediately. Supervisor Gorell recently wrote an op ed which appeared in the Ventura County Star voicing his concerns about the zero-bail policy currently in effect in Los Angeles County. 30 cities have filed a lawsuit challenging this policy. The Supervisor feels that this policy will possibly increase crime in Ventura County. He also mentioned that the County Board of Supervisors has authorized a \$2M grant to fight the surge of retail theft in the county. Addressing the issues regarding the concerns for the juniper trees, Mr. Perryman assured that this would be addressed by the landscaping committee as soon as possible. Mr. Perryman also encouraged residents to please take advantage of the Public Works App and website to make sure that all matters of concern are registered with the County Public Works. Addressing the concerns about the need for a fire evacuation plan for Oak Park, Mr. Perryman brought up that he has had conversations with Chief Gardner of VCFD who believes that with the unpredictability of fire storms it is impractical create such a plan. He advised that the best thing to do is to work with your neighbors to determine evacuation safety and to evacuate early.

9. Written Comments – Chair to read written comments received by the MAC prior to the meeting.
10. Council Comments –Comments by Council members on matters they deem appropriate. A Council member may ask a question for clarification, make a brief announcement, or make a brief report on his or her own activities. A council member may also provide a reference to staff or other resources for factual information, or request staff to report back to the body at a subsequent meeting concerning any matter. The Council may also direct staff to place a matter of business on a future agenda.

Brian Trushinski reported on the Board meeting of the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District. The issue of changing the tennis courts at Deerhill Park into Pickleball Courts was addressed at length by the parks district and Brian reconfirmed that this is a decision made by the Parks Board and not in the

purview of the Supervisor or his office as Rancho Simi is a separate government entity. Another upcoming issue is the redistricting of the areas within the RSRPD district. The Parks District has received a \$1 million grant for fire abatement for the removal of Palm trees along Medea Creek with the work to begin soon.

JL Diaz commented on the importance of the Firewise community.

Jane Nye reported that she had attending the OPHS Board Meeting in October. The area of concern for brush clearance behind the high school and Medea Creek Lane has been cleared. Jane also encouraged people to use the Public Works app and open tickets to identify areas of Oak Park that need to be repaired. She addressed the issue of graffiti and mentioned that she has painted over these areas and said she is glad to continue to address these as they appear. She also addressed that she is concerned about trash cans not being emptied along Kana Road by Waste Management and has addressed this with public works.

Florence Wang from Oak Park High School reported on the activities of the High School. October 24th there was a successful blood drive. Beginning November 4th, they will be conducting a food drive in support of Manna. A holiday candy drive will take place in December to raise funds for actitovo4es at the high school.

11. California Highway Patrol (CHP)

Report provided by Officer Ryan Ayers.

- Presentation made at Oaks Christian School highlighting teen driving issues particularly distracted drivers.
- October is Pedestrian Safety month. Please be alert.
- Presentation made at Underwood Farms in Somis regarding driving safety.
- Concerns continue with CHP about traffic patterns at Oak Park schools.

12. Ventura County Fire Department

Report provided by Chief Guillermo DeLaRosa, VCFD

- Fire Season is here with the Santa Ana winds arriving. Extreme caution is recommended for fire prevention.
- October 12-14 was Fire Prevention Week. Chef Gorden Ramsey participated in safety cooking demonstrations with VCFD that are available on Utube.

- Firewise USA is growing as an organization. Residents are encouraged to research and participate to make their homes fire safe. Several HOAs in the area have qualified as Fire Safe homes which can reduce insurance premiums. (JL Diaz endorsed this comment and suggested the website of opfsc.org).

13. Ventura County Sheriff

Update provided by Detective Miabelle Ambriz.

- No recent crime trends in Oak Park
- Career Criminal's Unit has identified all suspects and arrests are imminent in the rash of burglaries from this summer. They will be prosecuted in Ventura County.
- CVS on Lindero Canyon is still a target for Shoplifters.
- Overnight on 10/19/23 and 10/20/23, graffiti vandalism was reported at Medea Creek Middle School, Oak Park H.S., Deerhill Park and a flood channel near Covewood Street. Two of the incidents appear to have been related and two suspects were seen in videos. Major Crimes in investigating.

HIGH SHOOOL FIRE ALARM WAS SOUNDED AT 8:40. THE ROOM WAS VACATED AND THE MEETING WAS CALLED BACK TO ORDER AT 8:58pm.

CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda items are routine and non-controversial. Items are reviewed and approved together by the Council as recommended and without discussion unless an item is pulled for separate action by the Board on the Regular Agenda. Consent items are heard at the Council's discretion and may be heard at any time during the meeting.

14.Approved item as per item 6. Going forward the MAC will be asked to create a 3-5 year plan for Oak Park which should be visionary and strategic in nature and address the issues facing the community in the long term. These are to be prioritized and in keeping with budgetary restraints.

REGULAR AGENDA

Regular Agenda items are heard at the Council's discretion and may be heard at any time during the meeting.

15. Presentation by Supervisor Gorell's Chief of Staff, Mark Perryman

Mr. Perryman's presentation was motivated by requests from members of the MAC to clarify exactly what the responsibilities are of the board. He passed out copies of the "Resolution of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Ventura Providing for the Creation and Operation of a Municipal Advisory Council for the Oak Park Area." He clarified that "the Council shall review and provide advisory recommendations regarding planning, public works, safety and welfare matters which relate to the Oak Park area of interest." The MAC was established on June 3, 1975 with the objective of advising the Board of Supervisors and this regulation has not been revised since originally established. MAC members can look into, review and suggest issues of importance to Oak Park residents that come under the responsibilities of public works, landscape and planning. Concerning the question of MAC members assuming positions on Boards of other organizations, members are not to assume they are representing the MAC in voting and decision making unless the item in question has been agendized and voted upon by the OP MAC. In these cases, representatives must provide a disclaimer up front that they are not representing the MAC. It was suggested that there be a link on the Supervisor's website to the resolution for public awareness.

CLOSING

16. Adjournment of the Oak Park Municipal Advisory Council meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m. to the next meeting, Thursday, November 30, 2023 at Oak Park High School, Room G-9, 899 North Kanan Road, Oak Park, CA 91377