



# 2024 Achievements

Oak Park Municipal Advisory Council

Draft October 24, 2024

## Oak Park Municipal Advisory Council

### 2024 Achievements

The following represents the 2024 achievements of the Oak Park Municipal Advisory Council (MAC) directly or by collaboration and influence from the public and with other entities.

#### Public Safety

- Three (3) Flock License Plate Readers (LPR), funded by a State grant vs. the County General Fund, were approved in May and installation was completed in October.
- As requested in April, and as of May, the Ventura County Sheriff's Office (VCSO) monthly report is now more comprehensive regarding all crimes, not just property incidents, reported in Oak Park.

#### Budget Oversight

- Provided input on community priorities for the FY25 CSA 4 budget, resulting in continued funding of \$210,000.00 from the CSA 4 annual budget for Oak Park school crossing guards.
- Kanan Shuttle: Reinforced the need to continue funding the shuttle and at no cost to riders.

#### MAC Administration & Operations

- Passed resolution to have the two upcoming vacant MAC positions be placed on the November 4, 2024, General Election Ballot.
- Provided feedback to, adopted, and implemented the new Ventura County Municipal Advisory Council Policies which was adopted by the Ventura County Board of Supervisors on June 8, 2024.
- Implemented an administrative process and tool to improve the reporting on requests and concerns.

#### Ventura County Board of Supervisors

- The Chair and Vice Chair were appointed to the newly created Legislative Committee and attended Legislative training. The Legislative Committee reviews the County Board of Supervisors (BOS) agendas for their regularly scheduled meetings and advises Supervisor Gorell on legislative matters that may affect or benefit Oak Park. Recommendations made to date:
  - BOS Meeting April 23 (agenda item #33): Oak Park to benefit from the U.S. Department of Transportation's Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Grant Funds to Develop a Vision Zero Plan for the County Unincorporated Areas. The goal / purpose of the Vision Zero Plan is to eliminate traffic related fatalities.
  - BOS Meeting September 24 (agenda item #16): Oak Park to be considered for future funding from the Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Infrastructure grant.

#### Rancho Simi Recreation & Parks District (RSRPD)

- Despite the RSRPD Planning Committee being disbanded in January 2024, landscaping issues of Oak Park citizen and the MAC were regularly communicated to the District's senior staff for follow up action. Further, monthly MAC meeting updates on the District's activities were presented by the MAC's representative.
- Recommended through the Oak Park Planning Committee to have interpretive exhibits placed around the Oak Canyon Community Park Lagoon informing visitors of the environmental benefits to the Malibu Creek Watershed.

- Addressed traffic, noise, parking, and other potential neighborhood impacts, and solutions were incorporated in the final design of the Deerhill Park pickleball facility.
- Worked with the District to increase its regular field staff surveillance and enforcement of safety rules regarding electric and motocross bikes on Medea Creek trails adjacent to Conifer Street homes.
- Worked with the District to make the Golden Eagle Drive trailhead ADA compliant and to prevent unsafe sidewalk conditions from hillside sediment runoff.
- Regularly communicated with senior staff and monitored the District's progress with their wildfire abatement work within the State-required 100-feet of Oak Park homes, garages, and other buildings.
- Met with senior staff to ensure that use of pesticides and other landscape chemicals was being kept to a minimum and complying with State and County regulations. RSRPD is complying.
- Responded to citizen requests to have the District undertake tree and shrub trimming at various locations.

#### CSA 4 Landscape Area

- Launched a yearlong investigation into Ventura County Transportation Department's activities removing a sizable area of trees and vegetation in Medea Creek adjacent to the Oak Hills Drive/ Kanan Road intersection. MAC efforts included field visits with Supervisor Jeff Gorell, and staff from the County Public Works Agency and Rancho Simi Recreation & Parks District. The investigation is ongoing.
- Replaced several damaged and declining juniper trees in the center median of Kanan Road.
- Redesigned the landscape contractor's 4-week planting and maintenance schedule resulting in improved efficiencies and enhanced services in areas of vegetation decline.
- Completed numerous repairs and replacements of aging irrigation systems along Hawthorn Drive, Kanan Road, and Golden Eagle Drive.
- Provided input to Ventura County Real Estate Services' Request for Proposals for CSA 4 Landscape Services for 2025.
- Met with County staff and Enhanced Landscape Manager to ensure that use of pesticides and other landscape chemicals was being kept to a minimum and complying with State and County regulations. Enhanced Landscape is complying. The Interim County Public Works Director, Mr. David Sasek, informed that Roads & Transportation has not used herbicides in Oak Park since 2015, and the Watershed Protection District has not since 2019.
- The traffic safety concern from overgrown juniper trees (visual obstruction) at the north-east corner of Kanan Road/ Tamarind Street has been resolved. The south-east corner safety concern (resulted in a vehicle collision) is in progress.
- Initiated discussions on a possible "Welcome to Oak Park" gateway monument near the Oak Park/ Agoura Hills border. This will be addressed during the 2025 CSA 4 budget process.

#### Community Outreach and Communications

- Increased awareness regarding monthly OP MAC meetings by placing ten (10) signs throughout the community prior to the monthly meetings.
- Communicated / announced information of interest, such as the community open house at the OP Fire Station, MAC and RSRPD community meetings, via social media (e.g., Oak Park Public Facebook, Nextdoor and personal Facebook) to announce information of interest.

End of Report