



MEMBERS OF THE BOARD  
Brian Trushinski, Chair  
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# REGULAR MEETING Agenda

**October 24, 2024**  
**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](http://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 [ashley.bautista@ventura.org](mailto:ashley.bautista@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](http://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](http://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 [supervisorgorell@ventura.org](mailto:supervisorgorell@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 [supervisor@ventura.org](mailto:supervisor@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.

### **Video Recording – Live Stream Information of Meeting**

View the meeting on the livestream at the following link:  
<https://www.youtube.com/@vcd2super/streams>.

### **OPENING**

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America
4. Approval of the Minutes of the meeting of the Oak Park Municipal Advisory Council held on Thursday, September 26, 2024.
5. Agenda Review
6. Consent Items 11-15
7. Public Comments
8. Written Comments - Chair to read written comments received by the MAC prior to the meeting. One Public Comment was submitted by resident Mr. Kozel.

To: Greg Strakaluse C/O The Oak Park Municipal Advisory Committee:

I appreciate the opportunity to submit written comments regarding the new Ventura County Public Works Director, Greg Strakaluse. My name is Steven Kozel and I am a resident of Oak Park in Ventura County. I write to extend a welcome to Mr. Strakaluse and to share some observations and expectations regarding Ventura County Public Works and our community of Oak Park. As you become familiar with our community you will find residents appreciate the opportunity to live in an area with abundant open space and many opportunities for outdoor recreation. We value our environment and have a strong desire to preserve what makes Oak Park special. You will also find a significant number of folks in the community pay attention and have a deep knowledge of the history of the community and a deep knowledge of the surrounding environment. We are ready to step up and work with the Ventura County to protect our community and its surrounding open space. We are proud of the fact the open space including Rancho Simi Recreation and Parks Department is also a destination for many in the Southern California region.

It is in this context I share the following experience with Ventura County Public Works and our beloved Medea Creek. Medea Creek drains the Oak Park community and ultimately its water enters the Malibu Creek and the Pacific Ocean at Surfrider Beach in Malibu. The Malibu Creek watershed is one of the southernmost ranges of the steelhead trout. Folks in this area are dedicated to restoring the range of the steelhead, and critical to that is the health of the Malibu Creek watershed. When Medea Creek is adversely affected so is Malibu Creek.

Actions by Ventura County Public Works adversely affected the northwest tributary of Medea just south of Kanan road along Oak Hills Drive last October. Apparently concerns were raised about potential flooding of residences along Hollytree Dr. north of Kanan Road due to a blocked storm drain and culvert that drains water from a natural drainage north of the residences. This area experienced flooding in the past, so action was warranted. It was the extent of that action that is at issue. Over many days, about 250 feet of Medea Creek streambed and riparian habitat was "clearcut" by contractors to mitigate potential flooding. Keep in mind no flooding had occurred during tropical storm Hilary in late August 2023 (rainfall during this event exceeded 4 inches). The necessary mitigation should have only required the removal of a few willows blocking the Kanan Road culvert and removal of some small brush and sediment from the Oak Hills culvert draining the area above the Hollytree residences. Community members including folks with practical and professional expertise walked the site after the work was completed. Significant damage to the habitat occurred and it was stunning. The area has not recovered. What were some of the system failures contributing to this outcome?

1. County Public Works assumed it had a permit from CDFW to conduct the work. The existing CDFW permit did not apply to this stretch of Medea Creek. Local residents did not observe a biologist on site during the time the work was performed. It is incumbent on the leadership of Ventura County Public Works to ensure policies and procedures insure compliance with the law.
2. When community members contacted various Public Works departments during work, staff did not seem to be aware of the work and could not respond to concerns raised by those members. There was also a question of jurisdiction. Was this Ventura County or was this Rancho Simi Recreation and Parks Department ordering and subcontracting the work?
3. When community members asked to see the county CDFW permits, documents were not produced in a timely manner. Only recently did members of the community receive the CDFW permit documents. A quick read of these documents established the affected stretch of Medea Creek was not included in the permits.

In my opinion this event demonstrated communication failures, jurisdictional responsibility failures, and a lack of transparency. From a community perspective, we ask, how can you assure us system changes have been made so this will not occur again?

In my opening comments I mentioned we are members of a community with in-depth knowledge of our surrounding open space. Residents are ready and willing to contribute information that may not be known by Public Works leadership. When the community experiences a situation similar to work performed on Medea Creek in October 2023, we have questions. Questions typically require an after action report which requires additional resources from the county to address the issues raised by the community members. This is not an efficient use of resources.

We are all stakeholders; we will step up. Community members in Oak Park can provide input. We are ready to work with Public Works to address issues constructively and achieve productive outcomes. We all benefit by doing so. Please give my comments some consideration and thought. Thank you for your time.

Regards,

Steven Kozel  
Oak Park-Mae Boyar

## 9. Council Comments

10. Supervisor Jeff Gorell Comments – Staff Member Israel Rodriguez will be operating the 10/24 Meeting and will make comments on behalf of Supervisor Gorell.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OTHER BUSINESS**

- Process for Community Volunteers on Oak Park MAC Committees
- MAC Request to Invite Mr. Eric Lundstrom (District 5: Rancho Simi Recreation & Parks District) to November 21, 2024, MAC Meeting.
- January 2025 California Brown Act Training for the MAC.
- Oak Park MAC Request to Provide Input for Ventura County Watershed Protection District (2025-30) Draft CDFW Routine Maintenance Agreement at November MAC meeting.

## **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.

## **RECOMMENDATION TO RECEIVE AND FILE**

### 11. Ventura County Fire Department Report

- October 6-12 is Fire Prevention Week. This year's national theme is Smoke Alarms: Make Them Work for You. Fire Prevention staff will be engaging residents about the importance of smoke alarms at several locations throughout the county, including Lowe's Home Improvement at 1027 Academy Drive in Thousand Oaks on Oct. 5 and The Oaks Mall Farmer's Market in Thousand Oaks on Oct. 10. Additionally, the department is hosting a social media Smoke Alarm Challenge in which residents are challenged to share a short video of their creative ways to test their smoke alarms.
- VCFD put a replacement ladder truck into service at Station 41 in Simi Valley on September 13. The new ladder truck is equipped with a pump that can provide water for fire suppression efforts, which is an upgrade over the previous ladder truck. The previous truck now joins the reserve apparatus fleet to maintain operations should one of the first run trucks break down.
- Recruiting for seasonal fire control workers will begin November 4. These employees are an important part of VCFD's fire suppression capabilities. Their primary role is the physical labor associated with fighting wildfires, such as digging lines to stop the spread of fire through light grasses and vegetation.

- Forecasts by the National Geographic Area Coordination Center indicate a developing La Niña pattern and a slight to moderate tilt in the odds towards above normal large fire potential in our area for October and November. All residents should remain vigilant with best practices to avoid potential fire starts.

## **RECOMMENDATION TO RECEIVE AND FILE**

### 12. Ventura County Sheriff's Office Report

- During the month of September, deputies working the Oak Park Community responded to 95 calls for service in September. They took 17 crime reports and 9 incident reports in July. They took 11 crime reports and 16 incident reports. Incident reports are generated from calls for service where deputies were unable to establish a crime but documented the incident. Those incidents are reviewed by Detectives to see if any further follow-up is required.
- Vandalism: There were two vandalism reports taken. Victim believes a suspect'(s) sprayed lawn killer on his grass causing an usual dead spot. Investigation was conducted by East County General Investigative Unit and no suspects were located.
- The second vandalism report was graffiti to the Triunfo Water and Sanitation water storage tank. The graffiti was illegible. The case was investigated by East County Major Crimes and closed with no suspects located.
- Forgery / Fraud cases: The victim fell prey to a Facebook scam and suffered a substantial financial loss. This case was investigated by the East County Financial Crimes Unit. Due to the suspects requesting and receiving crypto currency this case was forwarded to the FBI for further investigation. Social media and telephonic scams are frequently occurring.
- As a reminder banks and other legitimate businesses will not ask you to provide your personal information such as social security number or bank information. Also, if you are asked to pay the subject on the phone by gift card or crypto currency this is a scam. Call the Sheriff's Office immediately.
- Auto Crimes: There was a burglary from a motor vehicle. The actual burglary occurred in the month of March but was not reported until this month. The case was investigated by the General Assignment Unit and closed with no suspect information.
- Burglary: There were two burglary reports this month. First a known suspect entered the victim's home and stole their dog. The second was a residential burglary that occurred during the evening hours. This M.O. is consistent with our Trans-National Theft Groups. These cases are still under investigation by the Commercial Residential Burglary Unit.

- Thefts: Victim's license plate was stolen from their vehicle. The location of the theft is unknown. There are no suspects in this case. The case was investigated by the General Assignment Unit and closed.
- To help prevent theft from vehicles, we encourage everyone to lock their vehicles and remove all their valuable items. Remove it, Lock it, Keep it.

## RECOMMENDATION TO RECEIVE AND FILE

### 13. California Highway Patrol Report

- The CHP Moorpark Area continues to send Special Enforcement Units (SEU) to conduct targeted patrol throughout Oak Park. Citations are being issued for unsafe turns, unsafe passing, posted signage violations, unsafe speed, and various parking violations. Targeted patrols help saturate an area where multiple violations are known to be happening at once so multiple violations can be addressed in the area simultaneously.
- CHP Moorpark is hosting a Start Smart class in early November (please check our social media pages for the exact date, it is not yet scheduled). The class will be from 6:00pm-8:00pm at the Moorpark CHP Office at 610 Spring Rd. in Moorpark. This is a FREE class offered to current and prospective teenage drivers and their parents/guardians to discuss important issues such as tips on how to avoid crashes, safe driving habits, dynamics of a crash, consequences of a poor choice behind the wheel, parental roles and responsibilities, and legal and civil liabilities. Call the Moorpark CHP office to reserve your spot at (805) 553-0800.
- CHP Moorpark will be focusing patrols on distracted driving violations during Distracted Driver Awareness Week, October 21<sup>st</sup> through October 27<sup>th</sup>. Anything that diverts our attention away from driving, however slight, is a distraction. Safe driving requires 100% of our attention 100% of the time.
- The California Highway Patrol will be conducting a Maximum Enforcement Period (MEP) over the Thanksgiving Holiday weekend. The MEP will run from Thursday, November 28<sup>th</sup> through Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup>. A focus for this MEP will be seatbelt violations.
- The California Highway Patrol is hiring 1,000 officers to help make California's roadways safer. If you or someone you know would like to join the CHP, visit [www.betheCHP1000.com](http://www.betheCHP1000.com) for more information and to speak with a local recruiter. Also, the CHP is hiring more than just officers. We are currently looking to fill 165 dispatcher vacancies across the state and are also looking for Commercial Vehicle Inspection Specialists to inspect the growing number of commercial vehicles on California highways. The CHP will provide you with the training for all three of these positions. More details and applications can be found at [www.chp.ca.gov](http://www.chp.ca.gov).



- Follow CHP Moorpark on social media for traffic updates, sig alerts, evacuation notices, roadway closures, and general information on what the CHP is doing in your area.

### **RECOMMENDATION TO RECEIVE AND FILE**

14. Landscape Committee Report

### **RECOMMENDATION TO RECEIVE AND FILE**

15. Board of Supervisors Approved Municipal Advisory Council Policy Adopted June 2024.

### **REGULAR AGENDA**

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

16. MAC Candidate Introductions. 5 minutes per person. No questions.
17. Oak Park Landscape Request for Proposal – Public Works to Provide Update
18. MAC 2024 Achievements Draft
19. MAC 2025 Draft Work Plan
20. Monument Sign & Lighting Quote
21. Oak Park Website

### **CLOSING**

22. Adjournment

Next MAC Meeting November 21, 2024, 7 pm OPHS High School G-9