



MEMBERS OF THE BOARD
Brian Trushinski, Chair
Michelle Santucci, Vice Chair
J.L. Diaz
Jane Nye
Brianna Adams

REGULAR MEETING

January 30, 2025

MINUTES

Brown Act Training/

MAC Operations 5:30 PM

Regular Meeting 7:00 PM

Municipal Advisory Council
Oak Park, California

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

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. 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 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 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. Brown Act Training provided by Chief Deputy County Counsel Jeff Barnes 5:30-7:00 pm
2. Call to Order Brian Trushinski 7:00 pm
3. Roll Call JL Diaz, Brianna Adams, Brian Trushinski, Michelle Santucci, Jane Nye
4. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, Brianna Adams
5. Approval of the Minutes of the meeting of the Oak Park Municipal Advisory Council held on Thursday, November 21, 2024. First by Brian Trushinski, Second Michelle Santucci
6. Swearing in of Oak Park MAC Members Brianna Adams and Jane Nye – Conducted by Chief Deputy County Counsel Jeff Barnes
7. Agenda Review Brian Trushinski made a motion to approve, JL Diaz second, approved by all
8. Public Comments -
 - Resident made comments about trees on Las Arcos across from the park. HOA committee for Hillcrest. Pine Trees are a concern. She is concerned

about fire safety in Oak Park. Contact: Janet Jackson jmjack1019@gmail.com
818-903-8967

- Resident made comments about planting native plants so that homes are hardened to prevent fire risk. Encouraging neighbors to take care of their yards and homes. He brought a tray of acorns to plant trees that are spark resistant. Creates a buffer to protect property. Encouraging community to become fire wise. Joel Goldes joel@thedialectcoach.com 818-458-7498

9. Written Comments

Email sent January 20, 2025

Ms. Bautista,

I hope the new year finds you, the family, Supervisor Gorell and the supervisor's team well. At the November MAC meeting I promised I would send pictures of the Medea Creek stream bed alteration that occurred at the Kanan Oak Hills intersection during October 2023. Please accept my apologies for taking 2 months to forward the pictures. I attached a sample from the beginning including a picture of the contractor's truck responsible for performing the work. I have many more pictures, however, the file is too large to include. I would be happy to review these in person with your team. I tried to include examples of the of the actual alteration of the stream-bed, which shouldn't have occurred, and the actual resulting damage a few weeks afterwards. One can also note the failure to remove invasive species. I included one picture of eutrophication, which is the overgrowth of algae in the water that depletes oxygen from the stream water and is abnormal. Our entire community in Ventura County has lots on his plate right now, so I understand the ongoing review of this event will be relatively low on the list of priorities, but I would not like it to get lost in the chaos of current events.

I and members of the community have identified additional issues that should be discussed in MAC meetings:

(1. Speed Limit Lindero Canyon Rd from Kanan Rd to Lakeview Canyon Rd is 50 MPH; on the northbound side of Lindero canyon it is 35 MPH. This is the stretch of Lindero Canyon Rd adjacent to the shopping centers. This speed limit is excessive. When I tried to report this to CONNECT with VCPWA I was informed by the app this was not in their jurisdiction. Perhaps this is Thousand Oaks. How can we bring this to the attention of the agency with jurisdiction?

(2. Recent comments on social media in the Mae Boyar neighborhood of Oak Park have reported teenagers riding E-Bikes at night in the area surrounding Conifer Dr. west and east of Kanan Rd. Comments have identified excessive speed, wheelies and general disturbance of the peace. Those commenting on social media claim the Ventura County Sheriff was notified, but no action was taken or possible. Is it possible to review reports to the Ventura County sheriff in this area to document what is actually

reported. If this has been reported why can't action be taken. As you may be aware laws recently changed with respect to the E-Bikes, some of which are now illegal for street use . The safe use of the bikes in the neighborhood needs attention.

3. I and others have discussed on social media the use of Rancho Simi Rec & Parks Department Open Space during the high wind events of the last 2 months. Most recently I have noted a number of folks in the open space on days with Red Flag warnings and Particularly Dangerous Situation warnings Issued by the NWS. This cannot be safe for the individuals or the community. Is it possible to work with Rancho Simi to limit or prohibit access during these events? At a minimum, community education should occur. COSCA, Conejo Open Space Conservation Agency, does this when Red Flag Warnings are issued.

I have a final ask. I am a member of the Friend of Oak Park Open Space Board. We would like to explore working with Supervisor Gorell's team to post announcements of our community events on the web site and on the Oak Park entry signs (where the MAC meetings are posted). Is this possible. We will also reach out to Rancho Simi with a similar ask.

Thanks for reading.
Steven Kozel

10. Council Comments

- Jane Nye – Shared the artwork of a local student that is featured in the Tirunfo calendar.
- Michele Santucci – Legislative council shared how she reviews agenda and provides feedback. Since the last meeting in November, they have not had any items that needed input. Michelle Santucci also received an email from a resident inquiring about an assessment for a potential catastrophic event.
- JL Diaz– Visted Altadena and Pacific Palisades and found there was no words from the sadness of the devastation. Encourages people to become Firewise.
- Brianna Adams would like to know why you can't make a left turn at Los Arcos. She wants that looked into.
- Chair Brian Trushinski would like to have the Fire Safe Council invited to the next meeting and would also like next month's meeting to cover Mr. Kozel's items – Lindero Canyon Road Speed Limits, Issue at May Boyer Park and e-bike concerns. Also asked that committees be added to the agenda and website and requested a vote by the Board on the following:

- **Landscape Committee**

Members: Brian Trushinski, Motion: BrianTrushinski made the motion, Brianna Adams seconded

- **Oak Park District Liaison**, Member: Brianna Adams, Motion: JL Diaz made the motion, Brian Trushinski seconded
- **Legislative Committee**, Members: Michelle Santucci, Brian Trushinski Motion: JL Diaz, Brianna Adams Seconded
- **Fire Safe Council**, Member: JL Diaz, Motion: Michelle Santucci, seconded by Brian Trushinski

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.

- Michelle Santucci pulled 12/14/24 Fire and Sheriff's reports. Brian Trushinski pulled item 15 the CSA4 landscape report. Motion to approve consent agenda Brian Trushinski, JL Diaz second.

RECOMMENDATION TO RECEIVE AND FILE

12. Ventura County Fire Department Report

In 2024, Ventura County residents concerned about fire danger quadrupled the number of Firewise USA communities in our county. At the start of the year, there were six communities recognized for best practices by Firewise USA. Now, Ventura County has 25, beating the fire department's goal by one. When communities work together, they can have an even greater impact in reducing the risk from wildfires.

The possibility of Santa Ana wind events continues. Everyone should remain vigilant about avoiding activities that could start a fire, such as a hot muffler against tall weeds, a dragging tow chain, a tossed cigarette or an outdoor fire pit.

The fire departments of Ventura County, along with dozens of community partners, collected and distributed toys to more than 30,000 needy children during the holidays as part of the Spark of Love campaign.

RECOMMENDATION TO RECEIVE AND FILE

13. Ventura County Sheriff's Office Report

During the months of November and December, deputies working the Oak Park Community responded to 211 calls for service. They responded to 104 in November and 107 in December. They took 52 total reports, 23 were crime reports and 29 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 was one vandalism report for the month. There was hate speech graffiti painted on an intersection. There were no witnesses. Investigation is ongoing by the East County General Investigative Unit and there are no suspects at this time.

Forgery / Fraud cases:

All cases are under investigation by the Financial Crimes Unit. There were 5 reports of fraud or forgery during the months of November and December. 1 of the reports occurred in LA County and was sent to the appropriate agency for investigation. Three reports were theft by the use of access cards. The victim's cards were used without their permission. One report was the forgery of checks. The victim had their checks stolen and the suspects forged multiple checks. The final report was a home rental scam. This scam has happened in the past, but we are seeing an increase in the whole Conejo Valley again.

As a reminder banks and other legitimate businesses will not ask you to provide your personal information such as social security numbers 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. With the rental property scam. Make sure you visit the property and see the inside of the property before you provide any money. Please be wary of pop-up ads on your computer. This is often hackers trying to compromise your bank information. Call the Sheriff's Office immediately.

Auto Crimes:

There was a report of a stolen vehicle. The victim's vehicle was later recovered by the CHP and returned to the victim. Victim reported their vehicle license plate was stolen. There was no suspect information and the case was closed. Attempted Stolen Vehicle report. Suspects attempted to steal the victim's vehicle but were unsuccessful. This was part of a larger investigation by our Special Enforcement Unit and Commercial/Residential Burglary Unit into a crew that was stealing cars and committing commercial burglaries. Several of the suspects were arrested and charges were filed with the DA's Office.

Burglary:

There was an attempted residential burglary report in November. Unknown suspects tried to pry open a window. They were unsuccessful and there was no property loss to the victim. The case was investigated by the Commercial / Residential Burglary Unit. There were no suspects identified, and the case was closed.

Thefts:

There was one report of Organized Retail Theft. This case was investigated by the ORT Task Force. No suspects were identified, and the case was closed.

There was a theft from a vehicle spree in Oak Park and Newbury Park in the month of December. This case is being investigated by the General Assignment Unit. 3 suspects have been identified, and arrests are coming.

RECOMMENDATION TO RECEIVE AND FILE

14. California Highway Patrol Report

CHP Moorpark and the California Highway Patrol concluded another successful year of our annual CHiP's for Kids Toy Drive event, which ran throughout the month of December. With the help from our community, we were able to distribute thousands of new toys to underserved kids throughout Ventura County. THANK YOU for helping us give back to our community.

The California Highway Patrol conducted a Maximum Enforcement Period (MEP) over the New Year's holiday. The MEP ran from 6 p.m. Tuesday, December 31st through Wednesday, January 1st. The focus for this MEP was Impaired Driving violations. The CHP wrapped up its New Year's MEP with 481 DUI arrests statewide during the 30-hour campaign, averaging one arrest every four minutes. CHP officers also issued nearly 10,000 citations for speeding, seatbelt violations, and other traffic infractions. Maximum Enforcement Periods have been a part of California Highway Patrol (CHP) policy for many years and have specific deployment and reporting procedures. During an MEP, field commands are required to deploy the maximum amount of uniformed personnel to address primary collision factor violations, impaired drivers, and assure a prompt response to any incident causing a hazard or traffic delay.

As we recover from a series of major Public Safety Power Shutdowns (PSPS) in Ventura County, please be careful while driving. These PSPS's are affecting traffic control signals, making them inoperative. California Vehicle code states "The driver of any vehicle approaching an intersection which has official traffic control signals that are inoperative shall stop at the intersection and may proceed with caution when it is safe to do so."

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 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.

RECOMMENDATION TO RECEIVE AND FILE

15. Landscape Committee Report for January 2025 – No report. Last meeting tour with Public Works November 2024.

REGULAR AGENDA

16. Oak Park MAC Request Tickler Log – will be updated on a monthly basis, self explanatory, reference number when an item is added to closed it will retain reference number

17. Ventura County Public Works Watershed Protection District draft 2025-2030 California Department of Fish & Wildlife (CDFW) Routine Maintenance Agreement for Medea and Lindero Creeks and their Tributary Streams.

Public

Works

Update:

Public Works Director Gregg Strakaluse and Assistant Director Jeff Palmer provided an update on current and upcoming projects:

- New Project Dashboard: A two-week look-ahead dashboard has been implemented to inform the public about ongoing and upcoming work.
- Coordination with Oak Park Open Space: JL Diaz inquired whether Public Works is coordinating with Oak Park Open Space. Public Works confirmed they have a crew handling the work but are open to further coordination.
- Dead Palm Tree Removal: Michelle Santucci asked about the schedule for removing dead palm trees. Palmer will follow up and report back to the MAC. The trees in question are located east of Medea Creek Lane and north of Oak Hills Drive (northeast tributary).
- Medea Creek Updates: Brian raised concerns about:
 - The need for a vegetative buffer zone and forming a community workgroup.
 - Updating the hydrology data for Medea Creek, as new topography data from 2017 is available but not yet incorporated into existing models.

Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS) & Traffic Signals:

- Michelle Santucci raised concerns about stoplights being out during PSPS events and asked if proactive measures could be taken.
- Gregg Stakuluse noted that some signals have battery backups, and the county is upgrading them with generators for extended functionality.
- During the recent PSPS, there were concerns about Caltrans-controlled lights on highways. The county collaborated with Caltrans to resolve the issue.
- Stoplight upgrades are ongoing countywide to improve reliability during power outages.

Vote to extend meeting time:
 A motion was made by Brian Trushinski and seconded by Michele Santucci to extend the meeting until 10:00 PM and it was carried unanimously.

18. MAC Budget and Landscape Contract

- Public Works George Andrade, Real Estate Services Manager provided updated on RFP. It has gone out for bid. It's important for community to understand that the expectation and service has to align based on the budget.
- Once there is a budget Brian Trushinski asked for a report each month.
- The contract with Enhanced Landscape will continue through June 30th, ensuring no service interruptions.
- George Andrade will provide further details on this item.
- Budget to be presented at February meeting.
- Brian Trushinski asked for monthly or bi-monthly update reports from the County Public Works Agency identifying remaining funds in each CSA4 budget line. Brian Trushinski said that updates will assist the MAC in setting project priorities based on the remaining funds.

19. Ventura County Sheriff's Office and Office of Emergency Services to address community questions and concerns regarding evacuation plans and emergency preparedness.

- Director of the Office of Emergency Services Patrick Maynard
- Commander Cory Rubright
- Provided extensive update on emergency preparedness and response.

20. MAC 2024 Achievements: Brian Trushinski reminded the MAC that the document was approved at the November 2024 MAC Meeting.

21. MAC 2025 Draft Work Plan

- Moved by JL Diaz, Brianna Adams 2nd carries unanimously
- Discussed that no additional work plan actions were suggested.

22. 2025 MAC Meeting Calendar last Thursday of each month, third Thursday in November, Dark in August and December JL Diaz moved to adopt and Michelle Santucci 2nd carries unanimously.

CLOSING

23. Adjournment 10:00 pm by Brian Trushinski.

Next Oak Park MAC Meeting February 27, 2025, 7 pm OPHS High School G-9, 899 Kanan Rd, Oak Park.