

OAK PARK MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES
of an official Meeting, October 22, 2019.
The Oak Park MAC held an official meeting
on Tuesday, October 22, 2019 at 7:00 PM in the
Oak Park Library, 899 N. Kanan Road, Oak Park.

1. Call to Order of the meeting

The meeting was called to order by *Vice Chair Jane Nye* at 7:00 PM. *JL Diaz* and *Janice Smets* were also present. *Seema Chandra* and *Alon Glickstein* were absent.

2. Flag Salute

The MAC members led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Adoption of the Agenda

The MAC voted 3-0 to adopt the agenda, with *Janice Smets* making the motion seconded by *JL Diaz*.

4. Approval of the Minutes of September 24, 2019

Janice Smets made a motion to approve the draft minutes seconded by *JL Diaz*, and passed 3-0.

5. Public Safety reports

Ventura County Sheriff's Office Captain Renee Ferguson reported to the MAC about the previous month. She said that a storage unit lock was broken at an apartment complex on Foxwood, gift cards had been stolen at a residence on St. Thomas, and there was an arrest of a woman charged with sexually abusing minors. *JL Diaz* asked whether this person had been listed in Megan's Law postings, and the answer was that she had not been listed.

6. Comments of Ventura County Supervisor Linda Parks

Supervisor Parks noted that there would be a County report addressing the use of glyphosate by the County's General Services Agency. She said when asked that ending its use in the medians in Oak Park was a matter to be decided by the Community Service Area #4. She said that she was supporting the introduction of new portable power sources for residents with disabilities to use during emergencies. She said that she supported strengthening building codes, and encouraging the hardening of homes, for high fire hazard areas. She spoke about how the 2018 Borderline Bar and Grill tragedy was being remembered through the "Thousand Oaks Remembers" collection of stories and events at the Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza, and the creation of a Memorial at a public park in Thousand Oaks. She showed the MAC the So Cal Edison electric company's map for the limited area in Oak Park where planned power outages could occur. She said that no complaints had been recorded about new schedule with some changes to the route for the Kanan Shuttle aimed at cutting expenses while not impacting the times when it is used most. She reminded everyone about the parks and recreation committee election to be held at the January, 2020 MAC meeting. She said that a January 21, 2020 Board of Supervisors meeting would take place in Thousand Oaks, and that the MAC Chair could report on MAC activities then. She noted that the volunteer policing programs introduced by the CHP and the Sheriff's Office for Oak Park were doing well. She recommended asking the CERT team for assistance with checking on pets at residences during emergencies, in answer to *Janice Smets'* inquiry. She noted that SoCal Edison offered people with special needs that they could sign up with the company for emergency assistance. She also recommended the REI store chain as a source for portable power supplies, in answer to *Janice Smets'* question about finding generators for use during emergencies.

7. Information items

a. Information about the City of Thousand Oaks Forestry Plan

Garrett Crawford presented a power point about the policies that guide how the City maintains its public landscaping.

b. Information and update about the county maintained landscaping areas in Oak Park

Charles Alvarez from the County Real Estate Services reported on the state of the repairs to public landscaping from the Woolsey Fire. See the attached report. He recommended postponing to February or March the consideration of putting out a bid for a plan to convert landscaping along Lindero Canyon Road to drought tolerant plantings. **Janice Smets** said that she would like to have a performance evaluation report for the landscaping contractor.

8. Public Comments

Carolyn Cass-Barton spoke about an ash tree in Mae Boyar Park near a playground, and asked for support in protecting it from removal.

9. Council Comments/Liaison Reports

Janice Smets said that a recent incident in North Ranch showed the value of CERT training.

Jane Nye reported on the October 15 meeting of the Oak Park Unified School District board, highlighting how the discussion on gender diversity continued, the activities of the Education Foundation, and the AM/PM program run by the School District.

10. Written Communications

There were none.

11. Advisory Matters

a. MAC Letter to Triunfo Water and Sanitation District about public outreach and installing a new mobile cell facility.

The item was postponed.

b. OPUSD request for a 13th crossing guard position, at the intersection of Kanan Road and Deerhill Road; for an estimated \$11,606 annual cost beginning in 2019/20 (Agendized at the request of MAC member Alon Glickstein; continued from September MAC meeting)

The item was postponed.

12. Adjournment to the November meeting in Oak Park Library

Vice Chair Nye canceled the November meeting and adjourned the meeting at 8:15 P.M.



**COUNTY OF VENTURA
PUBLIC WORKS AGENCY
CENTRAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT
MEMORANDUM**

DATE: October 23, 2019

TO: Oak Park Municipal Advisory Council File

FROM: Charles E. Alvarez, Manager
Real Estate Services Division

SUBJECT: MONTHLY CSA 4 LANDSCAPE UPDATE

1. Median Replanting Update: As you know, in August Enhanced Landscape provided an estimate for the removal of grass in two medians on Lindero Canyon Road. The estimate was \$125,240. Due to the high cost of the work, GSA Purchasing has advised me that the landscape median work will have to be put out to bid. Because Enhanced Landscape would have an unfair advantage in bidding a project that it worked with the MAC to design, I advised Greg Epstein not to report back to the MAC with ideas for redoing the medians so that they used less water for landscaping. If the MAC decides that it wishes to pursue this type of landscape enhancement, we will need to budget for a landscape architect to present options to the MAC, together with an estimate on what the landscape enhancements might cost, so that money could be budgeted to remove the grass from the medians. Depending on how much available funds that there are in the budget, this may have to be planned as a multi-year project.
2. Woolsey Fire Landscape/Irrigation Repairs: Valerie and I met with the contractor Thursday of last week to inspect the slope stabilization and irrigation repairs. The contractor agreed to do the following:
 - Remove and dispose of old pipe and other debris still littering portions of the slope;
 - To replant one 20'x20' section of slope where the new groundcover has died and to readjust the existing sprinklers, or add a new irrigation pipe lateral, so this section of the slope is properly watered; and
 - To place "reclaimed water" stickers every 10' along the new above ground portion of the irrigation system, including stickers on the risers for all sprinkler heads.

The punch list should be completed by the end of this month.

3. Other Landscape Concerns: While we conducted the walkthrough of the fire damage repairs last week, Valerie and I noted several issues of concern to discuss with Greg Epstein, of Enhanced Landscaping. They are:

- A ground squirrel problem on the slopes adjacent to Oak Hills Elementary School; and
- Silt on the sidewalks adjacent to some of the slopes which indicates either overwatering or the need for a higher density of groundcover on the slopes. This needs to be addressed before the rainy season to avoid pedestrian slip hazards.

In addition, several items of concern were noted that we wanted to discuss with your MAC. They are:

- The presence of an Oak Park Montessori banner in the landscape area near the northeast corner of Kanan Road and Churchwood. The banner is strung between two trees. Eyelet screws were placed in both trees to hold the cabling or cord supporting the banner (see pictures). It looks like the Montessori school has been hanging a banner at this location for some time because remnants of cord are visible on surrounding trees. Is this something that the MAC has previously approved? How does the MAC feel about permitting the placement of such banners? How about Real Estate signs on CSA 4 maintained slopes?