

Members of the Council: Chair Jane Nye Vice Chair JL Diaz Seema Chandra Alon Glickstein Janice Smets

OAK PARK MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES June 30, 2022 The Oak Park MAC held a meeting on Thursday, June 30, 2022 at 7:00 PM

Oak Park High School, Room G-9 899 N. Kanan Road, Oak Park, CA

1. Call to Order of the meeting

The meeting was called to order by **Chair Jane Nye** at 7:02 PM. MAC members **Seema Chandra**, **Alon Glickstein**, **JL Diaz** and **Janice Smets** were present.

2. Flag Salute

JL Diaz led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Adoption of the Agenda

Alon Glickstein moved to adopt the agenda and Seema Chandra seconded the motion. It was approved 4/0 with Janice Smets abstaining.

4. Approval of the meeting minutes of May 31, 2022

Alon Glickstein moved to adopt the minutes as submitted and Seema Chandra seconded the motion. It was approved 3/0 with JL Diaz and Janice Smets abstaining.

5. Public Safety reports

CHP Lt. Jeremy Key reported a minor injury bicycling accident on June 19th on Deerhill Road near Kanan Road. He said the cyclist was not wearing a helmet and stressed the importance of doing so. He announced upcoming classes for Age Well Drive Smart on July 19th at 1:00 pm at the Simi Valley Senior Center and Start Smart for beginning drivers on July 28th at the Moorpark CHP Station. He also announced a blood drive on August 17th at the Moorpark CHP Station. He said there will be a maximum enforcement period of CHP officers on the roads for the Fourth of July. He said highway violence is on the rise and said a recent head-on collision on SR 118 was the result of aggressive behavior while passing on the 2-lane highway. He recommended that residents not engage with aggressive behavior on the roads, to remain patient, and to get a license plate number, if possible, and call 9-1-1 if behavior persists. Lastly, he reported that CHP is up-to-date on all traffic complaints in the Oak Park area and there have been no issues reported regarding the Calleguas construction project.

Vanise Terry provided comments on behalf of **Ventura County Sheriff Senior Deputy Christopher Jones**, who was unable to attend, that there have been no major reported crimes in Oak Park other than one incident of mail theft, and that the Sheriff's South American Theft Group Task Force arrested six more people for attempted residential burglary in Thousand Oaks earlier this week.

6. Comments of Ventura County Supervisor Linda Parks

Vanise Terry provided comments on behalf of **Supervisor Parks** that the Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to have Public Works to bring back in September clear alternatives to consider for sidewalk repair standards in order to save mature trees. She said the letters from the MAC to the Agoura Hills City Council and Planning Commission were sent regarding their housing element, which would be included in the SEIR. She also said Patrick Maynard, Director of Ventura County Office of Emergency Services, has agreed to attend the July meeting to talk about evacuation routes. In a follow up to a question from Janice Smets regarding fentanyl cases in schools, DA Erik Nasarenko responded that the DA's Juvenile Units investigated and confirmed that there have been no cases in Ventura County where a student has been found to have possessed, sold or consumed fentanyl.

She provided an update on the Calleguas-Las Virgenes Interconnection construction project regarding current lane closures and upcoming nightwork on Lindero Canyon Road. She also announced that the MAC members will be getting new name tags with the new County seal on them.

7. Council Comments

Seema Chandra said she attended the Rancho Simi Recreation & Park District (RSRPD) groundbreaking for the lagoon and that construction will begin in July. She reported that she attended the landscape walk-through with Public Works and Enhanced Landscape and discussed needed repairs to stairs at Evanwood Avenue and Hastings Court, which still needs further investigation. She said they also discussed the removal of turf in medians in Oak Park and they are currently measuring to apply for a rebate. She said Enhanced landscape is using recycled water to water areas. **Chuck Alvarez**, Public Works Agency, commented that as long as there is no run-off and recycled water is being used, Enhanced Landscape is able to water more than once a week.

Janice Smets mentioned discussion on NextDoor regarding watering and that Las Virgenes Municipal Water District is offering recycled water but resident must go to their location in Calabasas. She asked whether there could be a satellite site in Oak Park for residents to get recycled water. **Jane Nye** said she would inquire at the next Board meeting. Dr. Smets also commented on concern about coyotes out in the community on streets and in parks. She said she also noticed that the construction company to be used for the RSRPD pond project has not done work on a pond before and asked JL Diaz to look into the warranty for their work.

JL Diaz said the Oak Park Fire Safe Council has raised funds for a community risk assessment that will cost \$15,000, and once completed the findings will be published. He said they are also working towards becoming a Firewise Community, which would assist residents with discounts on insurance costs. He said fire season is September/October and they will be campaigning to engage the community to have their homes assessed through the Fire Safe Council (FSC) and will begin advertising this soon. He said the FSC will visit homes for free and provide a report of what can be done to protect the home.

Jane Nye provided comments on behalf of Oak Park Unified School District Board (OPUSD) member Denise Helfstein that there are three board seats up for election. She said the District recently hired Retired VC Sheriff Commander Randy Pentis as a safety consultant, who will review safety protocols, conduct site safety walks at schools, and provide training to students, staff and administrators. She also reported that the OPUSD Board of Education approved its budget for the 2022-23 school year, which included \$25,000 for the Kanan Shuttle, and that the District would like to thank the County for the continued shuttle service as well as thank the MAC for funding the crossing guards for the schools. Ms. Nye mentioned a recent article in the Acorn Newspaper on evacuation routes in Oak Park. She provided an update on outdoor watering restrictions implemented by Triunfo Water and Sanitation District to one day per week for 15 minutes and no limits to hand watering. She said notices have been sent to residents not in compliance and that a second violation will include a \$100 fine. She said watering is measured through smart meters, and that if water targets are not achieved by September all watering could be eliminated. Lastly, she said the Triunfo office headquarters will be moving from Ventura to Westlake Village and there will be a ribbon cutting in the fall.

8. Public Comments

Eric Steiner thanked Public Works for landscape work in progress on Hawthorne Drive and requested that the MAC add a landscape priority list to an upcoming agenda. He noted areas in the community that could use beautification, including areas provided in a previous communication to the MAC and Public Works with photos. **Deena Perry** discussed her concern about geoengineering and the spray of chemicals in the atmosphere. She said she will be meeting with Congresswoman Julia Brownley on this issue.

Carolyn Cass-Barton thanked Supervisor Parks for her leadership on getting sidewalk revisions for Oak Park moving forward and discussed her interest in taking further steps to establish a proactive approach for using alternative methods for sidewalk repairs that protect adjacent trees.

Harry Medved provided an update on the Oak Park Lagoon at Oak Canyon Park where turtles have been relocated to Pismo Beach. He said red-eared turtles are considered invasive and with them out of the lagoon the Western Pond Turtles could return. He said the pond will likely be finished by the end of the year or beginning of next year. In the meantime, he said the pond will be dredged so there will be a bad smell during that process and a fence will be erected around in the pond. He thanked Wayne Nakaoka at RSRPD for all his hard work on this project. Lastly, he announced a concert in the park event at Oak Canyon Park on Saturday, July 9th at 6:30 pm,

and said there will be two upcoming meetings discussing the use of drones with the Oak Park – Park and Recreation Planning Committee on July 14th and the RSRPD Board of Directors on July 20th.

9. Information Items

a. Replacement of Three Irrigation Controller Boxes by Enhanced Landscape

Chuck Alvarez, Ventura County Public Works Agency, said their office received a constituent request to fix rusted irrigation boxes. Enhanced Landscape recommended replacement because of the bad condition of the boxes at a cost of \$6,825, which will also include electrical work. He said PWA staff approved the expenditure under the \$10,000 threshold.

b. Update on Volunteers in Policing (VIP) Contract

Mr. Alvarez said after approving the CSA 4 FY 22/23 budget on May 31st, the MAC asked for a review of CSA 4 programs throughout the year, so he is providing his first report on Volunteers in Policing (VIP) services and provided a copy of the VIP agreement contract with the Thousand Oaks Police Department. The MAC was also provided with a breakdown of general statistics of VIP services in Oak Park. Mr. Alvarez said services were suspended on March 18, 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic and resumed July 2021 after a training period that began on June 15, 2021. There was another brief suspension of services due to a spike in COVID-19 cases from January 5, 2022 to March 1, 2022. However, due to automatic billing, the Sheriff's Office continued to send monthly invoices to CSA 4 for services throughout the suspended periods. Mr. Alvarez has reached out to the City of Thousand Oaks to correct this billing oversight and request a refund of approximately \$35,000. The MAC requested a more detailed review of VIP services provided to the Oak Park community. **Vanise Terry** said she would follow up on this request with the Thousand Oaks Police Department VIP services coordinator.

10. Advisory Matters

a. MAC Recommendation, Resolution requesting consolidation of Oak Park Municipal Advisory Council's election of three members with other elections held on November 8, 2022

b. MAC Recommendation, Notice to the Ventura County Clerk of the elective offices to be filled on the Oak Park Municipal Advisory Council

c. MAC Recommendation, Other election services for the November 8, 2022 Election

Vanise Terry said the nomination period for the November 8th ballot will open on Monday, July 18th and close on Friday, Aug. 12th, with an extension period to Aug. 17th if an incumbent does not file. She said incumbents up for re-election are JL Diaz, Alon Glickstein, Janice Smets, and more information is available at <u>www.VenturaVote.org</u>

Seema Chandra moved to approved Items 10a, b and c, and **Jane Nye** seconded the motion. It was approved 5/0.

11. Written Communications

There were no written communications reported.

12. Future Agenda Items

a. CSA 4 Landscape Priority List

13. Adjournment

Chair Nye adjourned the meeting at 8:21 PM.