

THE EL RIO /DEL NORTE MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Serving as Advisory Council for recreational activities in the El Rio, Nyeland Acres, Strickland and Agricultural Areas or El Rio/Del Norte area, including advisory recommendations for the El Rio Roger Jones Community Center and the Nyeland Acres Community Center

Thursday October 17, 2024, 7:00 pm

John C. Zaragoza Community Center
3334 Santa Clara Ave. Oxnard, CA 93036

Meeting started at 7:02 pm

I. Pledge of Allegiance

II. Roll Call

Regular Members

David Souza (Vice Chair) (Nyeland Acres)

Present

Bonnie Bernal (Cloverdale)

Present

Julie Hupp (Strickland)

Present

Lorane Bailon (Rio Plaza)

Present

At Large Members

Mike Barber (Chair)

Present

Aaron Wedemeyer

Present

Brenda Heredia

Present

Alternate

Michael D. Stubblefield

Absent

Others Present: Captain Gibson, VC Sheriff's Office; Officer Cameron, VC Sheriffs; Brian Allen, CHP; Timothy Furgal, VC Library System; Colter Chism, County Parks Director, Justin Bertoline, County Executive Office; Manuel Minjares, Supervisor Kelly Long's office; Ariana Castellanos-Rodriguez, Supervisor Kelly Long's office

III. Approval of Summary Meeting Minutes for September 19th, 2024

Chair Mike Barber pulled the September minutes. They will be brought back to the November meeting.

IV. Public Safety Updates

Ventura County Sheriff's Department, CHP, Oxnard PD

CHP update from Officer Allen. He mentioned the appreciation and helpfulness of the sidewalks in the El Rio community especially for safety of residents going to and from school. He brought up Wright Road and Balboa which has been confirmed by PWA that it is owned by the water mutual which makes in private property. Depending on issues on that road you could report it to Ventura County Code Compliance Division. Aaron W. commented that the fire hydrant gets blocked at night and weekends. Ramona B commented about vehicles being parked for long periods in that area.

Persons who require accommodation for any audio, visual or other disability in order to review an agenda, or to participate in a meeting of the El Rio /Del Norte Municipal Advisory Council, per the American Disabilities Act (ADA), may obtain assistance by requesting such accommodation in writing addressed to Supervisor Long's Office, 1203 Flynn Road Suite 220, Camarillo, CA 93012 or telephonically by calling (805) 654- 2276. Any such request for accommodation should be made at least 48 hours prior to the meeting for which assistance is requested.

Julie H. commented about semitrucks not being able to go on Central Ave and Vineyard during school hours. Dina O. commented about the accidents that occur on Santa Calara Ave. Residents in the community can send concerns or comments to CHP via email at 765_cops@chp.ca.gov.

VC Sheriffs update from Caption Gibson and Officer Cameron. They report that there are no significant updates from last meeting. The HLU (Homeless Liaison Unit) is now fully staffed and working 7 days a week. Senior Officer Collins has been reassigned and will not be the representative of the area. Other announcements included a gang unit presentation at the next meeting, they will be present at Coffee with the Principal at Rio Real Elementary School, Trunk or Treat at Rio Plaza, Sonny Kids event during lunch at Rio Plaza, and the Day of the Dead event in Nyeland Acres.

V. Comments from Supervisor Long's Office

Ariana Castellanos-Rodriguez from Supervisors Long's office informed the MAC on an update requested by the MAC board regarding large pipes being transported down Santa Clara Ave. Public Works confirmed SoCal Gas Company is undergoing a high-pressure pipeline project on the west side of Santa Clara about 425-ft N/O Eucalyptus Dr. Work is scheduled to be completed by 11/1/24.

VI. Public Comments for Items Not on the Agenda

Tim Furgal - VC Library: The Albert H. Soliz Library will be a polling location Nov. 2nd– 5th and the library will be closed on Nov. 4th and 5th. He also had flyers available with the November Calendar of multiple events taking place at the library.

Slyvia O. mentioned a neighborhood cleanup will be taking place this Saturday, Oct. 18th on Rose Ave.

Dina O. mentioned a rumor that Ventura Rd. and Santa Clara Ave is being developed, by the State, from a 2-lane road into a 4 lane highway as an extension of the 118. Manuel Minjares from Supervisor Long's office responded saying that our office and Ventura County Transportation Commission's Executive Director has said that no project of that kind is being done. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this concern, you can reach out to VCTC or Caltrans, district 7, contact found on their website. Mike B mentioned that this has been discussed before in the 80s.

VII. Council Member Comments

Aaron Wedemeyer mentioned a neighborhood clean up that took place last week which was a great event and lots of people were able to get rid of trash.

Lorane Bailon asked if one was being hosted in El Rio and individuals answered that their was already one that took place. The clean ups used to be organized through Public Works but are now planned by EJ Harrison. Manuel Minjares said that the office will reach out to them and mention the community outreach efforts.

Brenda H mentioned that Nyeland Promise is hosting a Dia de Los Muertos event in the community park on Nov. 3rd from 2 -5 p.m.

Julie Hupp mentioned a community yard sale this Saturday, Oct. 19th, in Strickland from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and to keep her informed about those community clean ups to notify the residents in the Strickland community.

David Souza mentioned the sidewalks on Rose Ave and how they are not maintained properly especially for the students using that route. A portion of Rose Ave is in the jurisdiction of the City

of Oxnard and the other section falls under the County of Ventura.

Information Items

VIII. Ventura County Parks: Nyeland Acres Community Center

Colter Chisum, Ventura County Parks Director gave a brief description of the plans for the Nyeland Acres Community Center and Park. Some information included the community center being 7,243 sq. ft, two U-10 soccer fields, walking path, play structure, half of a basketball court, and 57 parking spaces. Colter also mentioned that it would be about a 2 ½ year process to open the doors. Justin Bertoline (VC CEO's): the project is currently 2 million dollars over budget, and any further delays will only lead to higher construction costs. The public comment was extended for two weeks per the request of those in attendance. Lorane B: Asked about access hours for community members which was responded with the park being open from dusk to dawn. Mike B: had a question with the use of facility, asked about new center being able to use natural light and solar panels. Bonnie B: had a question regarding lighting which was responded with their will not be competition lighting, but safety lighting will be incorporated. Fernando V: had a question with the use of facility. Brenda H: had a question with the use of facility. Emma: mentioned to not charge for the use of the center and offer programs for the residents which was responded that the County Parks does not have sufficient funds to offer that, and no tax money is being collected by the residents to support those programs. Aaron W: mentioned the City of Port Hueneme runs and rents space and charges. Aisha: commented about interpretation services for survey, recommended partition walls, and asked about bike racks. Oscar H: mentioned the possibility of utilizing the Rio School Districts ParentSquare to help translate and reach more families in the community. Gloria: had a question regarding use of facility. Kenia: had a comment with the use of facility and asked for a classroom. Esperanza: had a comment with the use of facility and asked for more space for ESL classes. Monique: mentioned that the Boys and Girls Club will be contributing \$250,000 towards a STEM room. Community Member: had a comment with the use of facility and asked for more space/classroom area. Mary Anne R: had questions about logistic access such as pick up/drop off, bathroom hours for the public which was responded with they do not have operational details but are aiming for 7:30 am to dusk. Made comment that both pink areas should be available to the public. Maria H: made a comment about more space and asked about a second story community center which was answered that the challenge with a two-story building is the cost per sq ft and you lose space to elevators and hallways. He mentioned a single-story building is more efficient and that assembly room 2 is much bigger than the current annex.

IX. Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm

X. Next Meeting: November 21st, 2024 @ 7 PM / Roger Jones Community Center