

NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2025 EDITION



Supervisor Vianey Lopez *Fifth District*



Swearing In



At our January 14th Board of Supervisors meeting, I was sworn in as the Supervisor for Ventura County's Fifth District. I am honored and humbled to serve as your Supervisor for the next four years.

This was a moment to share why I am drawn to serve. We are here to serve the people of our County, the people that need us in challenging times and then need us to plan for the future to create opportunities for working families, for individuals, and especially our youth.

As we look ahead to the challenges and opportunities in the coming years, I know that together we can ensure we have healthy, safe communities for everyone to thrive in Ventura County.

Communities Represented

Central and Southern portions of the City of Oxnard, City of Port Hueneme, Oxnard Plain, Oxnard Shores, Mandalay Bay, Silver Strand, Hollywood Beach, Hollywood by the Sea, Channel Islands Harbor, California State University Channel Islands, Naval Base Ventura County, California Air National Guard, Oxnard Airport, Ormond Beach Wetlands, and Channel Islands National Park.

Call Us

- ☎ (805) 654-2613
- ✉ District5@ventura.org

Martin Luther King Jr.



At our January 14th Board of Supervisors meeting, I was honored to lead the proclamation on behalf of the Board of Supervisors to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Committee of Ventura County in recognition of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

On January 20th, I joined many organizations and community members for a Freedom March and Observance Program at the 39th Annual Ventura County Martin Luther King, Jr. Day in Oxnard. The Freedom March wove through the streets of downtown from Plaza Park to the Oxnard Performing Arts Center. James Joyce spoke at the Observance Program about the importance of civic engagement.

I am thankful to the MLK committee for 39 years of successful celebrations of the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Addressing Homelessness - Point in Time Count

Every year thousands of volunteers turn out nationwide to conduct an annual Point in Time Count and survey of people experiencing homelessness. On January 22nd, I joined other volunteers to survey and count those in our community who are living unsheltered or in places not meant for human habitation. The Point in Time Count is one piece of a concerted effort by the County to end homelessness in our communities. By participating in the Count, the County becomes eligible for federal funding and grants that help provide shelter, services, and build housing. Thank you to the hundreds of local volunteers who participated in this year's count and the many organizations working to end homelessness in our County.



To learn more about the County's Plan to End Homelessness, get involved in ending homelessness, or find resources please visit www.venturacoc.org.

LOOKING BACK AT 2024



As I look at the work before us in 2025, I want to recognize the remarkable efforts made across Ventura County and in our district in 2024 to make our community an exceptional place to live for all the people who call Ventura County home.

This work would not be possible without the many partnerships and collaboration of many individuals, organizations, small businesses, and labor: thank you all for what you do for our community.

Vianey Lopez

2024: A Look Back

Your County At Work

One thing is clear: The County of Ventura is at work – investing in our region, providing excellent services, and improving infrastructure. The County’s first responders – fire and law enforcement – ensure our communities are safe and that we can move forward in a way that will help families thrive. There are thousands of County employees who make the County function on a daily basis, and it is their work that makes it possible to serve the people of the Fifth District. In the last year:

- The County continued to invest in **affordable housing**, adding to the over \$124 million directed toward projects in the last four years. In 2024 alone, 408 new housing units were added in the Fifth District.
- The County continued investing in the **maintenance of our roads**; County Public Works has prioritized parts of Fifth Street (West), Hueneme Road, Rice Road, Doris Avenue, and Patterson Road for re-pavement. In recent months, the County Board of Supervisors approved \$6.8 million for intersection improvements, including intersections on Hueneme, Lewis, and Rice Roads.
- Construction continued at the **Carmen Ramirez Family Justice Center (FJC)** in Oxnard following investments from the County, state and federal elected officials; the FJC will serve survivors of domestic violence, assault, abuse and other crimes.
- Repair work at the **Ray D. Prueter Library in Port Hueneme** neared completion, improvements to **Kiddie Beach at the Channel Islands Harbor** were made, and soil piles near the **Oxnard Airport** were removed.

Establishing Fifth District Youth Council

In 2024, I launched the Fifth District Youth Advisory Council, composed of fifteen Youth Commissioners and eleven Youth Alternate Commissioners ages 14 to 19. The Fifth District Youth Advisory Council will work collaboratively over the course of this school year to provide a youth perspective to my office – they will share ideas, help shape policy and advise my work on County issues that impact our communities. We are arranging briefings and presentations, and bringing in experts and community leaders to engage with the group. Interested students can learn more [here](#).

Recognizing our Friends and Neighbors

There are many accomplishments and milestones that we celebrated across our district. At our Board meetings, I brought forward proclamations to recognize **Pride Month**, **Juneteenth**, and **Indigenous People's Day** among others. In 2024, I also brought before the Board:

- three classes of graduates from the '**La Tierra Donde Sembramos**' program – a program designed to empower our indigenous migrant community through a training and certification program aimed at advancing career building skills and increasing job opportunities.
- 200 student volunteers from the **Westminster Free Clinic** who participate in a rigorous two-year program that builds excellent job skills in the health care profession by assisting volunteer medical professionals in the delivery of primary health services to over 12,000 low-income uninsured residents at two locations in Ventura County.
- the team at **Swap Meet Justice** who provided the Board a report on their monthly programming. Funding for Spanish and Mixteco interpreters have helped community members connect with services.

Sending Donations to Ocotlan

Also in 2024, I led efforts at the Board to approve a donation of public safety equipment no longer used from the Ventura County Fire and Sheriff departments to the City of Ocotlan, Jalisco, Mexico in partnership with the Oxnard Sister City Committee. The walkie talkies, vehicle radios, and fire fighting equipment will provide a long-lasting public benefit to our sister community for years to come.

UPCOMING BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING

Tuesday, March 11, 2025
8:30 AM

Tuesday, March 18, 2025
8:30 AM

In-Person at the
County Government Center
800 S. Victoria Ave, Ventura, CA 93009

Online at:
<https://www.ventura.org/board-of-supervisors/agendas-documents-and-broadcasts/>