

**CASA CONEJO MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES  
November 14, 2012**

**The Casa Conejo MAC Held an Official Special Meeting Wednesday, November 14, 2012,  
6:00 p.m. at Walnut Elementary School, 581 Dena Drive, Newbury Park**

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by **Dustin Woomer** at 6:03 P.M. MAC members **David Ayers, Janell Smith, Shannon Prachyl, Steven Wasco** and **Edward Villa, Sr.** were present. MAC member **Richard Twomey, Jr.** was absent.

**2. Flag salute**

**3. Adoption of the Agenda**

**Dustin Woomer** suggested that the first four items under Item 9 follow Item 7 and moved to adopt the agenda with that revision. **Janell Smith** made the second. Motion passed 6/0.

**4. Approval of the Minutes**

**Edward Villa, Sr.**, moved to approve the September 19, 2012 minutes as submitted. **David Ayers** made the second. Motion passed 6/0.

**5. Comments of Ventura County Supervisor Linda Parks**

**Supervisor Parks** told the MAC that Al Adam and Jacqui Irwin were elected to the Thousand Oaks City Council on November 6<sup>th</sup>. She invited the Casa Conejo community to the December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2 p.m. ribbon cutting for the new privately-funded equestrian/hiking bridge in Santa Rosa Valley, explaining that it is the first recycled, compressed plastic bridge to be built in the western United States. Supervisor Parks told the MAC that the Fire Safety Council in Ventu Park held a Fire Safety Fair on Saturday, November 10<sup>th</sup> and the Red Cross, K-9 and mascot firefighter Robby were present to share with the community. She mentioned that the Ventura County Conejo Valley Family Medical Group Clinic and Behavioral Health Clinic opened at the former Border's on Thousand Oaks Boulevard and that it houses a DUI program as well.

**Janet Wall** told the MAC that anyone who would like to testify at the trial of the individual who installed flashing neon signs on Michael Drive should call Deputy DA Steve Slyker at 805-662-1738 to explain how the signs have affected them.

**6. Public Safety Reports (CHP, Sheriff's Department, etc.)**

**Sergeant Steven Curley** told the MAC there were two collisions on September 24<sup>th</sup> at Lesser and Jenny that resulted in a DUI arrest. He said on October 6<sup>th</sup> a 3-vehicle accident with no injuries occurred at Ruth and Gloria. Sergeant Curley told the MAC that the 101 was closed completely for 3 nights and the detours went smoothly. Several residents told Sergeant Curley there is excessive speeding on Rudman, Frankie, Gloria, Jenny and Lesser. Sergeant Curley said that if they can safely record the license plate number of the speeding vehicle, a warning letter can be mailed to the vehicle owner. **Nathan Borin** asked that the speed trailer be placed on Ruth again.

**Captain Frank O'Hanlon** of the Ventura County Sheriff's Department Criminal Investigation Agency said that he recognizes and commends Edward Villa for his graffiti removal efforts and for his excellent photographs which are forwarded to investigators who monitor local gang members. He said that Mr. Villa's rapid abatement of graffiti discourages the vandals and helps the Sheriff's Department. In addition, Captain O'Hanlon said that other than domestic violence, the only real crime trend is thefts from vehicles. He reminded residents to not leave valuables inside their car. He said that two different groups of thieves in Thousand Oaks and Newbury Park were recently arrested.

When asked whether there is a website that lists local crimes, Captain O'Hanlon said that crime calls are recorded on-line at [vcsd.org](http://vcsd.org). Another resident inquired who removes shoes that are hanging on electric and

telephone lines and Supervisor Parks said her office will investigate which agency is responsible for removing them and report at the January meeting.

The dispatch number for the Sheriff is: (805) 654-9511; residents are encouraged to call the Sheriff with license plate numbers and descriptions any time they witness suspicious activity. The e-mail address for residents who wish to be added to the Sheriff's East County Email Watch is: [ECSheriff.Watch@ventura.org](mailto:ECSheriff.Watch@ventura.org)

**Janell Smith** said that anyone wanting to participate in Neighborhood Watch should contact her to become part of the e-mails that keep neighbors alert and in touch.

## **7. Public Comments on Items not on the Agenda**

**Nathan Borin** requested that the MAC send a letter to the City of Thousand Oaks about congestion on Old Conejo Road and asking that it be widened to two lanes. In addition, Mr. Borin said that he wants Old Conejo restriped so a left hand turn lane onto Jenny is added. Dustin Woomer replied that the MAC should wait until the Wendy Bridge construction is completed before deciding on any need for proposed changes.

**Jennifer Kramer** told the MAC that Supervisor Parks' office arranged a meeting with the County Transportation Department in October to discuss crosswalks to Walnut Elementary School. She said the School Site Council was very pleased with the meeting and County staff installed counters at intersections and were on site the same week to study traffic patterns around the school. **Janet Wall** told the MAC that the Ventura County Transportation Director will attend a Casa Conejo MAC meeting in early 2013 to offer suggestions for pedestrian crosswalks for Walnut Elementary School, following their assessment and review of crosswalk options.

**Priscilla Desjardins** said she sees dogs drinking out of water fountains which are meant for people at the local public parks. She asked if Conejo Recreation and Park District is considering installing spigots made for dogs. Another comment was made regarding maintenance of park benches. Supervisor Parks said her office can check with CRPD on these matters.

## **8. Council Comments on Items not on the Agenda**

**David Ayers** said the pavement on Dena Drive is well paved on one side of Wendy but not the other and wondered when it is due to be repaved. Supervisor Parks said her office can bring information to the next meeting.

**Dustin Woomer** suggested that Conejo Recreation and Park District staff could be invited to attend the January meeting. In addition, he asked if the other MAC members were interested in installing signs in Casa Conejo that read, "Welcome Home, Please Drive Safely." The MAC said the signs are an excellent suggestion and named several good locations for placement. **Supervisor Parks** suggested that a subcommittee be formed to determine where the signs would best be located. The MAC asked that the item be added to the January agenda.

## **9. Information items**

### **a. Milestones of the Casa Conejo MAC**

**Dustin Woomer** presented the following information regarding accomplishments of the Casa Conejo MAC since its inception in 2009:

Access to our local government:

- Supervisor's office, Sheriff and California Highway Patrol participate at MAC meetings
- City of Thousand Oaks Public Works Department has participated and provided presentations at multiple meetings
- Presentations from various County Departments regarding various issues of concern

Community participation:

- CERT training: several MAC members and community members went through CERT together
- Graffiti Removal team led by MAC member Ed Villa with help from community residents
- Participation in Community Beautification event with additional neighborly clean-up

## Results/Milestones

- Street sweeping began in front of a residence near City and County border which had previously not been swept
- Erosion problem along channel at backyard of resident corrected after presenting the problem at a MAC meeting
- Paving of Henry Drive. The timing of repaving was moved up by Public Works based on input from a resident
- Changes in the design of the Wendy interchange based on MAC member suggestion
- Landscape Architects presented on appropriate street trees for neighborhood
- Highway Patrol has provided speed trailer and provided patrols at various locations in the community based on community input
- Frankie Drive drainage problem from Old Conejo Road: MAC meetings brought attention to the issue and helped motivate construction improvements to correct drainage problems
- Walnut Elementary School crosswalks are being investigated for safe routes to schools

**Supervisor Parks** commended Mr. Woomer for bringing the MAC milestones to the meeting and said it is an excellent idea for all the MACs to assess and highlight the benefits they have provided to their communities.

### **b. Wendy Bridge Widening Update**

**Cliff Finley**, Deputy Director of Public Works for the City of Thousand Oaks, said the Wendy Bridge widening project is moving along quite well and that five rows of large beams are being installed across the freeway causing continuing closures throughout the week. He said the next step will be building the decks across the beams. In the Spring he told the MAC work on the northbound off ramp will begin. Overall, Mr. Finley said the project is on schedule to be completed late next year. He asked if residents had any particular issues they wanted to share, and there were none stated.

### **c. Old Conejo Road Berm Update**

**Cliff Finley** told the MAC the 6-inch high “mountable berm” was delayed due to the cross gutter design. He said it is scheduled for December, although spot repairs on Old Conejo will take place first, with the berm and overlay finishing the project. In response to Mr. Borin’s request, Mr. Finley said his department will investigate whether a left hand turn lane onto Jenny could be added during the overlay project but cautioned that the center line cannot be moved.

In addition to the berm update, Mr. Finley provided traffic counts and accident statistics for Old Conejo Road. He said the “p.m. peak hour” is 981 vehicles per hour on Old Conejo and 750 vehicles per hour on Reino Road. Mr. Finley told the MAC the capacity for both roads is significantly higher and explained that the City cannot design roads to operate with no waits during peak hours. He added that during peak hours, the left hand turn lane from Old Conejo onto Ruth is 73 vehicles per hour. **David Ayers** asked if the signal at Reino and Old Conejo could be changed to allow more cars through and Mr. Finley said they can re-assess the timing. Moving on to accident statistics, Mr. Finley said the City data shows 4 collisions in the last 3-1/2 years at Old Conejo and Ruth and 4 collisions in the last 3-1/2 years at Old Conejo and Reino. He said neither intersection is a high collision location and that a minimum of 2 or 3 accidents per year would be required to warrant any changes. He said the City of Thousand Oaks has no accidents recorded at the Wendy and Gerald intersection and noted that it is a County maintained location.

### **d. Peppertree Park/Reino Road Community Meeting Update**

**Cliff Finley** said another Community Stakeholder Meeting has not taken place but Public Works, CRPD and AYSO are working together to solve parking issues. He said angled parking is not being proposed at this time, and added that he will continue to bring updates to the Casa Conejo MAC meetings.

**Janell Smith** told Mr. Finley that his attendance at the meetings is informative, helpful and appreciated. The MAC thanked him for his time and efforts.

**e. Graffiti Removal Intervention Team Update**

**Ed Villa** told the MAC that graffiti in the channels continues to appear and that anyone interested in joining the graffiti removal team should contact Janet Wall at Supervisor Parks' office to arrange for training. **Janet Wall** told the MAC that MAC member Steve Wasco recently received training and an individual WPD permit allowing him to be part of the team that removes graffiti in the channels.

**10. Action Items: None**

**11. Suggestions for future agenda items**

**Information Items**

Crosswalks to Walnut Elementary School  
Conejo Recreation and Park District Presentation  
Wendy Bridge Widening Update  
Old Conejo Berm Update  
Contact Information for Removal of Shoes on Utility Lines  
Graffiti Removal Intervention Team Update

**Action Items**

Subcommittee on "Welcome Home, Please Drive Safely" Signs

**12. Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m. until January 16, 2013 at Walnut Elementary School**