

**CASA CONEJO MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**May 14, 2019**

**The Casa Conejo MAC held a Meeting Wednesday, May 14, 2019,  
6:00 p.m. at Walnut Elementary School, 581 Dena Drive, Newbury Park**

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by **Chair Wendy Zimmerman** at 6:05 pm. MAC members **Richard Gaz, Edward Villa, Sr.** were present. **R. Scott Horn** as absent.

**2. Flag Salute**

**Chair Wendy Zimmerman** led the flag salute.

**3. Approval of Minutes from January 16, 2019**

**Richard Gaz** moved to approve the minutes from March 20, 2019 with no changes. **Ed Villa, Sr.** seconded the motion and it passed 3/0.

**4. Agenda Review**

There were no changes to the agenda.

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

**California Highway Patrol Officer Ben Susanka** reported that since the last MAC meeting on March 20<sup>th</sup> there has only been one accident and he has not received any parking complaints. He said the CHP is adding a senior volunteer who will be patrolling school zones at peak hours in a marked vehicle. **Ventura County Sheriff Captain Renee Ferguson** reported that since March there have been two petty thefts from vehicles. She introduced **Senior Deputy John Chiaramonte**, who will be on patrol in the unincorporated area and is also a detective who will work investigations. In addition, he will attend MAC meetings if Captain Ferguson is unavailable. Deputy Chiaramonte reported that there are two "problem" houses in Casa Conejo he is aware of, with one being mostly domestic calls, and the occupants of the other will be moving soon. He encouraged residents to contact the Sheriff's Office if they notice any other problem areas in the neighborhood.

**6. Presentation by County Public Works Agency on the County's Wireless Telecommunication Facilities Ordinance**

**Jeff Pratt, Public Works Agency Director, Anitha Balan, Public Work Agency, Winton Wright, Resource Management Agency, and Brian Ganley, County Information Officer,** provided information on the County's ordinances regarding 5G cell antennas and wireless communications. Mr. Pratt explained there are two ordinances at the County that regulate, to a degree, the time, place, and manner of location in the public road right-of-way with a minimum of 300 feet between poles where the antennas can be placed. He said changes at the Federal level through the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) went into effect January 2019 that relate to 5G installation. However, no changes were needed to the ordinances adopted by the Board of Supervisors because they already provide sufficient regulation for the County. He said urban residential areas are "non-preferred" when considering new construction of cell towers, which includes Casa Conejo. Requests to add new antennas to an existing tower requires a demonstration of compliance with the FCC's radio frequency emissions safety standards. Mr. Ganley said Ventura County is part of a Broadband Consortium that advocates for bringing broadband service to underserved communities using fiber optic cabling. However, he said not to expect more 5G technology in the next five years because it is expensive to install. He said there are only about 30 cities in the entire country that will have the 5G tech through Verizon to start, and they will be in mostly dense areas that are designated as "preferred" with small devices that attach to existing power poles. He said equipment that complies with Federal standards cannot be regulated. When asked about emissions, Mr. Ganley said that emission studies were part of

the ordinance, particularly in residential areas, and a vast majority of studies show there is not a significant health hazard, which is the basis of the Federal regulations that pre-empt restrictions at the local level. Supervisor Parks asked if City ordinances will affect County ordinances. Mr. Wright responded that the cities are hemmed in by the same Federal regulations, but the County can compare what other counties are doing. The Cities of Los Angeles and Long Beach are first in line to receive 5G technology.

#### **7. Presentation by Ventura County Fire District on CERT Program**

**Captain Andrew Gudaz, Ventura County Fire Protection District**, provided information about the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and how it can assist a community in a time of disaster. The program teaches community members how to assist in large scale disasters when resources can be stretched thin. He said many cities in Ventura County have teams and gave information on upcoming classes should the Casa Conejo community wish to create a team.

#### **8. Comments of Ventura County Supervisor Linda Parks**

**Supervisor Linda Parks** announced that the Fire Department is accepting applications for the Junior Firefighter Academy and gave the results of the recent Community Beautification Event in Newbury Park that brought in a little over 8 tons of mixed material waste. She said the Transportation Department finished the ADA ramp at Wendy Drive and Ruth Drive and thanked County staff and former MAC member Dustin Woomeer for bringing the issue to everyone's attention. Supervisor Parks followed up on a MAC inquiry about a housing development on Reino Road and Maurice Drive saying it is in the pre-screening stage with the City of Thousand Oaks to change the property zoning from commercial to residential. She said it will be on the May 21st City Council agenda for approval to allow the process to continue, not for approval of project yet, and the proposal submitted to the City Council on February 21, 2019 listed 47 units, including 10 townhomes and 37 apartments on a 1.67-acre parcel at the northwest corner of Maurice Drive and Reino Road. She invited residents to attend a ribbon cutting event for the Dr. Richard Grossman Labyrinth at Growing Works on May 19<sup>th</sup>. Finally, Supervisor Parks said she was honored to receive the Small Business Association Phoenix Award for her contributions as an elected official during the Borderline tragedy and Woolsey/Hill Canyon fires.

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

**Wendy Zimmerman** announced the Ride of Silence event on May 15<sup>th</sup> that remembers bicyclists who have been injured or killed on the streets and encouraged residents to attend and be careful of cyclists on the roads. She reported that she attended a Caltrans meeting in Thousand Oaks about changes to the 101 freeway and expressed concern regarding the addition of HOV lanes as the main solution for traffic on the 101 freeway. She said she thinks more public input is necessary and Supervisor Parks said she would reach out to Caltrans to see if they can attend an upcoming MAC meeting.

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

There were no public comments.

#### **11. Advisory Items**

##### **a. MAC Recommendation, General Plan Update 2040**

**Supervisor Parks** reported that Planning stated Wendy Drive is tied to an acceptable Level of Service (LOS) policy, and if traffic modeling results for 2019 show that it is still operating at LOS E, then Planning would have to look at how to address the road operating at a level that exceeds the LOS policy. She stated she agrees with the MAC's concern that the mitigating measure in the EIR to re-stripe Wendy Drive to 4-lanes would be detrimental to the community. The MAC decided to re-submit a letter to the Planning Commission that was previously sent to the Board of Supervisors stating their opposition to widening Wendy Drive.

**12. Updates**

**a. Graffiti Removal Intervention Team**

**Ed Villa, Sr.** said no graffiti has been reported.

**13. Suggestions for Future Agenda Items**

a. Caltrans/101 Freeway

**14. Adjournment at 7:16 pm.**