



JEFF GORELL

Supervisor, 2nd District

ISRAEL RODRIGUEZ

Field Representative

Supervisor Jeff Gorell



REGULAR

MEETING

Minutes

March 14, 2024

6:00 PM

**Municipal Advisory Council
Casa Conejo, California**

**Walnut Elementary School
Multipurpose Room
581 Dena Drive
Casa Conejo, CA 91320**

WEB ACCESS

At: ventura.org/casaconejomac

MAC Calendar, Agenda, and Minutes

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

- SCOTT HORN, CHAIR
- DEBBIE HANNA
- BRENDON GARCIA
- ROB ALVIDREZ
- DAVID AYERS
- RICHARD GAZ (ALT)

Welcome to the meeting of the Casa Conejo Municipal Advisory Council (MAC) an advisory council for the unincorporated area of Casa Conejo to Ventura County Supervisor Jeff Gorell.

OPENING

1. Call to Order.
 - Meeting Called to Order by **Chair Scott Horn** at: 6:07PM
2. Roll Call and Oath of Office for New MAC Members
 - Members Present: **Scott Horn, Debbie Hanna, Brendon Garcia, Rob Alvidrez, David Ayers, Richard Gaz**
 - Quorum present, meeting proceeds.
3. Election of 2024 Chair & Vice Chair for Casa Conejo MAC.
 - Motion made by **Brendon Garcia** to nominate **Debbie Hanna** for Chair, seconded by **Scott Horn**. Motion Passes.
 - Motion made **Debbie Hanna** by to nominate **Brendon Garcia** for Vice Chair, seconded by **Rob Alvidrez**. Motion Passes.
4. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.
5. Approval of the Minutes of the meeting of the Casa Conejo Municipal Advisory Council held on Thursday, January 11, 2024.
 - **Scott Horn** asked for a correction on item 6 to put the name the last of officer Sheriff Office, Tim in the minutes.
 - **Scott Horn** wants the minutes to reflect for item 19. that Brendon's ideas for the 3-5 plan reflect the consensus of the board and that it represents the right direction for the MAC.
 - Motion to accept the January 11th, 2024, minutes with the following corrections, made by **Bredon Garcia** and seconded by **Scott Horn**. Motion Passes.
6. Agenda Review.
 - Motion made by **Scott Horn** to accept the agenda without any changes, seconded by **Brendon Garcia**. Motion passes
7. Consent Agenda Items 11 through 13.
 - Motion to accept the Consent Items 11-13 made by **Brendon Garcia** and seconded by **Rob Alvidrez**. Motion Passes.
8. Public Comments – Public Speakers:
 - **Wendy Zimmerman**: Asked for an update on law suit with the Borchard property.

9. Office of Ventura County Supervisor Jeff Gorell's Comments – Brief announcements and report on County activities.

- **Field Representative Israel Rodriguez** made a presentation on behalf of Supervisor Gorell:
- **Supervisor Gorell** held a press conference to discuss recent measures taken by the Board of Supervisors on February 27, 2024, on combatting homelessness in Ventura County. These measures include expanding the homeless liaison unit by eight deputies and two Sergeants. The County is applying for \$2.6 Million in funds to help provide housing for the unhoused population.
- **Supervisor Gorell** participated in a recent musical concert put on by New West Symphonies to help educate 2,000 elementary students on the world of music. He opened the event welcoming the students and even participated in a juggling act for the students.
- **Supervisor Gorell's Office** awarded:
 - Teacher Month to Alexandria Iverson of Los Cerritos Middle School.
 - Honored Firefighters and Deputy Sheriff of 2023 at the Elks Lodge.
 - Honored 64, 2023 Eagle Scouts at the Palm Garden Hotel.

10. Council Comments:

- **Scott Horn:** Address our oversized vehicle ordinance and the vehicle located at Jenny and lesser. Placing pressure on the owner may help him to decide to move his vehicle.
- **Brendon Garcia:** Thank you for bringing Firewise presentation to reduce the cost of homeownership. Insurance is a major cost. I think it is important to marshal our efforts to become a Firewise Certified Community.
- **Debbie Hanna:** Asked for comments from the safety officers who are present in the room.
 - i. **Lieutenant Hogeland**, close to reopening the scales. Currently hiring commercial vehicle specialist. Non uniform position. Mechanical background is desired to inspect trucks. Good benefits and pension. Hiring 4-6 individuals and could go through the academy and become an officer.
 - ii. **Officer Ryan Ayers:** Our office is in transition with obtaining a new homeless liaison officer who will help in providing services. We just completed a year-long program called "Every 15 Minutes" with students who write a script with impaired crash the results in someone dying at a staged scene. It has a tremendous effect on

educating students about impaired driving. Students see the impaired person getting arrested at the scene. They then visit the hospital, morgue, and jail. Culminate in a video that is produced and presented by the students. You can view the video on YouTube, Every 15 Minutes Simi Valley High. We are patrolling Casa Conejo with MEP to reduce speeding and hazardous driving in Casa Conejo. Addressing the motorhome on Lessor and Jenny. Code Compliance recently dropped the daily charges on the home owner. Looking for new officers. The CHP is hiring 1,000 new officers statewide if you are interested go to the website, www.bethechp1000.com.

CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda items are routine and non-controversial. Items are reviewed and approved together by the Council as recommended and without discussion unless an item is pulled for separate action by the Board on the Regular Agenda. Consent items are heard at the Council's discretion and may be heard at any time during the meeting.

11. California Highway Patrol (CHP)

- CHP Moorpark and the Moorpark Police Department will be hosting an open house event at our station on April 13th. This event will give the public a chance to see our station, checkout our patrol and special enforcement vehicles, and we will be holding a “bike rodeo” for new, young bicycle riders which will include a skills course and a helmet fitting station.
- The CHP Moorpark Area continues to send Special Enforcement Units (SEU) to conduct targeted patrol in Casa Conejo, specifically targeting unsafe driving in the area surrounding the schools. Citations have been issued for unsafe turns, stop sign violations, unsafe speed, and various parking violations. Targeted patrols help saturate an area where multiple violations are known to be happening at once so multiple violations can be addressed in the area simultaneously.
- Using SEU's, Maximum Enforcement Periods, and daily proactive patrols, The California Highway Patrol has made significant strides in reducing the milage death rate (MDR), which is the number of lives lost in crashes per 100 million vehicle miles driven on California highways, and reducing highway violence, specifically freeway shootings. The MDR dropped from 4,496 lives lost in 2022 to approximately 3000 lives lost in 2023. Additionally, freeway shootings dropped 25% in that same timeframe. We ALL need to do our part to continue this positive downward trend.

- We are continuing to work with Supervisor Gorell's Office and The County of Ventura to address the motorhome parked on Lesser Drive at Jenny Drive. So far, protections in the Vehicle Code are preventing us from further enforcement. We understand your frustration and continue to work towards a resolution. **RECEIVED AND FILED**

12. Ventura County Fire Department

- The Ventura County Fire Department is supporting Caltrans and county Public Works as they work to clear debris from roadways closed by mudslides, including Highway 150.
 - Fire Marshal Massoud Araghi retired after more than 35 years with the department. VCFD is interviewing finalists to succeed Araghi. Deputy Chief Chad Cook is serving as the interim Fire Marshal until a permanent successor is hired.
 - Construction of the new Fire Station 34 in Thousand Oaks is expected to be complete in late June or early July. Construction of two new burn buildings and a ladder prop at VCFD's Regional Training Center is underway. That project is expected to be completed in March of 2025.
- RECEIVED AND FILED**

13. Ventura Sheriff Department

- There were 2 thefts of catalytic converters. One was a Toyota Tacoma truck. The other was from a Coachman Freelandier RV.
- There continues to be vandalism at Walnut Elementary School. A classroom window was broken. In the second incident a water fountain was damaged. Graffiti was located at the corner of Lesser Drive and Jenny Drive. The graffiti was consistent with tagging crews. The Special Enforcement Unit is aware of this incident.
- There will be a Coffee with a Cop event at Ragamuffin Roaster, 111 N Reino Rd, Newbury Park. The event is from 9:00 am to 11:00 am. This is a good community event to come out any meet the member so the Station and ask any questions. **RECEIVED AND FILED**

REGULAR AGENDA

Regular Agenda items are heard at the Council's discretion and may be heard at any time during the meeting.

14. Legislative Sub Committee

This item was carried over from the previous January 11, 2024, MAC meeting. David Ayers volunteered to be a part of Supervisor Gorell's Legislative

Committee but was in the process of being confirmed by the Board of Supervisors. This item requires motion and vote to make it official.

- Motion to accept **David Ayers** as the representative to the Legislative Committee made by **Scott Horn**, seconded by **Bredon Garcia**. Motion Passed.

15. Conejo Valley Days – Return of the Conejo Valley Day Parade and Possibility of a Newbury Park Float

Scott Horn discussed the up-and-coming Conejo Valley Days and the possibility of participating in the parade by entering a Newbury Park float. The parade will take place on May 5th, which is Cinco de Mayo from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM. Communities and businesses used to put together a float. Eddy's Towing is sponsoring a float. The idea of having a float in a short time is difficult but we are hoping to pull it off. The theme of the float is "Newbury Park Rocks" and will involve putting my band on the truck along with an image of Boney Mountain on it. Anybody that wants to be involved please come forward to volunteer.

16. New MAC Meeting Marketing Signs

Field Representative Israel Rodriguez and Scott Horn spoke about the large double-sided signs will help improve awareness and attendance at the MAC meetings. The signs have the location and time as well as a QR code to download the agenda or view a live stream of the meeting. Each MAC member is requested to take custody of two signs, place them 1 week before the meetings and pick them up after the meeting or the next day.

17. Presentation on Electric Bicycles from Ventura County Sheriff's Office

Deputy Sheriff, Sgt. Ogonowski made a presentation on the impact, regulations, and enforcement of e-bikes in Thousand Oaks and Newbury Park.

Education and Enforcement

- A) One enforcement plan includes getting the word out at schools, city council meetings, school board meetings.
- B) **Sergeant Ogonowski** presented the difference between the three classes of eBikes and how they differ from electric motorcycles. The biggest difference is that electronic motorcycles must operate according to the rules of a motorcycle, i.e. they must have a DMV driver's and motorcycle license, a DOT certified helmet, license plate, and vehicle registration. Some of these electric motorcycles can travel up to 70 mph. In addition, just like a regular motorcycle they cannot operate on the sidewalk. In the incident involving the crash of three minors on the electric motorcycle they did not have helmets or a light on the motorcycle and it happened at dusk when it was hard to see the juveniles. Kids should not be riding these electronic motorcycles, yet they are riding them on sidewalks, trails, and parks where it can be dangerous.

- C) Enforcement is key to keeping these bikes off the streets. Seizing the bikes for 30 days seems to be the best strategy. In addition, we write tickets for the purpose of educating kids and parents. Impounding the electronic motorcycle for 30 days with a fee of \$100 dollars a day can add up to be more the cost of the bike. So far, the enforcement seems to be working and getting the vehicles off the streets.
- D) Various comments came up on mopeds and electric scooters. One mother spoke about the middle school aged kids who are zipping by on scooters. **Wendy Zimmerman** stated that anything with a throttle should not be allowed on a sidewalk. **Sergeant Ogonowski** stated that the cities or county would have to pass an ordinance against having them on sidewalks.

18. Presentation on Becoming a Certified Firewise Community

Natasha Saxena, the Regional Firewise Coordinator & Ventura County Fire made a presentation on what it takes to become a Certified Firewise Community and the benefits you receive as a result. The main objective to becoming a Firewise Certified Community is to create a five-foot safe perimeter around each home that is clear of brush or trees which act as fuel for a wildfire. The steps to becoming certified include *forming a team, assessing wildfire risk, developing an action plan, report investment & vegetation removed, host an annual outreach event, and apply for certification online.*

Firewise in a non-profit group which can help guide the team through the process. The presentation is included in the agenda packet and on our website.

- Motion made to form a Casa Conejo Firewise Committee was made by **Brendon Garcia** and seconded by **Chair, Debbie Hanna**. Motion passed.

CLOSING

19. Adjournment of the Casa Conejo Municipal Advisory Council meeting to the next meeting, May 9, 2024, at Walnut Elementary School, 581 Dena Drive, Newbury Park, CA 91320.

- **Chair, Debbie Hanna** adjourned the meeting at 7:36 PM.