



MEMBERS OF THE BOARD
Brian Trushinski, Chair
Michelle Santucci, Vice Chair
J.L. Diaz
Jane Nye
Brianna Adams

REGULAR MEETING

January 30, 2025

MINUTES

Brown Act Training/

MAC Operations 5:30 PM

Regular Meeting 7:00 PM

**Municipal Advisory Council
Oak Park, California**

**Oak Park High School Room G-9
899 North Kanan Road
Oak Park, CA 91377**

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

LEGAL NOTICES

Persons who require accommodation for any audio, visual, language, or other disability to review an agenda or to participate in a meeting of the Oak Park Municipal Advisory Council per the American Disabilities Act (ADA), may obtain assistance by requesting such accommodation by calling (805) 214-2510 or e-mailing ashley.bautista@ventura.org. Any such request for accommodation should be made at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting for which assistance is requested.

All agenda reports and supporting data, including those filed in accordance with Government Code Section 54957.5 (b) (1) and (2) are available from Ventura County Supervisor Jeff Gorell's office at 2100 E Thousand Oaks Blvd, Suite E, Thousand Oaks, CA 91362. The same materials will be available and attached with each associated agenda item, when received, at the following website: ventura.org/oakparkmac

Documents including staff materials, comment emails and letters, photos, etc., distributed to the Oak Park Municipal Advisory Council regarding any agenda item during an open session or after the meeting concluded, are posted online and made available for public inspection at ventura.org/oakparkmac

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment is the opportunity for members of the public to participate in meetings by addressing the Oak Park Municipal Advisory Council in connection with one or more agenda or non-agenda items. Public comments by a member of the public at a single meeting are limited to a cumulative total of five minutes at such meeting unless the time allotment is increased or decreased by the Chair depending on the number of speakers. The public comment period during the opening part of the meeting to address non-agenda items is limited to 30 minutes total for all speakers; this 30-minute limit does not apply to items on the agenda.

To maintain a public meeting environment conducive and welcoming to receiving public comments from all members of the public, the audience is discouraged from engaging in displays of support or opposition to staff reports or public comments, including clapping, yelling, booing, hissing or cheering, that may create a disruptive environment for members of the public wishing to participate. Any person who disrupts or impedes the orderly conduct of a meeting will be instructed to cease the disruptive conduct. Failure to do so may result in that person being removed from the meeting.

Members of the public who would like to augment their comments with visual or audio presentations must submit their materials to the supervisorgorell@ventura.org for review at least 48 hours before the meeting. The review will be conducted to determine only whether the materials are on matters within the jurisdiction of the Municipal Advisory Council, would be disruptive of the meeting, or would foster illegality, such as identity theft. If it is determined that materials are about matters not within the Municipal Advisory Council's jurisdiction, or would be disruptive of the meeting, or would foster illegality, use of County-provided equipment will not be allowed.

Email or Mail Public Comment in Advance of the Meeting

If you wish to make a comment on a specific agenda item by email or mail, please submit your comment by 12:00 p.m. on the day prior to the meeting. Indicate in the Subject Line the Agenda item number (e.g., Item No. 9) on which you are commenting. Your email or written comment will be distributed to the Municipal Advisory Council and placed into the item's record for the minutes of the meeting. Public Comments submitted in writing are public records and subject to disclosure. An unredacted version is made available when records are requested by a Public Records Act request. Please do not submit personal contact information you do not want to be made public. Please submit your comment to supervisorgorell@ventura.org or mail to:

Oak Park Municipal Advisory Council
Ventura County Supervisor Jeff Gorell
2100 E Thousand Oaks Blvd Suite E
Thousand Oaks, CA 91362

In-Person Public Comment

If you would like to provide a verbal comment in person during the meeting, upon arrival at the meeting location, check in with staff and complete a comment card. When your name is called for public comment, please proceed to the podium. If you do not wish to pre-register but would like to provide in-person comments at the meeting, you must check in with the staff prior to the agenda item being called.

Video Recording – Live Stream Information of Meeting

View the meeting on the livestream at the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/@vcd2super/streams>.

OPENING

1. Brown Act Training provided by Chief Deputy County Counsel Jeff Barnes 5:30-7:00 pm
2. Call to Order Brian Trushinski 7:00 pm
3. Roll Call JL Diaz, Brianna Adams, Brian Trushinski, Michelle Santucci, Jane Nye
4. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, Brianna Adams
5. Approval of the Minutes of the meeting of the Oak Park Municipal Advisory Council held on Thursday, November 21, 2024. First by Brian Trushinski, Second Michelle Santucci
6. Swearing in of Oak Park MAC Members Brianna Adams and Jane Nye – Conducted by Chief Deputy County Counsel Jeff Barnes
7. Agenda Review Brian Trushinski made a motion to approve, JL Diaz second, approved by all
8. Public Comments -
 - Resident made comments about trees on Las Arcos across from the park. HOA committee for Hillcrest. Pine Trees are a concern. She is concerned

about fire safety in Oak Park. Contact: Janet Jackson jmjack1019@gmail.com 818-903-8967

- Resident made comments about planting native plants so that homes are hardened to prevent fire risk. Encouraging neighbors to take care of their yards and homes. He brought a tray of acorns to plant trees that are spark resistant. Creates a buffer to protect property. Encouraging community to become fire wise. Joel Goldes joel@thedialectcoach.com 818-458-7498

9. Written Comments

Email sent January 20, 2025

Ms. Bautista,

I hope the new year finds you, the family, Supervisor Gorell and the supervisor's team well. At the November MAC meeting I promised I would send pictures of the Medea Creek stream bed alteration that occurred at the Kanan Oak Hills intersection during October 2023. Please accept my apologies for taking 2 months to forward the pictures. I attached a sample from the beginning including a picture of the contractor's truck responsible for performing the work. I have many more pictures, however, the file is too large to include. I would be happy to review these in person with your team. I tried to include examples of the of the actual alteration of the stream-bed, which shouldn't have occurred, and the actual resulting damage a few weeks afterwards. One can also note the failure to remove invasive species. I included one picture of eutrophication, which is the overgrowth of algae in the water that depletes oxygen from the stream water and is abnormal. Our entire community in Ventura County has lots on his plate right now, so I understand the ongoing review of this event will be relatively low on the list of priorities, but I would not like it to get lost in the chaos of current events.

I and members of the community have identified additional issues that should be discussed in MAC meetings:

(1. Speed Limit Lindero Canyon Rd from Kanan Rd to Lakeview Canyon Rd is 50 MPH; on the northbound side of Lindero canyon it is 35 MPH. This is the stretch of Lindero Canyon Rd adjacent to the shopping centers. This speed limit is excessive. When I tried to report this to CONNECT with VCPWA I was informed by the app this was not in their jurisdiction. Perhaps this is Thousand Oaks. How can we bring this to the attention of the agency with jurisdiction?

(2. Recent comments on social media in the Mae Boyar neighborhood of Oak Park have reported teenagers riding E-Bikes at night in the area surrounding Conifer Dr. west and east of Kanan Rd. Comments have identified excessive speed, wheelies and general disturbance of the peace. Those commenting on social media claim the Ventura County Sheriff was notified, but no action was taken or possible. Is it possible to review reports to the Ventura County sheriff in this area to document what is actually

reported. If this has been reported why can't action be taken. As you may be aware laws recently changed with respect to the E-Bikes, some of which are now illegal for street use. The safe use of the bikes in the neighborhood needs attention.

3. I and others have discussed on social media the use of Rancho Simi Rec & Parks Department Open Space during the high wind events of the last 2 months. Most recently I have noted a number of folks in the open space on days with Red Flag warnings and Particularly Dangerous Situation warnings Issued by the NWS. This cannot be safe for the individuals or the community. Is it possible to work with Rancho Simi to limit or prohibit access during these events? At a minimum, community education should occur. COSCA, Conejo Open Space Conservation Agency, does this when Red Flag Warnings are issued.

I have a final ask. I am a member of the Friend of Oak Park Open Space Board. We would like to explore working with Supervisor Gorell's team to post announcements of our community events on the web site and on the Oak Park entry signs (where the MAC meetings are posted). Is this possible. We will also reach out to Rancho Simi with a similar ask.

Thanks for reading.
Steven Kozel

10. Council Comments

- Jane Nye – Shared the artwork of a local student that is featured in the Tirunfo calendar.
- Michele Santucci – Legislative council shared how she reviews agenda and provides feedback. Since the last meeting in November, they have not had any items that needed input. Michelle Santucci also received an email from a resident inquiring about an assessment for a potential catastrophic event.
- JL Diaz– Visted Altadena and Pacific Palisades and found there was no words from the sadness of the devastation. Encourages people to become Firewise.
- Brianna Adams would like to know why you can't make a left turn at Los Arcos. She wants that looked into.
- Chair Brian Trushinski would like to have the Fire Safe Council invited to the next meeting and would also like next month's meeting to cover Mr. Kozel's items – Lindero Canyon Road Speed Limits, Issue at May Boyer Park and e-bike concerns. Also asked that committees be added to the agenda and website and requested a vote by the Board on the following:

- **Landscape Committee**

Members: Brian Trushinski, Motion: Brian Trushinski made the motion, Brianna Adams seconded

- **Oak Park District Liaison**, Member: Brianna Adams, Motion: JL Diaz made the motion, Brian Trushinski seconded
- **Legislative Committee**, Members: Michelle Santucci, Brian Trushinski Motion: JL Diaz, Brianna Adams Seconded
- **Fire Safe Council**, Member: JL Diaz, Motion: Michelle Santucci, seconded by Brian Trushinski

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.

- Michelle Santucci pulled 12/14/24 Fire and Sheriff's reports. Brian Trushinski pulled item 15 the CSA4 landscape report. Motion to approve consent agenda Brian Trushinski, JL Diaz second.

RECOMMENDATION TO RECEIVE AND FILE

12. Ventura County Fire Department Report

In 2024, Ventura County residents concerned about fire danger quadrupled the number of Firewise USA communities in our county. At the start of the year, there were six communities recognized for best practices by Firewise USA. Now, Ventura County has 25, beating the fire department's goal by one. When communities work together, they can have an even greater impact in reducing the risk from wildfires.

The possibility of Santa Ana wind events continues. Everyone should remain vigilant about avoiding activities that could start a fire, such as a hot muffler against tall weeds, a dragging tow chain, a tossed cigarette or an outdoor fire pit.

The fire departments of Ventura County, along with dozens of community partners, collected and distributed toys to more than 30,000 needy children during the holidays as part of the Spark of Love campaign.

RECOMMENDATION TO RECEIVE AND FILE

13. Ventura County Sheriff's Office Report

During the months of November and December, deputies working the Oak Park Community responded to 211 calls for service. They responded to 104 in November and 107 in December. They took 52 total reports, 23 were crime reports and 29 incident reports. Incident reports are generated from calls for service where deputies were unable to establish a crime but documented the incident. Those incidents are reviewed by Detectives to see if any further follow-up is required.

Vandalism:

There was one vandalism report for the month. There was hate speech graffiti painted on an intersection. There were no witnesses. Investigation is ongoing by the East County General Investigative Unit and there are no suspects at this time.

Forgery / Fraud cases:

All cases are under investigation by the Financial Crimes Unit. There were 5 reports of fraud or forgery during the months of November and December. 1 of the reports occurred in LA County and was sent to the appropriate agency for investigation. Three reports were theft by the use of access cards. The victim's cards were used without their permission. One report was the forgery of checks. The victim had their checks stolen and the suspects forged multiple checks. The final report was a home rental scam. This scam has happened in the past, but we are seeing an increase in the whole Conejo Valley again.

As a reminder banks and other legitimate businesses will not ask you to provide your personal information such as social security numbers or bank information. Also, if you are asked to pay the subject on the phone by gift card or crypto currency this is a scam. With the rental property scam. Make sure you visit the property and see the inside of the property before you provide any money. Please be wary of pop-up ads on your computer. This is often hackers trying to compromise your bank information. Call the Sheriff's Office immediately.

Auto Crimes:

There was a report of a stolen vehicle. The victim's vehicle was later recovered by the CHP and returned to the victim. Victim reported their vehicle license plate was stolen. There was no suspect information and the case was closed. Attempted Stolen Vehicle report. Suspects attempted to steal the victim's vehicle but were unsuccessful. This was part of a larger investigation by our Special Enforcement Unit and Commercial/Residential Burglary Unit into a crew that was stealing cars and committing commercial burglaries. Several of the suspects were arrested and charges were filed with the DA's Office.

Burglary:

There was an attempted residential burglary report in November. Unknown suspects tried to pry open a window. They were unsuccessful and there was no property loss to the victim. The case was investigated by the Commercial / Residential Burglary Unit. There were no suspects identified, and the case was closed.

Thefts:

There was one report of Organized Retail Theft. This case was investigated by the ORT Task Force. No suspects were identified, and the case was closed.

There was a theft from a vehicle spree in Oak Park and Newbury Park in the month of December. This case is being investigated by the General Assignment Unit. 3 suspects have been identified, and arrests are coming.

RECOMMENDATION TO RECEIVE AND FILE

14. California Highway Patrol Report

CHP Moorpark and the California Highway Patrol concluded another successful year of our annual CHiP's for Kids Toy Drive event, which ran throughout the month of December. With the help from our community, we were able to distribute thousands of new toys to underserved kids throughout Ventura County. THANK YOU for helping us give back to our community.

The California Highway Patrol conducted a Maximum Enforcement Period (MEP) over the New Year's holiday. The MEP ran from 6 p.m. Tuesday, December 31st through Wednesday, January 1st. The focus for this MEP was Impaired Driving violations. The CHP wrapped up its New Year's MEP with 481 DUI arrests statewide during the 30-hour campaign, averaging one arrest every four minutes. CHP officers also issued nearly 10,000 citations for speeding, seatbelt violations, and other traffic infractions. Maximum Enforcement Periods have been a part of California Highway Patrol (CHP) policy for many years and have specific deployment and reporting procedures. During an MEP, field commands are required to deploy the maximum amount of uniformed personnel to address primary collision factor violations, impaired drivers, and assure a prompt response to any incident causing a hazard or traffic delay.

As we recover from a series of major Public Safety Power Shutdowns (PSPS) in Ventura County, please be careful while driving. These PSPS's are affecting traffic control signals, making them inoperative. California Vehicle code states "The driver of any vehicle approaching an intersection which has official traffic control signals that are inoperative shall stop at the intersection and may proceed with caution when it is safe to do so."

The California Highway Patrol is hiring 1,000 officers to help make California's roadways safer. If you or someone you know would like to join the CHP, visit www.betheCHP1000.com for more information and to speak with a local recruiter. Also, the CHP is hiring more than just officers. We are currently looking to fill 165 dispatcher vacancies across the state and are also looking for Commercial Vehicle Inspection Specialists to inspect the growing number of commercial vehicles on California highways. The CHP will provide you with the training for all three of these positions. More details and applications can be found at www.chp.ca.gov.

RECOMMENDATION TO RECEIVE AND FILE

15. Landscape Committee Report for January 2025 – No report. Last meeting tour with Public Works November 2024.

REGULAR AGENDA

16. Oak Park MAC Request Tickler Log – will be updated on a monthly basis, self explanatory, reference number when an item is added to closed it will retain reference number

17. Ventura County Public Works Watershed Protection District draft 2025-2030 California Department of Fish & Wildlife (CDFW) Routine Maintenance Agreement for Medea and Lindero Creeks and their Tributary Streams.

Public

Works

Update:

Public Works Director Gregg Strakaluse and Assistant Director Jeff Palmer provided an update on current and upcoming projects:

- New Project Dashboard: A two-week look-ahead dashboard has been implemented to inform the public about ongoing and upcoming work.
- Coordination with Oak Park Open Space: JL Diaz inquired whether Public Works is coordinating with Oak Park Open Space. Public Works confirmed they have a crew handling the work but are open to further coordination.
- Dead Palm Tree Removal: Michelle Santucci asked about the schedule for removing dead palm trees. Palmer will follow up and report back to the MAC. The trees in question are located east of Medea Creek Lane and north of Oak Hills Drive (northeast tributary).
- Medea Creek Updates: Brian raised concerns about:
 - The need for a vegetative buffer zone and forming a community workgroup.
 - Updating the hydrology data for Medea Creek, as new topography data from 2017 is available but not yet incorporated into existing models.

Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS) & Traffic Signals:

- Michelle Santucci raised concerns about stoplights being out during PSPS events and asked if proactive measures could be taken.
- Gregg Stakuluse noted that some signals have battery backups, and the county is upgrading them with generators for extended functionality.
- During the recent PSPS, there were concerns about Caltrans-controlled lights on highways. The county collaborated with Caltrans to resolve the issue.
- Stoplight upgrades are ongoing countywide to improve reliability during power outages.

Vote to extend meeting time:
A motion was made by Brian Trushinski and seconded by Michele Santucci to extend the meeting until 10:00 PM and it was carried unanimously.

18. MAC Budget and Landscape Contract

- Public Works George Andrade, Real Estate Services Manager provided updated on RFP. It has gone out for bid. It's important for community to understand that the expectation and service has to align based on the budget.
- Once there is a budget Brian Trushinski asked for a report each month.
- The contract with Enhanced Landscape will continue through June 30th, ensuring no service interruptions.
- George Andrade will provide further details on this item.
- Budget to be presented at February meeting.
- Brian Trushinski asked for monthly or bi-monthly update reports from the County Public Works Agency identifying remaining funds in each CSA4 budget line. Brian Trushinski said that updates will assist the MAC in setting project priorities based on the remaining funds.

19. Ventura County Sheriff's Office and Office of Emergency Services to address community questions and concerns regarding evacuation plans and emergency preparedness.

- Director of the Office of Emergency Services Patrick Maynard
- Commander Cory Rubright
- Provided extensive update on emergency preparedness and response.

20. MAC 2024 Achievements: Brian Trushinski reminded the MAC that the document was approved at the November 2024 MAC Meeting.

21. MAC 2025 Draft Work Plan

- Moved by JL Diaz, Brianna Adams 2nd carries unanimously
- Discussed that no additional work plan actions were suggested.

22. 2025 MAC Meeting Calendar last Thursday of each month, third Thursday in November, Dark in August and December JL Diaz moved to adopt and Michelle Santucci 2nd carries unanimously.

CLOSING

23. Adjournment 10:00 pm by Brian Trushinski.

Next Oak Park MAC Meeting February 27, 2025, 7 pm OPHS High School G-9, 899 Kanan Rd, Oak Park.



CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL

601 N 7th St, Sacramento, CA 95811 | 800-735-2929 (TT/TDD) | 800-735-2922 (Voice)

GAVIN NEWSOM, GOVERNOR

CALIFORNIA STATE TRANSPORTATION AGENCY

To: The Oak Park MAC c/o Supervisor Gorell's office

CHP MOORPARK'S OAK PARK MAC TALKING POINTS: (1.30.25)

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- Follow CHP Moorpark on social media for traffic updates, sig alerts, evacuation notices, roadway closures, and general information on what the CHP is doing in your area.

Twitter: **@CHPMoorpark**
Facebook: **@CHP-Moorpark**
Instagram: **@CHPMoorpark**

Contact: **Officer Ryan Ayers**
Public Information Officer

Phone: **(805) 553-0800**

Email: **rayers@chp.ca.gov**

Safety, Service, and Security

CHP 49 (Rev. 2-24) OPI 076

805-553-0800
610 Spring Road, Moorpark, CA 93021

AN INTERNATIONALLY
ACCREDITED AGENCY



VENTURA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

M E M O R A N D U M



DATE: June 11, 2025
TO: Supervisor Gorell's Office and the Oak Park MAC
FROM: Detective Tim Behrend
RE: November / December MAC Law Enforcement Report

During the months of November and December, deputies working the Oak Park Community responded to 211 calls for service. They responded to 104 in November and 107 in December. They took 52 total reports, 23 were crime reports and 29 incident reports. Incident reports are generated from calls for service where deputies were unable to establish a crime but documented the incident. Those incidents are reviewed by Detectives to see if any further follow-up is required.

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COUNTY *of* VENTURA

Open Government Laws for Municipal Advisory Councils Oak Park MAC

Jeffrey E. Barnes, Chief Assistant County Counsel

January 2025

KEY OAK PARK MAC DOCUMENTS

- County of Ventura 2024 Municipal Advisory Council (MAC) Policies
- County of Ventura Resolution 24-100 Regarding Oak Park MAC
- Oak Park MAC Conflict of Interest Code

Formation of Municipal Advisory Councils (“MAC”)

- Government Code section 31010 covers the formation of MACs and requirements
- Board of Supervisors may by resolution establish and provide funds for the operation of a MAC for any unincorporated area to advise the Board on matters which relate to the area

Oak Park MAC Duties

- “Ventura County’s MACs advise their representative District Supervisor on matters concerning services which are or may be provided to the MAC area by the County or other local governmental agencies, including but not limited to advice on matters of public health, safety, welfare, public works, and planning. ”
 - May include reviewing and providing advisory recommendations concerning financing and operation of County Service Area No. 4
- Items to be considered by the MAC are determined by the District Supervisor
- In addition, MAC authorized to issue and revoke oversized vehicle parking permits in Oak Park under County Ordinance No. 4358

Who's Eligible to Serve on MAC?

- Oak Park MAC
 - Five elected members
 - All elected members must be registered voters residing in the Oak Park Council area.
 - 4-year terms; staggered membership (3 on one election cycle, two on the other)
 - Elections held in November of even-numbered years.
 - Elected MAC members take office at noon the first Friday in December after the election.

What if there is a vacancy?

- Vacancies are triggered by any of the events in Government Code section 1770 (typically due to death, resignation, or a member moving out of the territory)
- Nominations made to fill vacancies are submitted to District 2 Supervisor and then an appointment made by the Board of Supervisors
- Representatives appointed to fill the vacancy serve the remainder of the unexpired term

MAC Officers

- Chairperson
- Vice Chairperson
- Secretary
- MAC selects officers by motion at the first meeting each year.

MAC Meetings



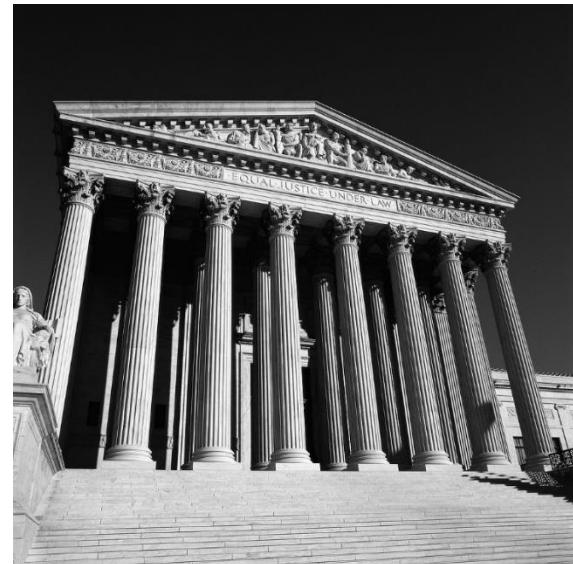
- MAC must meet at least once a quarter
- MAC must establish standard meeting schedule for the year
- Meetings must occur in territory of the MAC
- Meetings must be in accordance with Brown Act

Quorum

- Quorum is a majority of the members of the MAC (3 out of 5), not including alternates or vacant positions
- Any action of the MAC requires affirmative votes of at least a quorum – need 3 “yes” votes for any item to be approved

Running a Meeting - Parliamentary Procedure

- MAC members should use parliamentary procedures as guidelines when conducting a public meeting
- Set of rules for conduct at meeting
- Allows everyone to be heard
- Allows decisions to be made without confusion
- Orderly meeting = clear record!



Order of Business

- Meetings conducted in accordance with agenda prepared for the meeting and, typically, in order listed on agenda



Order of Business

- Meeting Called to Order
- Roll Call
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Approval of Minutes
- Agenda Review
- Consent Agenda
- Public Comment
- Comments by District 2 Representative
- Comments by MAC Members
- Regular Agenda Items
- Adjournment

Motions

- In order for the MAC to approve/deny or take action on an item on the agenda, a motion must be made by a MAC member
 - Example: “I move to recommend for approval the land use application of _____.”
- The motion must be seconded by another MAC member
 - Example: “I second the motion.”
- If a motion is not made and seconded, it cannot be voted on by the MAC

Voting on a Motion

- Once a motion is made and seconded, the Chair:
 - Announces the motion
 - Example: “The motion is to recommend approval of the land use application of ____.”
 - Asks for any discussion on the motion by the MAC members
 - Calls for a vote
 - States the result of the vote
 - Example: motion passes with (names) voting in favor, and (names) voting against
 - Reminder, any action of the MAC requires affirmative votes of at least a quorum in order to pass. Example, 5 members on MAC -> need 3 “yes” votes for an item to pass.

Orderly Meeting Practices

- During discussion of agenda items, MAC members should avoid interrupting each other and allow each other to have turns to speak
- Any questions or requests to speak by MAC members should be made to the Chair
- Chair will say when MAC members may speak (“have the floor”)
- Chair enforces order and decorum among the MAC members, public and others in attendance

MAC Subcommittees

- May establish limited, single-purpose subcommittee when needed
- Composed of less than quorum of MAC, chaired by MAC member
- Members of public may serve on subcommittee
- Purpose and responsibilities shall be established by the MAC
- Meetings must comply with Brown Act, conflict of interest laws, and County MAC policies
- Meeting agendas shall be posted and records of action should be maintained and posted

Conflicts of Interest

- Oak Park MAC members are subject to the Political Reform Act and must file a Form 700 each year
- Oak Park MAC has an adopted Conflict of Interest Code approved by the County.
 - Must disclose interests in real or personal property subject to regulation or oversight by the MAC
- Also, cannot participate in actions involving County contracts in which MAC member has a financial interest

Brown Act –Open Meeting Law

To ensure that almost all aspects of the decision-making process of legislative bodies of local agencies are conducted in public and open to public scrutiny.

“All meetings of the legislative body of a local agency shall be open and public, and all persons shall be permitted to attend any meeting of the legislative body of a local agency, except as otherwise provided in this chapter.” (Gov’t Code §54953)

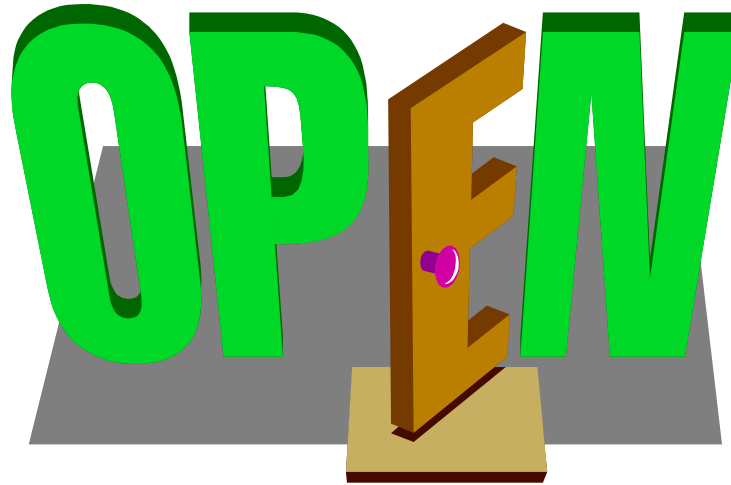
Key Principles of Brown Act

- It's the public's business.
- The people only trust a process they can see.
- Conduct the people's business in open and publicized meetings.
- Allow the people (the public) to participate in the meetings.



The Brown Act applies to “Legislative Bodies”

- Governing body of the agency (Board of Supervisors)
- Subordinate boards or commissions created by formal action of the governing body (MACs)
- Standing committees with regular meeting schedule and continuing subject matter jurisdiction.



All meetings of the Legislative Body of a Local Agency shall be open and public and all persons shall be permitted to attend

- Government Code §54953

What is a meeting?



- Any congregation of a majority of the members at the same time and location to hear, discuss, deliberate, or take action upon any matter under their jurisdiction.
- No action needs to be taken for a meeting to occur; conversations or deliberations about issues confronting their agency is sufficient.
- Includes “workshops,” “study sessions,” and retreats.

Brown Act – Meeting Exceptions

When is a meeting not a meeting? Not a violation

- Individual contacts
- Conferences and seminars- Attendance at conferences open to the public on issues of general interest to the public or public agencies
- Community Meetings- Town meetings or similar gatherings which are open, noticed and originated by a person or organization other than the local agency
- Purely social or ceremonial occasions

Brown Act – Meeting Exceptions

When is a meeting not a meeting? Not a violation

- Attendance at a standing committee meeting (observation only)
- Attendance at meetings with other legislative bodies
 - A majority of the body may attend an open and noticed meeting of another legislative body as long as they do not discuss among themselves, other than part of the scheduled meeting, issues under their jurisdiction.
- Example: majority of the MAC attends a Board of Supervisors meeting— isn't a MAC meeting.

Serial Meetings Are Illegal

Serial Meetings:

- Expressly prohibited
- A series of communications, direct or indirect, each of which involves less than a quorum of the legislative body, but when taken as a whole, involves a majority of the members.
- The members discuss, deliberate, or take action on an issue through personal intermediaries, emails, phone calls, letters, written proposals, or other method.

Reasoning: Deliberations and actions of public bodies should be done openly

Serial Meetings Are Illegal

Types of Serial Meetings

Hub and spoke



Telephone or email chain



* Individual briefings are permitted but members should avoid making inquiries about what other members thought or said.

Brown Act and Emails

Tips for Avoiding Problems as MAC Members:

- Refrain from replying to an e-mail directed to a majority of the members concerning a public discussions or deliberations
- Do not take a position or make a commitment on public matters yet to be decided.
 - E-mails can be forwarded without your knowledge
- Only e-mail the entire MAC to provide information
 - Do not request a response
 - Do not state your position

Rules Governing Meetings

Agenda Requirements for Regular Meetings

- Must post 72 hours prior to the meeting
 - Physically post in a location “freely accessible to the public” 24 hours per day and on website, if agency has website
- Must include the time and location of the meeting
- Must contain a brief general description of each item to be discussed or addressed – including closed session items
- Must be publicly accessible and distributed in advance to those that request copies
- If requested, the agenda must be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability

Public Participation

The Public's Right to Comment

- At every **regular** meeting, members of the public have the right to directly address the body on **any item of public interest if that item is under the jurisdiction of the body**
- For agenda items, the public must be given an opportunity to comment **before or during** the body's consideration of the item

Public Participation at Meetings

- Can speak on any item in subject matter jurisdiction
- Can criticize policies, procedures, programs, services, or omissions
- Accepting grandstanding, negative feedback and criticism as part of public service
- Not required to register
- Speaker cards are not a prerequisite
- Time limits and prohibiting disruptive conduct okay
- Rules of decorum and reasonable restrictions upon public comment are permitted, if not too broad and do not constitute “prior restraints”
- Recording permitted
- If the body reviews documents, copies of those documents must be publicly available and/or provided without delay when requested

No Action Allowed/Member Participation

- In general, MAC members can only discuss and take action on items that are on the publicly noticed agenda
 - Brief response to statement or question from public.
 - Questions to staff for clarification of a matter based upon public comment.
 - Brief announcement or report on member's or staff's own activities.
 - Provide reference or information to staff.
 - Ask staff to report back at a future meeting on any matter
 - Ask that item be added to future agenda for substantive discussion

Brown Act – Meeting Location

- No meeting can be held in a facility that prohibits attendance based on race, religion color, national origin, ethnic group identification, age, sex, sexual orientation, or disability, or that is inaccessible to the disabled.
- No meeting can be held where the public must make a payment or purchase in order to be present. This does not mean, however, that the public is entitled to free entry to a conference attended by a majority of the legislative body.

Virtual Meetings

- Traditional Teleconferencing Rules:
 - At least a quorum of the MAC must participate from locations within the MAC's jurisdiction.
 - All votes taken during a teleconferenced meeting shall be by roll call (i.e., each member would have to state his or her name and vote on the item, one by one.)
 - Each teleconference location must be specifically identified in the notice and agenda of the meeting
 - Agendas must be posted at each teleconference location per Brown Act timelines,
 - Each teleconference location must be accessible to the public and have technology, such as a speakerphone, to enable the public to participate.
 - The agenda must provide an opportunity for members of the public to address the legislative body directly at each teleconference location.

Virtual Meetings

- MAC members may also participate remotely for “just cause” or “emergencies”
- At least a quorum of the MAC must participate in person from a singular physical location identified on the agenda (only two members can participate remotely during any given meeting)
- Members participating remotely must comply with one of the following:
- **“Just Cause Exception”** A member has “just cause” for remote participation only under the following four circumstances:
 1. There is a childcare or caregiving need (for a child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, spouse, or domestic partner) that requires the member to participate remotely;
 2. A contagious illness prevents the member from attending the meeting in person;
 3. There is a need related to a defined physical or mental disability that is not otherwise accommodated for; or
 4. Traveling while on official business of the Brown Act body or another state or local agency
- A member can only use “just cause” for two meetings per calendar year
- No action is needed by the rest of the MAC for a “just cause” reason.
- Must notify MAC at earliest opportunity of need to participate remotely. This can even be at the start of the meeting.

Virtual Meetings

- **“Emergency” exception**
 - “a physical or family medical emergency that prevents a member from attending the meeting in person.” A member is not required to disclose any medical diagnosis or disability, or any personal medical information that is already exempt from existing law. No other reasons satisfy an “emergency circumstance.”
 - Must notify the MAC of the emergency and the MAC must take action to approve or deny the request.
 - Request must be remade at each meeting.
 - Remote participation for an “emergency circumstance” cannot be for more than three consecutive months or 20 percent of the regular meetings for the local agency within a calendar year. If the MAC regularly meets fewer than 10 times per calendar year, a member’s participation from a remote location cannot be for more than two meetings.

Virtual Meetings

Additional Requirements for a Member Participating Remotely: In addition to making a request either for “just cause” or due to an “emergency circumstance”, AB 2449 imposes the following additional requirements on members seeking to appear remotely:

- Before any action is taken during the meeting, the member must publicly disclose whether any other individuals 18 years of age or older are present in the room at the remote location with the member, and the general nature of the member’s relationship with any such individuals.
- The Brown Act body member participating from a remote location **must** participate through **both** audio and visual technology.
- Public must be allowed to participate remotely and agenda must describe how to participate remotely
- Votes by roll call only

Brown Act – Violation and Consequences

Civil violation and consequences:

- A civil suit to have the action declared “null and void”
- Need to be given chance to cure and correct the problem
- Repeated violations: injunction prohibiting future violations
- A civil violation does not require that the MAC actually vote or take action on an item.
- Court fees and attorney’s fees and costs are recoverable.

Criminal violation and consequences:

- A member takes action, intending to deprive the public of information to which the public is entitled.
- Guilty of a misdemeanor
- Criminal sanctions (up to 6 months in jail; \$1,000 fine)

Public Records Act

Public Records Act: The California Public Records Act (CPRA) governs the public's access to government records. (Cal. Gov. C. § 7920.000 *et seq.*)

Proposition 59: made access to public records a **constitutional** right (Cal. Const. art. I § 3.)

The Golden Rule



- All local agency records must be disclosed to the public, upon request, unless those records are specifically made exempt. (Cal. Gov. C. § 7922.525.)
- **Practice point: Assume most of your internal emails and messages and all of your external emails and messages are public records that will be released upon inquiry – very few exemptions will apply**

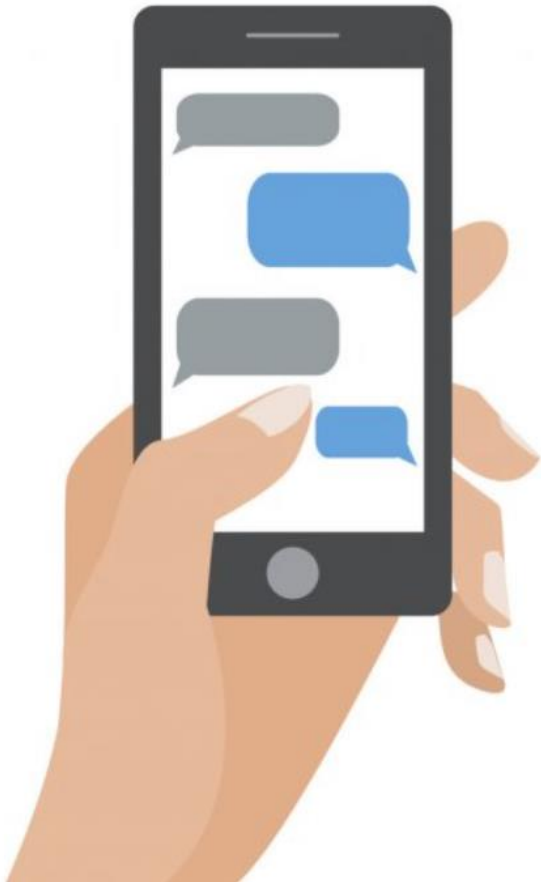
Public Record Defined

“Public Record” means:

- Any writing
- Containing information relating to the conduct of the public’s business
- Prepared, owned, used, or retained by any state or local agency
- Regardless of physical form or characteristic

Cal. Gov. C. § 7920.530

Writings Include



- Handwritten notes, computer printouts, photographs
- Compact discs, flash drives, files on computer hard drives
- Audio and video recordings
- Emails and text messages – including on personal accounts and devices

Deadline to Respond

Within **10 calendar days** of receipt of the request:

- Determine whether the request seeks copies of disclosable public records.
- Provide written response to the person or entity making the request.
- State the estimated date when responsive, non-exempt records may be available.
- If a request comes in for MAC records, staff will ask you to compile the records from your personal devices and we will then review them for possible exemptions that may apply.



Questions



RESOLUTION NO. 24-100

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF THE COUNTY OF VENTURA REPEALING AND REPLACING THE JULY 2012
RESOLUTION FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION OF
THE OAK PARK MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL**

WHEREAS, pursuant to the authority granted by Section 31010 of California Government Code, the Oak Park Municipal Advisory Council ("Council") was established June 3, 1975, as amended by resolution dated July 17, 2012; and

WHEREAS, Government Code section 31010 authorizes the Board of Supervisors to establish, by resolution, a Municipal Advisory Council for any unincorporated area of the County to advise the Board of Supervisors on such matters which related to that area as may be designated by the Board of Supervisors; and

WHEREAS, the Council was established in 1975 as the area was not and continues to not be an incorporated City. Even though Oak Park, at the time, had a homeowners' association, the association's paying membership only included 30-60% of the residents. When the association represented the community to public agencies, some questioned whether the group legitimately spoke for the entire community. Community leaders asked the Ventura County Board of Supervisors to establish a MAC for Oak Park to create a locally recognized voice for all residents; and

WHEREAS, residents in the designated unincorporated area of the Council desire to continue advising the Board of Supervisors on matters pertaining to their designated area; and

WHEREAS, there is a desire to expand the territory of the designated area for which the Council is established; and

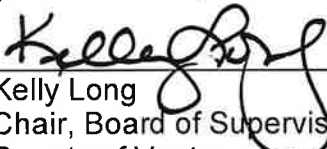
WHEREAS, to better assist and define expectations of the Council in alignment with Government Code Section 31010, a County of Ventura Municipal Advisory Council Policy document was adopted by the Board of Supervisors on June 18, 2024, which may be updated from time to time, to provide a framework of rules and procedures in connection with the establishment and operation of Municipal Advisory Councils to help ensure that such councils are effectively serving their advisory purpose to the Board of Supervisors, and more specifically their District Supervisor, and are successfully representing the concerns and recommendations of their respective unincorporated communities; and

WHEREAS, by resolution of the Board of Supervisors in June 3, 1975, the Council conducted its first elections in November 4, 1975. Election requirements for this Council are hereby stipulated in the County of Ventura Municipal Advisory Council Policy document.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, ORDERED AND DETERMINED
by the Board of Supervisors that:

1. Repeal and Replacement of Prior Resolutions. All prior resolutions of the Board of Supervisors regarding creation and operation of the Oak Park Municipal Advisory Council, including but not limited to the July 17, 2012 resolution, are hereby repealed and replaced with this resolution.
2. Continuation of Council and Expansion of Council territory. There is hereby continued a Municipal Advisory Council for the unincorporated area of the County, commonly known as the Oak Park area, as shown on the updated map attached hereto as Exhibit A, and incorporated herein by reference. Upon effective date of this resolution, the Council territory shall include County of Ventura Election Registration Precincts: Oak Park 2-001, Oak Park 2-002, Oak Park 2-003, Oak Park 2-004, Oak Park 2-005, Oak Park, 2-006, Oak Park 2-007, Oak Park 2-008 Oak Park 2-009, Oak Park 2-010, Oak Park 2-011, Oak Park 2-012, Oak Park 2-013, Oak Park 2-014, Oak Park 2-015, Oak Park 2-016, Oak Park 2-017; and
3. Name of the Council. The Municipal Advisory Council shall continue to be known as the Oak Park Municipal Advisory Council.
4. Designated Powers and Duties. The Council shall only have those powers and duties expressly set forth in this resolution and as set forth in the County of Ventura Municipal Advisory Council Policy document adopted by the Board of Supervisors on June 18, 2024, and as such Policy document may be amended ("hereinafter Policy Document"). In the event of a conflict between this resolution and the Policy Document, this resolution shall control.
5. Membership of the Council. The Council shall be composed of five elected members. Nominations, qualifications, and elections shall be conducted as set forth in the Policy Document.
6. Termination of the Council. The Board of Supervisors may, at its sole discretion, terminate and dissolve the Council as set forth in the Policy Document.
7. Effective Date. This resolution shall become effective upon adoption.

On motion of Supervisor Gorell, seconded by Supervisor LaVere, the Board adopted this resolution on the 18th day of June 2024.


Kelly Long
Chair, Board of Supervisors
County of Ventura

ATTEST:

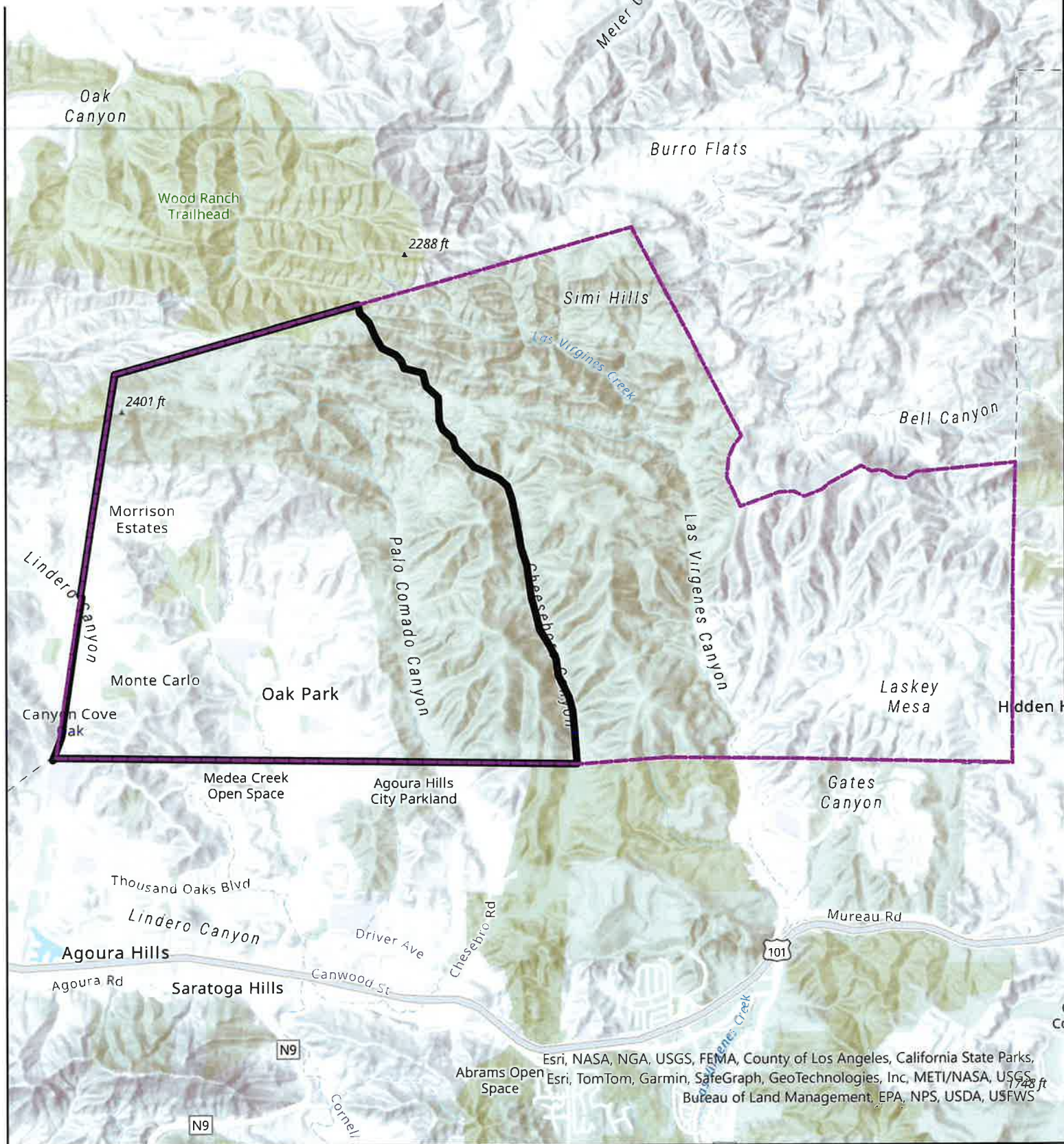
Dr. Sevet Johnson
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
County of Ventura, State of California.

By: 
Deputy Clerk of the Board



Oak Park 2-001, Oak Park 2-002, Oak Park 2-003,
 Oak Park 2-004, Oak Park 2-005, Oak Park, 2-006,
 Oak Park 2-007, Oak Park 2-008 Oak Park 2-009,
 Oak Park 2-010, Oak Park 2-011, Oak Park 2-012,
 Oak Park 2-013, Oak Park 2-014, Oak Park 2-015,
 Oak Park 2-016, Oak Park 2-017

 Existing Oak Park MAC Boundary
 Selected Election Precincts



Ventura County
 Resource Management Agency
 Information Systems GIS Services
 Map created on 4/12/2024



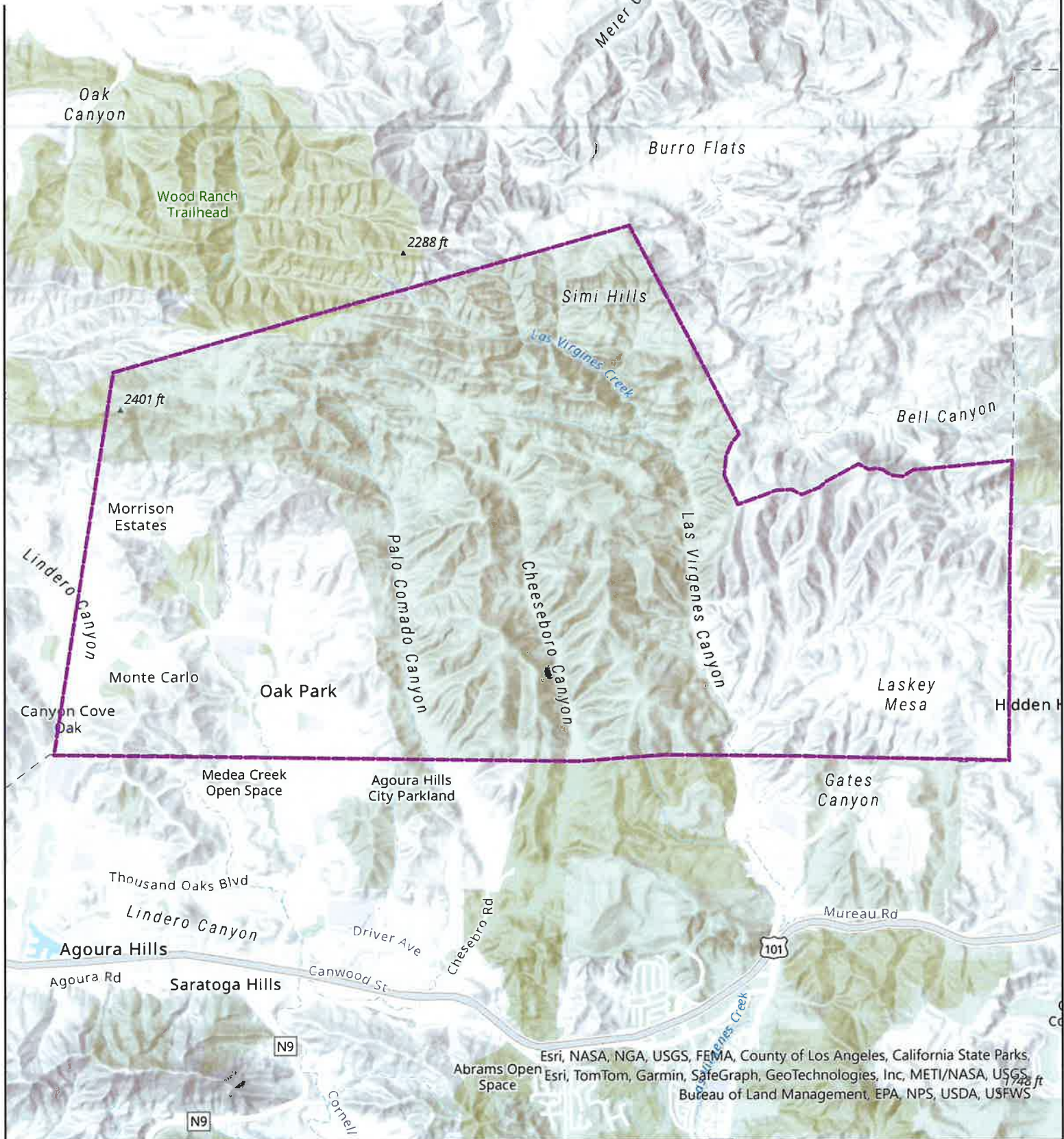
County of Ventura Oak Park Municipal Advisory Council

0 1,500 3,000 6,000 Feet
 Disclaimer: this map was created by the Ventura County Resource Management Agency Information Systems GIS, which is designed and operated solely for the convenience of the County and related public agencies. The County does not warrant the accuracy of this map and no decision involving a risk of economic loss or physical injury should be made in reliance therein



Oak Park 2-001, Oak Park 2-002, Oak Park 2-003,
 Oak Park 2-004, Oak Park 2-005, Oak Park, 2-006,
 Oak Park 2-007, Oak Park 2-008 Oak Park 2-009,
 Oak Park 2-010, Oak Park 2-011, Oak Park 2-012,
 Oak Park 2-013, Oak Park 2-014, Oak Park 2-015,
 Oak Park 2-016, Oak Park 2-017

 Selected Election Precincts



Ventura County
 Resource Management Agency
 Information Systems GIS Services
 Map created on 4/12/2024



County of Ventura Oak Park Municipal Advisory Council

0 1,500 3,000 6,000 Feet

Disclaimer: this map was created by the Ventura County Resource Management Agency Information Systems GIS, which is designed and operated solely for the convenience of the County and related public agencies. The County does not warrant the accuracy of this map and no decision involving a risk of economic loss or physical injury should be made in reliance therein



**2025 CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE
OAK PARK MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL**

The Political Reform Act, Government Code section 81000 et seq., requires local government agencies to adopt and promulgate Conflict of Interest Codes. The Fair Political Practices Commission has adopted a regulation (2 Cal. Code Regs., § 18730) which contains the terms of a standard Conflict of Interest Code, which may be amended by the Fair Political Practices Commission to conform to amendments in the Political Reform Act after public notice and hearings.

The terms of California Code of Regulations, Title 2, Section 18730, and any amendment to it duly adopted by the Fair Political Practices Commission, are hereby incorporated by reference as the Conflict of Interest Code for the **Oak Park Municipal Advisory Council**, and along with the attached Exhibit A, which designates positions requiring disclosure and Exhibit B, which sets forth disclosure categories for each designated position, constitute the Conflict of Interest Code of the **Oak Park Municipal Advisory Council**. Persons holding positions designated in Exhibit A shall file Form 700 Statements of Economic Interests with the Clerk of the Ventura County Board of Supervisors' Office which shall be the Filing Officer.

IN PREPARING THE FORM 700, DESIGNATED FILERS NEED ONLY DISCLOSE THOSE FINANCIAL INTERESTS FALLING WITHIN THE DISCLOSURE CATEGORIES DESIGNATED FOR THAT FILER'S POSITION AS STATED IN EXHIBITS A AND B.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 30th day of January, 2025:

By: _____
Print Name: _____
Title: Chair, Oak Park Municipal Advisory Council

EXHIBIT A – DESIGNATED POSITIONS

# of POSITIONS	POSITION TITLE	DISCLOSURE CATEGORIES (From Exhibit B)
5	Members, Municipal Advisory Council	1, 2

EXHIBIT B – DISCLOSURE CATEGORIES

The terms *italicized* below have specific meaning under the Political Reform Act. In addition, the financial interests of a spouse, domestic partner and dependent children of the public official holding the designated position may require reporting. Consult the instructions and reference pamphlet of the Form 700 for explanation.

Category 1 – REAL PROPERTY

[SEE FORM 700 SCHEDULE B]

All *interests in real property*, including *interests in real property* held by *business entities* and trusts in which the public official holds a business position or has an *investment* or other financial interest, within the jurisdictional boundaries of the Oak Park Municipal Advisory Council.

Category 2 – PERMITTING

[SEE FORM 700 SCHEDULES A-1, A-2, C, D and E]

All *investments, business positions* and sources of *income, gifts, loans* and *travel payments*, from sources which are subject to the permitting authority of, or have an application pending before, the Oak Park Municipal Advisory Council's oversized vehicle permit parking program.



COUNTY OF VENTURA

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

SUPERVISOR
Jeff Gorell
Second District

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD
JANICE S. PARVIN, CHAIR
MATT LAVERE
JEFF GORELL
KELLY LONG
VIANEY LOPEZ

January 28, 2025

County of Ventura Board of Supervisors

Subject: Approval of Sponsorship and Support of Legislative Initiatives at the State Level Related to Investor-Owned Utility Accountability, Public Safety Power Shutoff Transparency and Disaster Assistance

Recommendations:

1. Approve support for, and sponsorship of, legislative solution(s) that provide(s) for direct relief, such as reimbursement, for Investor-Owned Utility (IOU) customers subject to prolonged Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS).
2. Approve support for, and sponsorship of, legislation to mandate transparency, communication, and timely restoration of power by IOUs during PSPS events.
3. Approve support for, and sponsorship of, legislation that establishes a California State Individual Assistance Program (CSIA) to provide disaster recovery assistance for individuals and households affected by non-federally declared disasters, or when a federal disaster declaration is made but FEMA individual assistance thresholds are not met.
4. Approve support for, and sponsorship of, a legislative initiative to include Mountain Fire victims in waiver of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements related to rebuilding residential and commercial property destroyed by fire.

Fiscal Impact: No fiscal impact to the County is anticipated. Advocacy efforts are supported within the existing resources and responsibilities of the County's legislative team and the offices of County Supervisors.

Discussion:

As a County Supervisor, I remain committed to advocating for better service, safety, and emergency preparedness for Ventura County residents. To that end, I ask that our Board support and sponsor the following general proposed legislative efforts at the state level to support this mission by addressing critical issues in investor-owned utility accountability, disaster recovery, and transparency and restoration during public safety power shutoffs.

- Proposed legislation at the state level to require Investor-Owned Utilities (IOUs) to reimburse customers for power outages during Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS), possibly through automatic credits on monthly billing statements. The County of Ventura will thereby act as sponsor of any legislative initiative that would require IOUs to reimburse customers for power outages during Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS), thereby protecting consumers and encouraging

accountability for utility companies during extreme weather events that necessitate power outages. The current process has failed customers.

- Proposed legislation at the state level to require IOUs in California to provide increased transparency and responsiveness regarding Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS), to consider and include such things as the publication of weather conditions, notification of public safety agencies regarding critical infrastructure, and real-time communication with customers.
- Support proposed legislation at the state level to establish the California State Individual Assistance Program (CSIA). This program would provide financial assistance to disaster victims in incidents that do not qualify for federal disaster relief under the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) program, including cases where a federal disaster declaration is made but FEMA individual assistance thresholds are not met.

The above proposed legislative efforts, if passed, would enhance transparency and build public trust during PSPS events. They prioritize public safety and rapid response to emergencies.

Finally, I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting a legislative effort to include Mountain Fire victims in waiver of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements related to rebuilding residential and commercial property destroyed by fire. Such waiver has already been afforded to victims of the Palisades and Eaton Fires in Los Angeles County and would bring some administrative relief to Mountain Fire victims in our County that have suffered similar losses and face similar rebuilding challenges.

The proposed advocacy aligns with the County's strategic goals of promoting public safety, improving emergency response, and ensuring equitable access to disaster recovery resources.

Strategic Plan – Focus Area: These actions support the County's focus on Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness, reinforcing Ventura County's commitment to protecting residents and strengthening community resilience.

This letter has been reviewed by the County Executive Office, the Auditor-Controller's Office, and County Counsel. If you have any questions regarding this item, please contact me at SupervisorGorell@ventura.org.

Sincerely,



Jeff Gorell, Supervisor, Second District, Vice Chair of the Board of Supervisors



COUNTY OF VENTURA

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

SUPERVISOR
JEFF GORELL
Second District

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD
KELLY LONG, CHAIR
MATT LAVERE
JEFF GORELL
JANICE S. PARVIN
VIANEY LOPEZ

January 14, 2025

Board of Supervisors

Subject: Recommendation by Supervisor Gorell to direct staff to evaluate the feasibility of establishing a not-for-profit municipal utility district to serve Ventura County, providing a public alternative to Southern California Edison.

Recommendation:

Staff should evaluate the feasibility, costs and benefits of establishing a municipal utility, considering:

- Case studies from other California communities.
- Legal and regulatory requirements.
- Potential service improvements and cost savings for residents and businesses.
- Governance structures that ensure transparency and accountability.

Additionally, staff should provide recommendations on the potential advantages of contracting with consulting firms experienced in successfully guiding other municipalities through the public utility process. This analysis should emphasize how these firms' expertise could benefit the county and contribute to a successful implementation. This analysis should also explore partnerships and public-private collaboration opportunities to support a smooth transition if a municipal utility is deemed viable.

Discussion:

Southern California Edison has repeatedly demonstrated that its business model—a for-profit, regulated corporation—fails to meet the basic standards of transparency, communication and service reliability that our community deserves. Driven by profit motives rather than the public good, this model lacks the accountability and responsiveness that a municipally driven utility could provide.

The concept of a municipal utility is not new. Many communities across California have established successful public utilities, offering reliable, transparent, and community-focused energy services. These examples illustrate that a municipally driven utility can be an effective alternative to the corporate utility model, prioritizing the needs of residents over shareholder interests.

To better understand the case for exploring this option, the following key points outline Edison's systemic and historical failures and the potential benefits of transitioning to a not-for-profit municipal utility:

1. Systemic and Conceptual Failures of Edison

Edison's failures are rooted in its profit-driven business model, which prioritizes shareholder interests over community needs. This systemic approach results in:

- **Ineffective Communication and Lack of Transparency:** Edison has repeatedly failed to clearly communicate with the public regarding the duration of planned and unplanned outages. Residents are often left without timely information or justification for power cuts, eroding public trust.
- **Accountability Issues:** As a for-profit corporation, Edison is not directly accountable to the public, exacerbating frustrations over service failures and limiting responsiveness to community concerns.

2. Recent Examples of Communication Failures

- In recent interactions, Ventura County officials have sought clarification and accountability from Edison on critical matters, only to encounter insufficient responses or complete disengagement. These failures highlight the inherent weaknesses of Edison's governance and operational model, which prioritizes corporate interests over transparency and public service.

3. Benefits of a Not-for-Profit Municipal Utility

- A municipally driven utility would operate with the purpose of serving the public good, rather than maximizing profits. Its governance structure, led by elected officials, ensures transparency and accountability to the community it serves. Furthermore, municipalities across California have demonstrated that this model can successfully deliver reliable and affordable energy services while maintaining public trust and accountability.

Conclusion:

The creation of a not-for-profit municipal utility represents a bold but necessary step to ensure reliable, transparent and community-focused energy services. Edison's systemic and historic failures demand action. By exploring this alternative, Ventura County can provide a model of governance and service delivery that puts the needs of its residents first.

If you have any questions regarding this item, please contact Supervisor Jeff Gorell at Jeff.Gorell@ventura.org or at 805-214-2510.

Sincerely,



Jeff Gorell, Supervisor, Second District



County of Ventura Overview



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



District 3
Supervisor Kelly Long
Chair



District 4
Supervisor Janice S. Parvin
Vice-Chair



District 1
Supervisor Matt LaVere



District 2
Supervisor Jeff Gorell



District 5
Supervisor Vianey Lopez





COUNTY ELECTED OFFICIALS



Keith Taylor

Assessor
Ventura County Assessor's Office



Jeff Burgh

Auditor-Controller
Ventura County Auditor -
Controller's Office



Michelle Ascencion

Clerk-Recorder
Ventura County Clerk-Recorder
& Registrar of Voters



Erik Nasarenko

District Attorney
Ventura County District Attorney's Office



Jim Fryhoff

Sheriff
Ventura County Sheriff's Office



Sue Horgan

Treasurer-Tax Collector
Ventura County Treasurer -
Tax Collector's Office



COUNTY OF VENTURA

25 AGENCIES | 10,000+ EMPLOYEES

- Agricultural Commissioner
- Air Pollution Control District
- Airports
- Animal Services
- Assessor's Office
- Auditor-Controller
- Child Support Services
- Clerk-Recorder & Registrar of Voters
- County Counsel
- County Executive Office
- District Attorney
- Fire Protection District
- General Services Agency
- Harbor Department
- Health Care Agency
- Human Services Agency
- Information Technology
- Libraries
- Medical Examiners Office
- Probation Agency
- Public Defender
- Public Works Agency
- Resource Management Agency
- Sheriff's Office
- Treasurer-Tax Collector



COUNTY SERVICES



Infrastructure

- 543 Miles of roads
- 158 Bridges
- 200 Drainage channels
- 2,735 Storm drains
- 262 Miles of water main pipes over 45,932 acres
- 50 Dams
- Sewer service to more than 50,000 residents
- Two airports



Services

- Animal Services
- Records, Licenses, Permits, Weddings, Elections, Assessments & Appraisals
- Information Technology, Resource Management, Planning, Environmental Health
- 13 Libraries
- Shared Services



Green Space

- 18 Parks
- 12 Campgrounds
- 3 Golf Courses
- Community Centers
- Trails
- Channel Islands Harbor





CORE CRITICAL SERVICES

Healthcare

- Full-Service County Hospitals – Ventura County Medical Center & Santa Paula Hospital
- 80+ clinics countywide
- Association with USC Keck School of Medicine
- Association with Children's Hospital Los Angeles
- Regional network of highly skilled healthcare professionals





CORE CRITICAL SERVICES

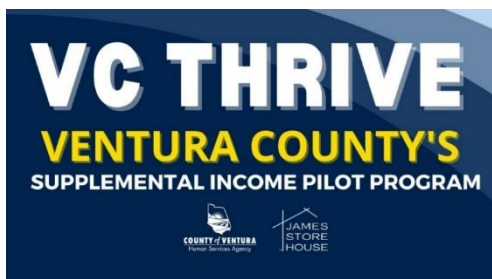
Human Services Agency

- 1 in 4 Residents served by HSA
- 254,000+ Residents assisted with Medi-Cal health benefits
- Support of veterans and their families
- Focus on Housing - \$78M in state and federal COVID rent relief funding
- In 2023, launch of VC Thrive – Supplemental income for transitional aged youth

Californians ages 50 or older may qualify for more Medi-Cal benefits.



Contact the Human Services Agency today:
888-472-4463 | vchsa.org/medi-cal





CORE CRITICAL SERVICES

SHERIFF'S OFFICE

- 151 Years of Service
- Service to 5 of 10 cities plus the unincorporated area
- Sheriff provides City police services to Camarillo, Fillmore, Moorpark, Ojai, Thousand Oaks, and the Unincorporated areas of the County
- Todd Road Jail Health & Programming Unit
- \$32.5M for Regional Radio System
- 800 sworn deputies and 500 unsworn personnel within six stations, over 94,000 calls for service in 2023





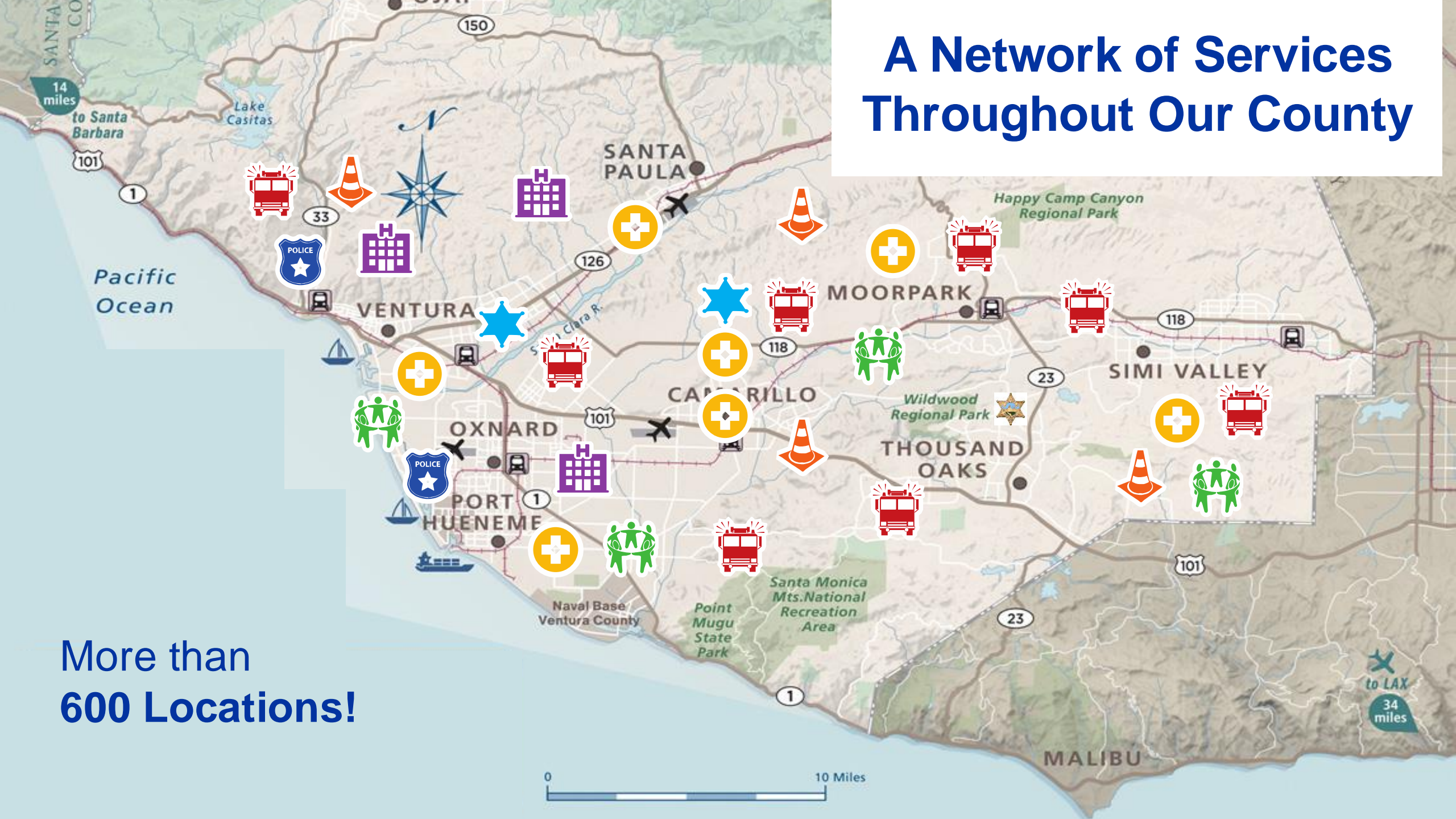
CORE CRITICAL SERVICES

FIRE DEPARTMENT

- In 2023, more than 53,000 calls for service across contract cities and unincorporated county areas
- Service to 7 of 10 Cities plus the unincorporated County
 - Camarillo, Moorpark, Ojai, Port Hueneme, Santa Paula, Simi Valley, and Thousand Oaks
- Unified dispatch, hand crews, heavy equipment, search and rescue
- Provides emergency dispatch services for all fire and ambulance companies in Ventura County.
- 623 personnel at 33 Fire Stations & 7 Support Facilities
- Two Fire Hawk firefighting helicopters for fire suppression & mutual aid



A Network of Services Throughout Our County



More than
600 Locations!



COUNTY FINANCIAL HEALTH

- Standard & Poor's – SP-1+ short-term rating for the County's tax and revenue anticipation notes
- Moody's – MIG-1 short-term rating and Aaa long-term rating
- Rainy Day Reserves are at their highest level ever at \$180M+





COUNTY FINANCIAL HEALTH

Balanced Budget Helping to Provide Critical Services

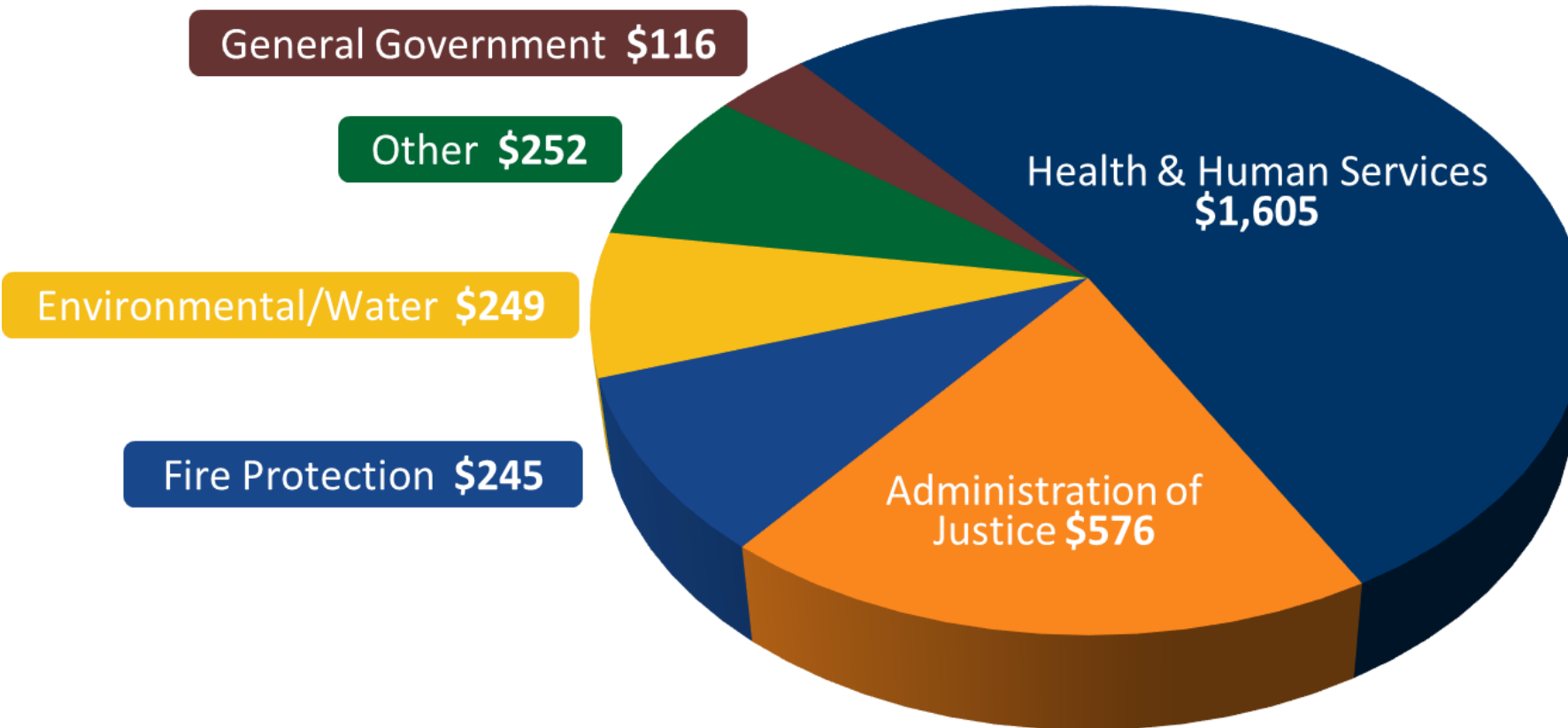
- Structurally balanced without using reserves
- Sustaining critical services: health, safety, social services
- Addressing priorities: economic vitality, housing/homelessness, sustainability
- Increased Demand:
 - CalWorks
 - CalFresh
 - Medi-Cal



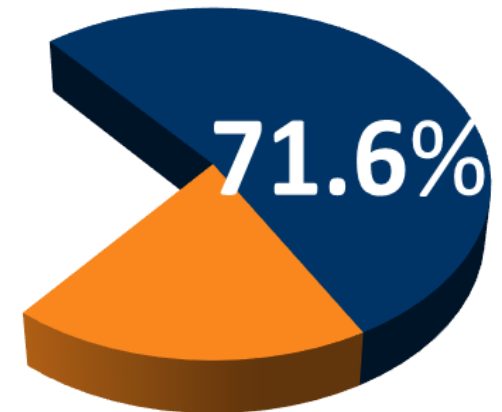


FISCAL YEAR Budget 2024 - 2025

\$3.0 BILLION* excluding Internal Service Funds

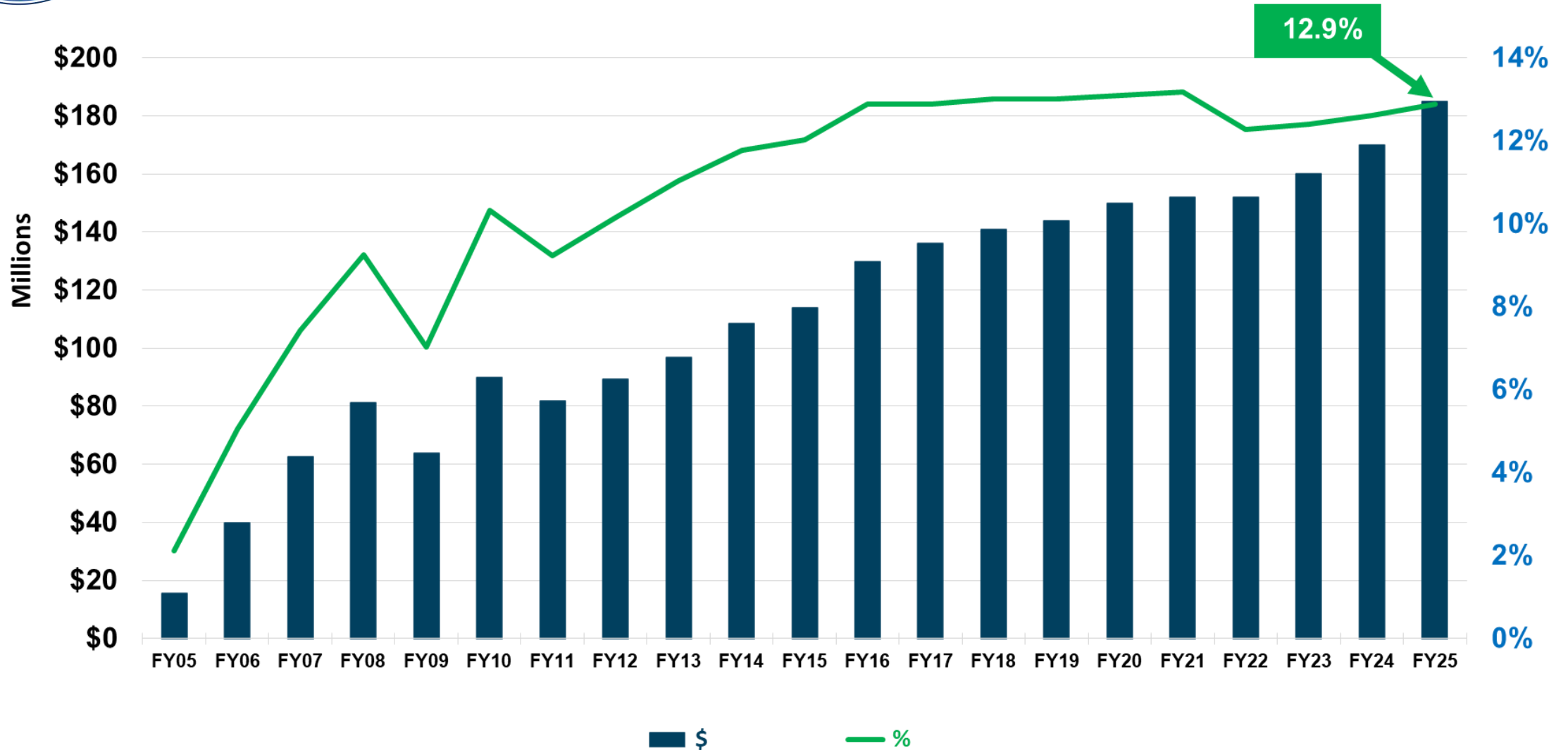


Health & Justice
Combined



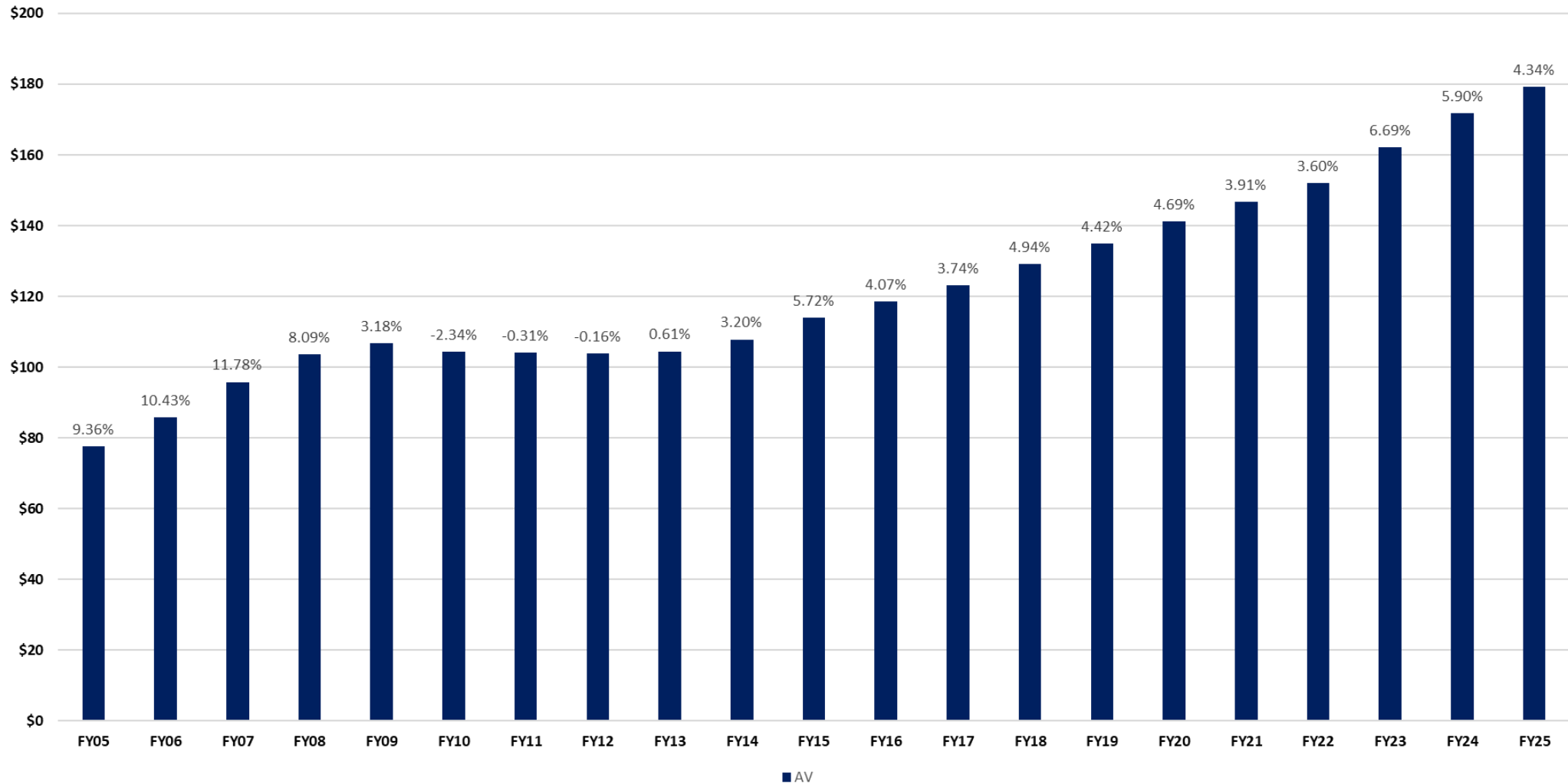


RAINY DAY RESERVES TO APPROPRIATIONS RATIO





PROPERTY TAX ASSESSED VALUATION TREND (Millions)





COUNTY WORKFORCE

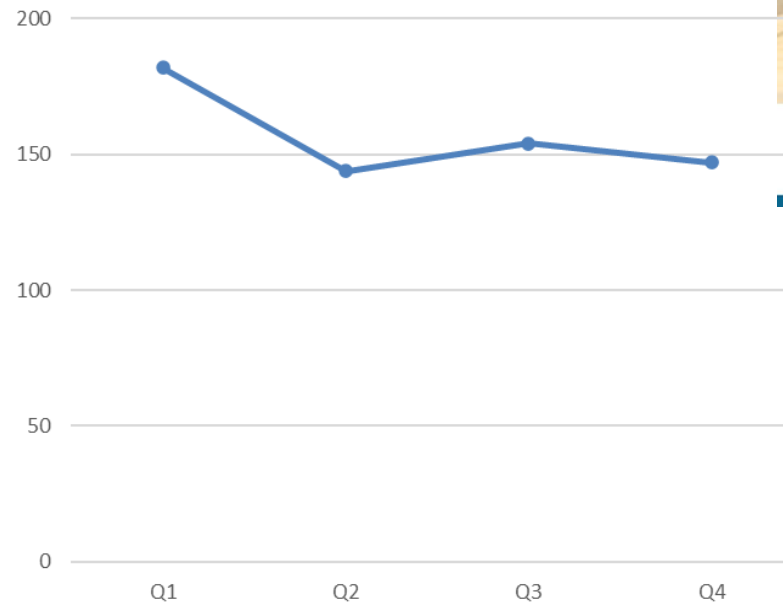
HR DATA & STATISTICS

- 10,000+ employees
- 2nd largest employer in the County
- Total: 627 recruitments in 2023, average = 52/month

In the past year (2023):

- 1,971 hires
- 1,550 promotions
- 1,607 termination

Recruitments in 2023





COUNTY WORKFORCE

Recruitment Outreach Strategies

- **Tailored outreach to local, regional, and national media to expand visibility**
- 27 job fairs attended in 2024 thus far; 4 *How to Apply for a County Job* workshops; 2 mock interview sessions for high school students
- Social Media - Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn, X
- Local Media - *VC Star*, *Pacific Business Times*, *VIDA*
- NeoGov-Governmentjobs.com, DiversityJobs.com
- Job Search/Board Sites - ZipRecruiter, Indeed, CaliforniaCityNews.com, Glassdoor, industry-specific organizations and associations
- Mentor/internship programs
- Walk-In Events/Open Houses/Hiring Events: 2 HCA Hiring Events and the County Career & Resource Expo held in 2024





COUNTY WORKFORCE

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

- Leadership, Excellence, & Action Program (LEAP) Executive and Senior Management Development
- 14 Cohorts, 380 Graduates





COUNTY WORKFORCE

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

PARTNERSHIP WITH CALIFORNIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES (CSAC)

- **Executive Credential Program**

- 10 program sessions
- Two cohorts of executives
- Cohort 1: November 2022 – September 2023
- Cohort 2: October 2024 – April 2025
- 40-50 participants in each cohort





COUNTY WORKFORCE

Cornerstone Learning Management System

- Learning licenses for all employees and extra help
- Access to thousands of on-demand, online classes for professional growth
- Hundreds of hours of added home-grown content for agency/department-specific learning





COUNTY WORKFORCE

COUNTY INTERNSHIPS

Public Service Intern Program

- 34 college interns during Spring 2024
- 26 college interns during Fall 2024
- Human resources, project management, social media, Fire, public relations, workforce development, contracts, facilities, nursing, healthcare administration

Summer at the County

- 22 high school interns placed in 11 agencies

Accounting Intern Program

- 6 accounting interns currently placed in 3 agencies

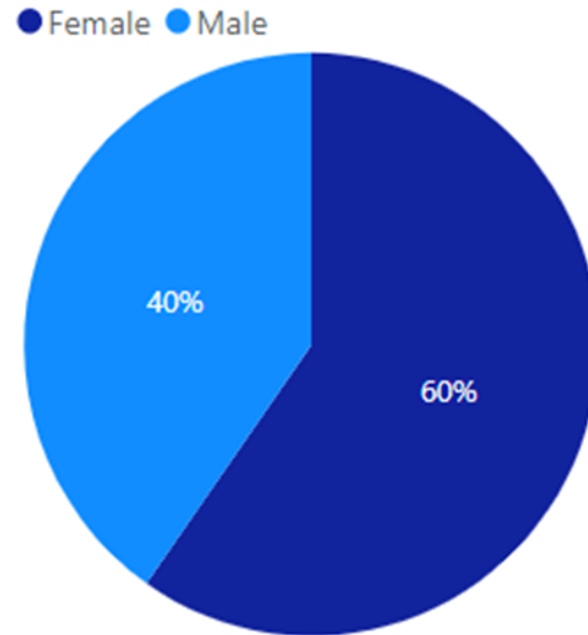




COUNTY WORKFORCE

WORKFORCE DEMOGRAPHICS

- The County of Ventura's workforce is largely representative of the County's population
- (On average) demographics vary by department and job level.



Ethnic Data	County
WHITE	39.23%
PACIF	0.88%
HISPA	48.45%
BLACK	2.87%
ASIAN	8.03%
AMIND	0.54%
Total	100.00%

*Ethnic Groups as defined by the EEOC



COUNTY WORKFORCE

LABOR RELATIONS

New Labor Agreements Reached:

- SPOAVC – 2024
- UAPD Reg – 2024
- UAPD Per Diem – 2024
- VCDSA – 2024
- VCPFA – 2024
- VCPPOA Patrol – 2024
- VCSCOA – 2024
- IHSS – 2024

Negotiations will commence in August 2025 for:

- SEIU – December 2025
- VEA – December 2025
- IUOE – January 2025



COUNTY *of* VENTURA

Human Resources



COUNTY WORKFORCE

RISK MANAGEMENT

Liability, Insurance, & Risk Control

- General Liability Insurance limits increased from \$42M to \$50M with small premium reduction resulting from no rate increase for 24/25
- Reduction in claims due to aggressive settlement resolution
- Rolled out new IIPP and Workplace Violence Prevention Plans

Workers' Compensation & Disability Management

- Workers' Compensation reserve projections decreased \$11.9M year-over-year (FY23 vs. FY24)
- Workers' Compensation indemnity claims decreased 10.3% year-over-year (FY23 vs. FY24)
- Successful County-wide conversion into AbsenceSoft electronic leave of absence and disability accommodation management/tracking system



SERVICE EXCELLENCE

History of Success

- Over 5,000 staff certified in Lean Six Sigma
- More than 1,394 Improvements have been implemented through “Kaizen” practices
- Over \$46.4 million in savings
- First county in the nation to implement a Lean Six Sigma program countywide

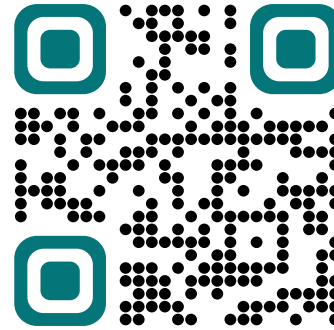




ECONOMIC VITALITY

CURRENT PROJECTS & PARTNERSHIPS

- Business Forward Website
- Economic Development Strategic Plan
- Partnership with Economic Development Collaborative
- *61 New Businesses / 458 Jobs Created
- Partnership with (FutureLabs) FathomWerx to grow dual tech ecosystem
- FathomWerx Summit Partner



**Business
FORWARD**
Ventura County

www.BusinessForwardVC.com



ECONOMIC VITALITY

CREATIVE ECONOMY

- Received \$20,000 Central Coast Creative Corps grant capstone project
- VibeWell Ventura: Partnership with VCBH that creates \$1.5 million to support arts and culture projects that increase awareness of/access to mental health services
- Arts & Culture Investment Fund: Partnership with VCCF and VCAC for Matching grant fund \$150K for Arts & Culture organizations





CLIMATE ACTION & SUSTAINABILITY

INITIATIVE & ACHIEVEMENTS

- Launch of Climate Resilient VC – sustain.ventura.org
- Collaboration with Clean Power Alliance to install 1,500 electric vehicle charging stations countywide by 2025
- Installation of Solar panel projects & battery energy storage systems - Estimated \$12M savings over the next 20 years
- Agricultural Commissioner's Office completed drought resistant pollinator garden project





CLIMATE ACTION & SUSTAINABILITY

CLIMATE ACTION PLAN (CAP)

- 81 Strategies to Address:
 - Greenhouse gas emissions
 - Emission inventory expected mid June 2025 to check emissions reductions progress
 - Climate change by:
 - Reducing Transportation Emissions
 - Decarbonizing Buildings, Support Transitioning Energy Production and Increase Storage
- 65 of 81 of CAP related programs are already underway or completed
- Website: ecap.ventura.org

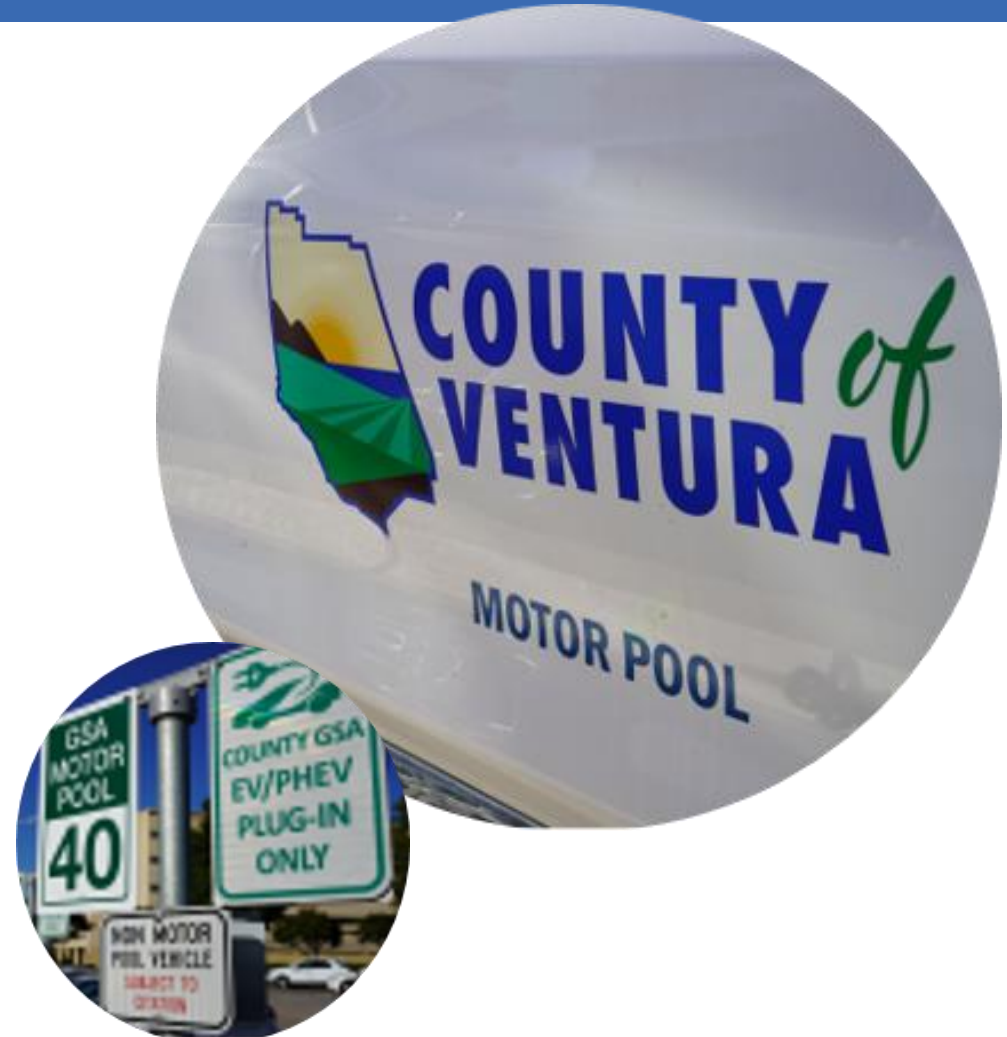




CLIMATE ACTION & SUSTAINABILITY

SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES

- GSA – Top 50 Green Fleets in the United States
- Shift to majority EV County Fleet to improve greenhouse gas emissions & use of renewable resources
- 31.5% of County buildings powered by solar green energy
- 18 County parks account for significant open space and recreation areas





CLIMATE ACTION & SUSTAINABILITY

GREEN BUSINESS PROGRAM

- Part of the California Green Business Network
- 81 local businesses certified, 76 businesses in process





CLIMATE ACTION & SUSTAINABILITY

PUTTING THE CLIMATE ACTION PLAN INTO ACTION

- **INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE**

- Switch to cleaner energy
- Promote your green business practices
- Get training on green building performance
- Discover energy-saving resources
- Invest in electric vehicles at your home and business
- Install EV charging stations
- Get free consulting and job training on green innovations



Check out a DIY toolkit from your local library to complete free, simple upgrades in your home



TRI-COUNTY REGIONAL ENERGY NETWORK
SAN LUIS OBISPO • SANTA BARBARA • VENTURA

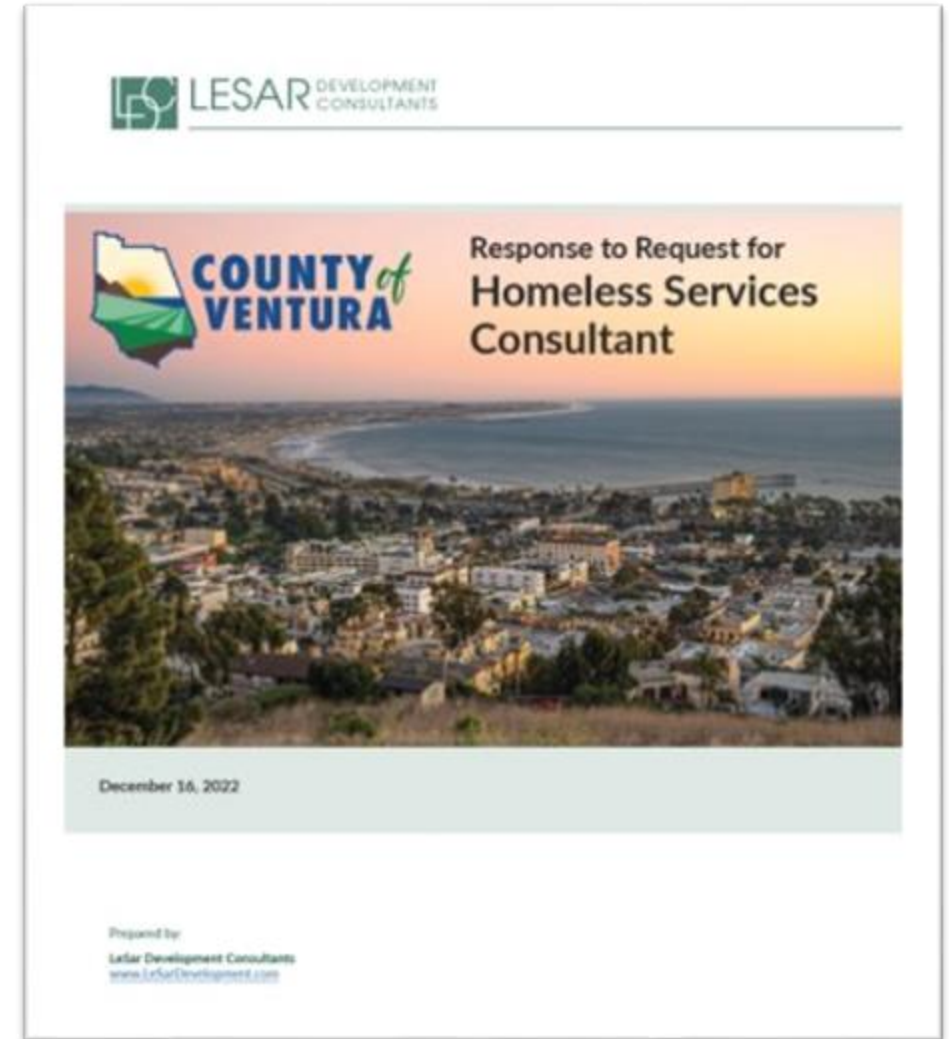
Get Involved and Learn More @ 3c-ren.org and sustain.ventura.org



HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS

DEEP DIVE INTO SOLUTIONS

- Board of Supervisors Directed
- Comprehensive assessment of gaps
- Invited cities to participate with County
- Generate actionable and highest impact recommendations to improve outcomes





HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS

Action Area 1: Housing Prioritization & Funding

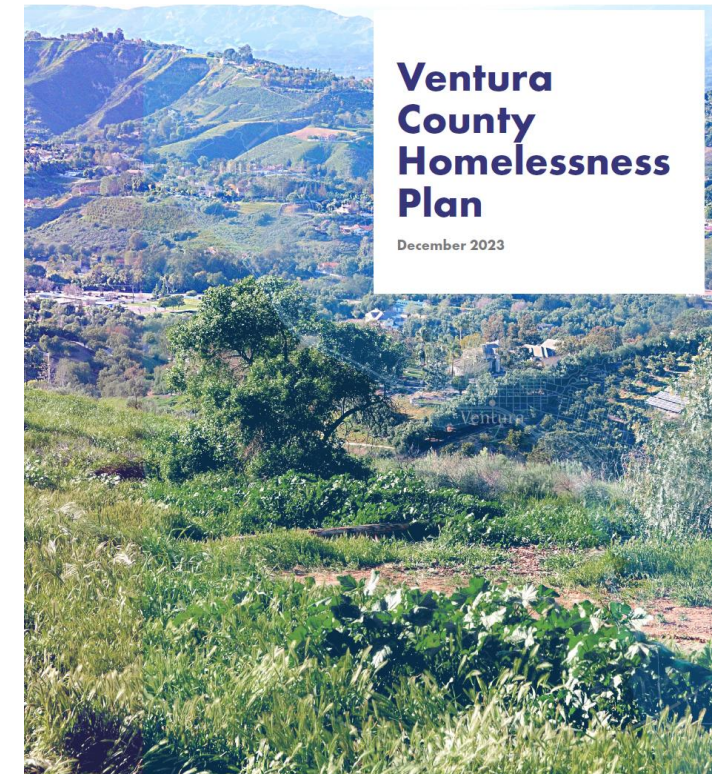
Action Area 2: Regional Coordination & Leadership

Action Area 3: Outreach & Service Delivery

Action Area 4: Data-Driven Decision Making

Action Area 5: Representation & Inclusivity

Adopted by the Board of Supervisors on February 27, 2024





HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS

Housing Prioritization & Funding

1. Utilize a 1:4:10 ratio
2. Rebalance shelter investments
3. Homeless prevention assistance
4. Investments in housing resources
5. Tenant protections and right to counsel
6. Wrap-around services for Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)





HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS

INVESTMENTS IN HOUSING RESOURCES

New developments by the end of 2025:

- 272 new units of Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)
- 39 new Transitional Housing units for transitional age youth

Utilizing County owned property for rehab projects:

- Vanguard Drive, Lewis Road, and Knoll Drive
- Proposition 1 investments

Evaluating publicly owned property for housing
(Southern CA Association of Governments Technical Assistance)

Tenant protections and services:

- Local access to legal services; Fair housing services





Mesa/People's Self Help Housing



People's Place
People's Self Help Housing



Westview Village II,
HACSB



Valentine Rd Apartments
(Phase I), HACSB



Casa Aliento,
Community Development
Partners/Mercy House



Central Terrace,
Many Mansions



Stepping Stones (Phase I),
Casa Pacifica

TO BE COMPLETED BY December 31, 2024

- 342 units total
- 30 Transitional Housing Units serving youth (ages 18-25)
- 149 Permanent Supportive Housing units



Valentine Rd Apartments (Phase 2),
HACSB



Casa de Carmen,
Community
Development
Partners/Mercy House



Dolores Huerta
Gardens, Cabrillo
Economic
Development
Corporation



Rancho Sierra
Senior Apartments,
Many Mansions/
Area Housing Authority of
the County of Ventura



Stepping Stones
(Phase II),
Casa Pacifica

TO BE COMPLETED BY December 31, 2025

- 265 units total
- 9 Transitional Housing Units serving youth (ages 18-25)
- 123 Permanent Supportive Housing units

Projects in Predevelopment

- 543 units total
- 206 Permanent Supportive Housing units



Camino de Salud
Cabrillo Economic
Development
Corporation



Fillmore Terrace,
People's Self Help
Housing



Santa Clara
Apartments,
HACSB



College Community
Courts, People's Self
Help Housing



Arroyo Springs
Apts, Alliant Strategic
Development



Vanguard,
Cabrillo Economic
Development
Corporation



Cypress Place
(Phase II), People's
Self Help Housing



Thousand Oaks
Homekey



HOMELESSNESS & HOUSING

MULTI-DISCIPLINARY TEAM (MDT) OUTREACH

- Coordinate weekly outreach to encampments in high priority areas, based on Encampment Response Policy.
- Reduce unsheltered homelessness through connections to shelter and services.
- Increase engagement with unsheltered individuals and improve safety for all.
- GIS map encampment locations including the number of people residing in each.
- Collaborate with all law enforcement entities throughout the County for homelessness outreach purposes.





HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS

VENTURA COUNTY SHERIFF'S HOMELESS LIASION UNIT

- Improving quality of life for persons experiencing homelessness
- Reducing calls for service and investigative resources
- Providing security for directed outreach staff
- Assisting with organizing encampment clean-up in coordination with Public Works Agency once vacated
- Conducting vulnerable population surveys
- Attending meetings to educate and inform the public and partner agencies
- Enforcing local ordinances





MENTAL HEALTH & WELLNESS

- Paths to service; Continuing implementation of CalAIM – whole person care
- Mobile Crisis Benefit-launched in January 2024
- Strategy, Planning & Administrative Services Unit
- **NEW** - Quality Division
- **COMING 2024** - CARE Court
- Inpatient Psychiatric Hospital with Crisis Stabilization Unit
- Mental Health Continuum - \$22M in **new investments**
- **Planned** mental health beds at Lewis Rd and in Simi Valley at the CSU/PHF.

Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program (BHCIP) Overview

The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) is providing **\$2.2 billion in grant funding** to construct, acquire, and expand properties and invest in mobile crisis infrastructure related to behavioral health.

DHCS is releasing these funds through six grant rounds targeting various gaps in the state's behavioral health facility infrastructure.

ROUND 1: CRISIS CARE MOBILE UNITS (CCMU)

\$163+ million to fund county, city, and tribal entity behavioral health authorities

(\$150 million BHCIP; \$55 million SAMHSA CRRSAA funds)

- This grant provides implementation of new and enhanced mobile crisis response teams (co-responder teams, behavioral health crisis intervention teams).

ROUND 4: CHILDREN AND YOUTH

\$480.5 million to fund children and youth-focused facilities

- Projects will expand treatment and service resources for Californians ages 25 and younger, pregnant and postpartum women and their children, and transition-age youth (TAY, ages 18-25) and their families.

- All grant awardees must align with Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative (CYBHI), California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM), and other DHCS efforts to expand access to behavioral health care services.

ROUND 2: COUNTY AND TRIBAL PLANNING GRANT

\$7+ million for planning grants to counties and tribal grantees

- This grant funding provides an opportunity for counties and tribal entities to expand planning efforts in their communities or regions for the acquisition and expansion of behavioral health infrastructure statewide.
- Required action plans include preparing for the construction, acquisition, or rehabilitation of behavioral health facilities.

ROUND 5: CRISIS AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONTINUUM

\$430 million to fund projects focused on crisis services

- Projects will address significant gaps in California's behavioral health infrastructure, with consideration for funding priority to those that provide crisis services.
- Crisis can be due to mental health issues and/or substance use disorders (SUDs).

ROUND 3: LAUNCH READY

\$518.5 million to fund projects that are launch ready

- Funding to construct, acquire, and rehabilitate real estate assets to expand the behavioral health continuum of treatment and service resources.
- Awarded project proposals will go through a planning process and be ready for implementation.

ROUND 6: OUTSTANDING NEEDS REMAINING AFTER ROUNDS 3 THROUGH 5

\$480 million will be available in grant opportunities

- Part I RFA is anticipated in January 2024 and award announcements in July 2024. Part II is anticipated to follow the same time frame in 2025.
- The focus will incorporate the statewide needs assessment and identify any remaining unmet needs.

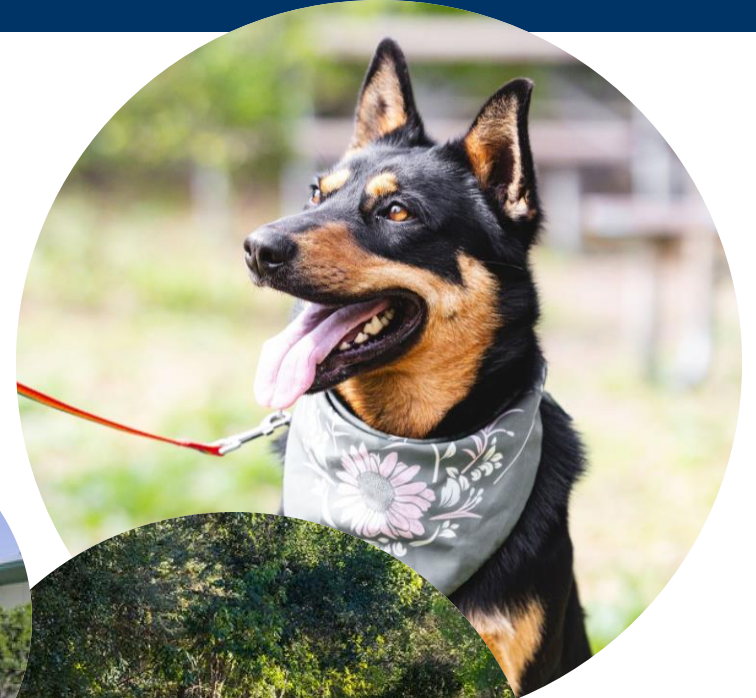




CAPITAL PROJECTS

PROJECTS IN PROCESS

- New Ventura County Animal Resources Center (\$35M)
- Nyeland Acres Community Center & Park (\$12.5M)
- Saticoy Park Improvements (\$6M)
- Ojai Valley Trail (\$4.2M)
- Foster Library – State Grant (\$13M)
- Knoll Drive Recuperative Care (\$5M)





BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CAPITAL PROJECTS

Behavioral Health Capital Improvement Program –State Grant

- Prop 1
 - Lewis Road Mental Health Rehabilitation Center (Camarillo)
 - East County Crisis Stabilization Unit and Psychiatric Health Facility (Simi Valley)
 - Youth & Family Community Resource Center (Oxnard)





CONCLUSION

KEYS TO SUCCESS

- Sound Financial Stewardship
- Key Priorities
 - Housing and Homelessness
 - Mental Health and Wellness
 - Health and Safety
 - Climate Action & Sustainability
 - Equitable and Inclusive Economic Vitality
- Partnerships provide the strong foundation for success



OAK PARK MAC - REQUEST TICKLER LOG (CLOSED)

Ref #	Date Requested / Reported	Category	Sub Category	Request / Issue Description	Activity	Priority / Time Sensitivity	Assigned To	Status	Estimated or Actual Completion Date
3	3/28/2024	Public Safety	Crime Report	Requested future VCSO crime reports be expanded to include all crimes reported in OP, such as those reported in The Acorn, not just property crimes.	Update 5/30/24: Current report and reports thereafter have included all crimes. Update 4/25/24: Per VCSO Detective Tim Behrand future reports will include all reported crimes.	Low	VC Supervisor / VCSO	Closed	4/25/2024
6	6/27/2024	Public Safety	Crime Prevention	Suggestion from the public for VCSO to create a Neighborhood Watch program	Update 7/25/24: As reported by Supervisor Gorell's office, Neighborhood Watch is a matter of private citizens to implement, not law enforcement.	Low	VC Supervisor	Closed	7/25/2024

OAK PARK MAC - REQUEST TICKLER LOG (OPEN)

Ref #	Date Requested / Reported	Category	Sub Category	Request / Issue Description	Activity	Priority / Time Sensitivity (Low, Med, High, Critical)	Responsible Party	Status	Estimated or Actual Completion Date
1	2023	Public Safety	Roads & Transportation	Street paving: It has been several years since main and residential streets have been repaved.	Supervisor Gorell indicated that other areas in District 2 had undergone repaving recently and those jobs were being evaluated on the type and quality of materials to determine next steps for other areas.	Low	VC Supervisor	Open	TBD
2	5/30/2023	Public Safety	Roads & Transportation	Install speed bumps on Conifer Street, between Kanan Road or Satinwood and Smoketree. This is a route for children attending Brookside Elementary and Mae Boyer Park. Car speeds are up to 45mph at all hours of the day and night. Written comment received via email from resident Alison Kollee to Dale Thomas and included MAC June 2023 agenda packet.	Unknown	Medium	VC Supervisor	Open	TBD
4	4/25/2024	Public Safety	Pedestrian Sidewalk	On Lindero Canyon Road there is no sidewalk causing pedestrians to walk in the street.	Update 11/21/24: Seema requested this item be reopened and for VC to work with LA County to have this addressed. The request is for the sidewalk to be extended, on the eastside of Lindero, from the Ventura and LA county line (where OP ends) to TO Blvd. Update 5/30/24: As reported by Dale Thomas, this is not in VC jurisdiction as it is not in Oak Park.	Low	VC Supervisor	Re-opened	TBD 5/30/2024
5	5/30/2024	Construction / Real Estate	Enhancement - Community Signage	Requested estimate to install a "Welcome to Oak Park" monument, with solar lighting and planting on Lindero Canyon Road similar to that on Kanan Road.	Update 9/26/24: Request for cost estimate requested again after learning from Real Estate there is no budget and recommended private/community funding as an alternative. The MAC will consider this project during the 2025 CSA#4 budget process. Update 7/25/24: VC Real Estate reviewing request.	Medium	Public Works	Pending	2/27/2025
7	9/16/2024	Public Safety	ADA Compliance	Two of the four crosswalk curbs at the 4 way stop intersection of Medea Creek Lane and Oak Hills Drive are not ADA compliant. Public Works incident #15973354.	Update 10/7/24: The intersection will be part of a future pavement resurfacing project including upgrades to all 4 curb / curb ramps. Construction is anticipated to begin Summer 2026. Update 9/17/24: Incident assigned to / received by Design and Construction Update 9/16/24: Reported to Public Works via the portal.	High	Public Works	Pending	December 2026
8	9/26/2024	Public Safety	Crime Report	Request that beginning in January 2025 VCSO provide quarterly License Plate Readers (LPR) metrics, specifically regarding access as it directly relates to crime investigations in Oak Park, and the investigation results.		Low	VCSO	Pending	January 2025 April 2025 July 2025 October 2025
9	9/26/2024	MAC Meetings	Community Engagement	Resume using Live Streams at all MAC meetings regardless of there being a lack of public participation in the past. Without it, residents believe that meetings are not inclusive or transparent. Make the Live Streams interactive so that viewers can participate in the discussions.	Update 10/1/24: Supervisor Gorell's staff working to secure people resources required during live streaming sessions.	Medium	VC Supervisor	Pending	January 2025
10	9/26/2024	Public Safety	Vegetation	Juniper bushes at the intersection of Kanan Road and Tamarind Street (southeast side) require additional pruning as they are blocking driver visibility.	update 11/30/25: All bushes were removed. Update 10/21/24: Public Works has deemed this to be a traffic safety issue and a notification has been sent to the property owner to resolve. Update 9/26/24: Ashley will request status from Public Works.	High	Public Works	Closed	11/30/2024
11	9/26/2024	Public Safety	Medea Creek	Community members are very concerned about the lack of coordination, communication and permits regarding the clearing of Medea Creek. Most recent maintenance project, the impact and failures were outlined in an email from resident Steven Kozel to the new Public Works Director, Greg Strakluse, on 9/24/24. The MAC requests that the public have the opportunity to review and provide input on the DRAFT Watershed Protection District's 2025-2030 DRAFT CDFW Routine Maintenance Agreement for consideration and inclusion in the final Agreement submission to CDFW (due by year-end).	Update 9/26/24: DRAFT CDFW Routine Maintenance Agreement to be provided as part of the October meeting packet and Ashley will invite Watershed staff to attend to address community concerns.	High	VC Supervisor	Pending	10/21/2024
12	9/26/2024	Public Safety	Roads & Transportation	Publish Transportation Department's 2020-2025 CDFW Routine Maintenance Agreement on Supervisor Gorell's website and include in the October 2024 OP MAC meeting packet. The was previously requested at the June 27, 2024 and July 25, 2024 MAC meetings.		Medium	VC Supervisor	Pending	10/21/2024
13	9/26/2024	Public Safety	Roads & Transportation	Request that at the 09/25/2025 September 2025, MAC meeting, the public have an opportunity to review and provide comments for Transportation's consideration on their DRAFT 2026-2031 CDFW Routine Maintenance Agreement.		Medium	VC Supervisor	Pending	10/1/2025



Website: **VCFD.org**
Twitter: **@VCFD**
Facebook: **@VenturaCountyFire**
Instagram: **@VenturaCountyFire**

Contact: Scott Thomsen
Director of Communications and Public Affairs
Phone: **(805) 914-8502**
Email: **scott.thomsen@ventura.org**

January 2, 2025

Attn: Supervisor Jeff Gorell and Municipal Advisory Committees

- In 2024, Ventura County residents concerned about fire danger quadrupled the number of Firewise USA communities in our county. At the start of the year, there were six communities recognized for best practices by Firewise USA. Now, Ventura County has 25, beating the fire department's goal by one. When communities work together, they can have an even greater impact in reducing the risk from wildfires.
- The possibility of Santa Ana wind events continues. Everyone should remain vigilant about avoiding activities that could start a fire, such as a hot muffler against tall weeds, a dragging tow chain, a tossed cigarette or an outdoor fire pit.
- The fire departments of Ventura County, along with dozens of community partners, collected and distributed toys to more than 30,000 needy children during the holidays as part of the Spark of Love campaign.

Sincerely,

Scott Thomsen
Director of Communications and Public Affairs
Ventura County Fire Department