

WOODCREST MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Thursday, July 9th, 2015 at 6:00pm

Woodcrest Library

16625 Krameria Avenue

Riverside, Ca. 92504

1.0 Call to order: Meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Gary Jensen-chairman. Gary Jensen also led the pledge of allegiance.

2.0 Roll call of advisory council members: In attendance were: Gary Jensen (chairman), Les Douty (vice-chairman), Murl Craft, and Joel Dingman (alternate, temporarily filling in as secretary).

Roll call Riverside County: Riverside County Supervisor Kevin Jeffries, Dr. Kristen Huyck, legislative assistant from County Supervisor Kevin Jeffries office.

3.0 Approval of the minutes: Murl Craft moved that the minutes of the last MAC meeting dated May 14th, 2015 be accepted as written which was seconded by Les Douty.

4.0 Updates from government agencies: 6:03 pm, Riverside County Sheriff's Deputy Thomas reported an increase in crime statistics in the county which has created the necessity that Deputy Thomas spend more time in the Woodcrest area. It appears arguable from the discussion, that the increase of crime statistics in the area appears to be a result of recent state legislation mandating the early release of non-violent offenders from county jails due to over-crowding, which combined with state legislation that reclassified former felonies to misdemeanors, that has seemed to had a increasing effect on petty crimes, vagrancy, mail theft as well as break-ins.

6:08 pm, Cal-Fire Capt. Mark Kalisek reported call-out statistics, which were basically the same as last years statistics at this time in call volume at 147 incidents with an average response time of 5.6 minutes per incident; medical responses being the majority of call-outs at 108 or 73% of all calls.

6:10 pm, California Highway Patrol, Motor-officer, Brian Gilmore reported a normal volume of traffic issues related to children out of school on bicycles in the street and the normal increase of traffic for the summer and he discussed increased speed enforcement in residential areas as well as complaints about increased commercial truck traffic in Woodcrest which is due to increases of population and development in adjacent communities and how this predictable annoyance is unstoppable and part of the population growth of the local communities. Gary Jensen asked about continued construction on Van Buren Blvd. as well as other roads in Woodcrest creating negative impact in traffic congestion throughout the community.

6:15 pm, Deni Horn from Assemblywoman Melissa Melendez' office reported on Legislation sponsored by the Assemblywoman such as AB-150, which would

Reclassify the theft of a firearm as a felony, but which had failed to be adopted into law. As well as AB-278 which was aimed at a mandatory 100,000 citizens to be broken up into voting districts. She also discussed the wildly unpopular state fire service tax and how that issue is winding its way through the courts due to law suits from the Howard Jarvis tax organization challenging the constitutionality of the fee due to the uneven distribution of the tax. She also advised all who receive the assessment to pay the fee and after the court has determined the issue the possibilities of refunds will be addressed. She gave the advice to sign the petition from Diane Harkey's office posted on the State Board of Equalization web site. Also discussed was a veterans expo in the Wildomar area at the Elks Lodge.

5.0 New Business: 6:25 pm, Riverside County Supervisor Kevin Jeffries spoke to the meeting on issues of the state of the county and congratulated Gary Jensen and Les Douty for their leadership on the council for the next term and he credited them for their continued service and volunteerism to the community. Supervisor Jeffries discussed the scope of the county budget of 5.3 billion dollars, which is the 4th largest in the state and the 10th largest in the entire country. The supervisor spoke candidly about the concerns of the county and the needs of a growing community and the consensus of the essential services after the long slow recovery of economic stability within the county. He discussed the increased budget to animal services of \$3.6 million to handle the growing needs of animal control. He also discussed the problem of controlling the growing of marijuana within the county and the county ordinances to deal with the commercial growers. Supervisor Jeffries discussed the problem with jail over crowding and construction of new county facilities as well the cost to the county for health services. Supervisor Jeffries discussed the roads being his signature issue of his election to the office and how he has been aggressively implementing his vision for the mandate he received to rebuild the roads in the county as well as the financial limits and his frustrations for the bureaucracy, which makes the goal of well-serviced road so expensive. He discussed the growth of the population the inland empire and how the road construction throughout the county is a severe problem for motorists and how it affects the quality of life for everyone in the county. He also is seeking a slowing in the growth of high-density homes and apartments, which creates more population density issues which effect traffic.

Murl Craft asked how the growth in the development of commercial warehousing has brought more trucking and increased traffic congestion to the area and how this can be controlled. Supervisor Jeffries said that that issue is largely controlled by cities such as Moreno valley and Perris as well as Riverside and out of the control of the county.

The question of an increased budget for transportation and if the Code Enforcement budget was increased which the response from the supervisor was no, because the request for increased funding was not made by the head of the division, Greg Flanery. So code Enforcement will not receive increased budgets because it was not requested.

Gary Jensen asked about the cost of the environmental impact reports for street improvement in the Woodcrest area, which the Supervisor responded that it costs \$20 million for a 5-year report. Les Douty asked about vector control tax increases for health services, but the results of the vote had not been completed.

Murl Craft asked Supervisor Jeffries about the condition of Mockingbird canyon road which is in poor condition, the supervisor responded that he did not know specifically about the status of the road repair but that the bureaucratic requirements of environmental impact were impeding the resolution due to the concern for wildlife in the riverbed.

7:05 pm Dennis Adams, from the US Postal Service Inspectors office spoke about the growing problem of mail theft which is enormous in California and specifically in the inland empire of Southern California. Mr. Adams characterized the problem as pervasive and chronic with only six postal inspectors for the entire county. He discussed the crime and how it is punishable if it is prosecuted which is difficult and largely ineffectual. The question was asked about the responsibility of the damaged mailboxes from the crime and the response was that the mailbox users are responsible not the post office.

6.0 Old Business: 7:25 pm, Tory Web of the Western Municipal Water District (WMWD) spoke on the topic of water use and conservation. The topic discussed the public use of reclaimed water for irrigation and the abuse of watering by public agencies.

7.0 Public Comments:

8.0 Report from Supervisor Jeffries Office: 7:40 pm, Dr. Kristen Huyck gave a discussion on general plans for land use within the county and the public hearing for community input as well as a community clean up with waste management for the disposal of tires, batteries and large items at Citrus Hills High school.

9.0 Woodcrest MAC Members comments:

10.0 Future Agenda Items: Dr. Huyck, announced future town hall meetings in Lake Matthews areas as well as the plan to have Southern California Edison come to explain the rate hike system scheduled to go into effect shortly.

11.0 Date of next meeting/ Adjournment: 8:00 pm The date for the next meeting was set for September 10th 2015, at 6:00 pm at the Woodcrest Library. Gary Jensen moved for meeting adjournment and Les Douty seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned.