

Highgrove Municipal Advisory Council Meeting  
January 26, 2022

AGENDA

1. Call to Order: Jeff Girod Called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call and Introductions
4. Approve minutes for the MAC meeting on November 17th
  1. Jeff asked for any discussion or comments on the minutes from 11/17.
  2. Jen motioned to approve the minutes and Katie seconded the motion. All members voted in favor.
5. New Business:
  1. Riverside County Animal Services Update (10-12 minute presentation)
    1. Chris Mayer, Commander of Field Operations of Josh Sisler, Commander of Field Operations
      1. Lt. Kyle Stephens and Commander of Operations Josh Sisler introduced themselves.
      2. There are free adoptions going on at the county shelter until the 31st at a minimum but it will likely go into February. Operations in the Highgrove area have been smooth lately and are focused mostly on burrows. At this time, they are being rounded up and taken to Donkey Land or back into the hills when resources are able to do so.
      3. Musa asked if the population was increasing due to reproduction. Kyle stated that this was happening. There is a plan being developed at the state level on how to address concerns related to burrows. Donkey Land is trying to secure a section of land in Reche Canyon where the burrows could be relocated.
      4. Jeff asked how many donkey accidents there are in the area. He asked if the new construction is displacing the burrows further into the city close to UCR. Kyle stated that it was an issue and that residents feeding the burrows contributes to the problem as they become more comfortable in the area.
      5. Jeff asked if there was any information the department would like passed on to the community. Kyle shared that he could connect their PIO with UCR to be sent out throughout the school. He shared that they could also assist by increasing signage about the fact that it is illegal to feed the burrows.
      6. Sisler explained that they are in the process of hiring a new director. At this time, the deputy director and interim director are planning to begin interviews for that position tomorrow.
      7. Mike Gardner shared that there is another neighborhood group from the area around UCR that would appreciate communication regarding the burrows. Mike will share information with Supervisor Speigel's office and the Animal Services office.
    2. Q & A (10 minutes)
  - b. Riverside County Sheriff's Department Update (10-12 minute presentation)

1. Mike Koehler, Captain of the Jurupa Valley Sheriff's Station
  1. Captain Koehler introduced himself and shared that he is working on bringing a community-oriented and zone-based model to the Highgrove area. He shared that property crimes went up slightly in the last year, but the overall number of incidents in Highgrove has dropped.
  2. Captain Koehler shared that high visibility deputies have been providing proactive enforcement in the high traffic areas where they have seen high levels of transients. He shared that these shifts are deliberately variable so they should be seen at different times/different days.
  3. Changes related to patrol deployment have enabled the department to be able to dedicate patrols to the Highgrove area for their entire patrol shift. He shared that response times have been cut from almost 18 minutes down to about 10.
  4. Recently, the county has adopted a large camera program called the Flock Camera System. These cameras have the ability to search for and track wanted vehicles and this information is shared across multiple divisions. This enables the department to connect to other communities with the same system. There is a total of 14 cameras in the Highgrove area.
2. Q & A (10 minutes)
  1. Jen asked if the cameras could assist with the street racing. Captain Koehler shared that they could help after the fact and that the cameras take still pictures, not video. He shared that Highgrove is being brought back into the rotation of the street racing task force due to an increase in issues in the area, specifically close to the base of the hillside. The cameras have only been online for a few weeks, but Captain Koehler shared that they are hopeful that they will prove useful.
  2. Mussa asked about what kind of activity is being seen and the locations. Captain Koehler shared that it is mostly related to low-level theft and he contributes that to the transient population. Officers who can assist the homeless in the area come by both for outreach and enforcement.
  3. Jeff asked if the Sheriff's office manages traffic violations like speeding and stop sign violations. Captain Koehler shared that because Highgrove is in an unincorporated area, primary traffic violations fall to CHP. However, the sheriff's department can support in that matter. Jeff identified two intersections of concern.
  4. Captain Koehler shared that the camera system also has the ability to process information from Amber alerts, Silver alerts, and any other issues where there would be information on a vehicle in question.

c. Western Municipal Water District Drought & Conservation Measures (10-12 minute presentation)

1. Mike Gardner, WMWD Representative
  1. Mike Gardner shared information regarding water supply and water use efficiency. WMWD provides all forms of water and services to close to 1 million people in Western Riverside County.

They do not have residential water providers in the Highgrove area as Highgrove's water is managed through Highland.

2. Drought status: reservoirs are still at low levels and emergency status remains. Recent rain and snowfall, especially in Northern California have helped the drought but not good enough.
  3. The state water control board has issued emergency regulations regarding water use including guidelines for things like landscaping runoff.
  4. Mr. Gardner shared that most people have efficient appliances, so the majority of water conservation will likely occur outside. He shared ideas about landscaping and turning back sprinkler systems to conserve water.
  5. Current restrictions are in stage two and if that increases there can be fines imposed on customers overusing water.
2. Q & A (10 minutes)
1. Mussa asked about what kind of outreach WMWD is doing. Mr. Gardner explained that they mostly work with retail customers and not residential. Communication to residential customers would come from their local provider. Michelle Adams shared about coordination WMWD is doing with other water agencies for consistent messaging and communication.
  2. A community member asked about cloud generation and requested information on studies related to spraying acetone and iodine into the atmosphere. Mr. Gardner shared that at this time, it is in the planning phase. He shared that the amount of acetone is very small, silver is a naturally occurring element, and iodine is necessary for many animals. He explained that cloud seeding can provide something for rain to condense around and that it can aid in getting more rain out of showers.

6. Future agenda items\*

- . Planning Department (Status update on the shopping center on Mount Vernon & the demolition on the burned down restaurant)
- a. Fentanyl Taskforce Update
- b. RUSD Spring Street Elementary School Status Update
- c. The group discussed adding a presentation on 5G towers for future agenda items. Jen motioned to add Michael to a future agenda. She also asked if there was a local agency that could also attend to provide information. Katie seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of adding the item to a future agenda.
- d. Jen suggested adding a representative from Supervisor Jeffrie's office to a future meeting to hear community concerns and information ahead of his takeover.

7. Announcements

- . Date of Next Scheduled Meeting: March 30th, 2022
- a. You may wish to sign up for the Spiegel Spotlight monthly newsletter as well as join Supervisor Spiegel's social media to receive updates relating to COVID-19 or the Second District. Below is the link to sign up for the monthly Spiegel Spotlight. Feel free to sign up at [www.rivcodistrict2.org](http://www.rivcodistrict2.org).

8. Public Comment

- . Michael (community member) asked for an opportunity to present information on the impact of 5G towers.
- a. Mussa asked about redistricting and the impact on Highgrove. Wendell shared that as of 2023, Highgrove would be part of District 1 which is Supervisor Kevin Jeffries. Supervisor

Spiegel will lose all of Riverside due to redistricting. As of now, Supervisor Spiegel's office will continue to support the area and run the MAC meetings until then. Jeff asked if there could be a discussion about the agreed-upon cap on dispensaries and how that information can be communicated in the transition to Supervisor Jeffries. Wendell shared that it is possible that the new supervisor will ask MAC members to reapply.

9. Adjournment

. Meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Approved 04.06.22

Jeff Girod, Chair, Highgrove Municipal Advisory Board



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