

HIGHGROVE MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

March 31st, 2021 6:30 P.M.

Via Zoom:

<https://zoom.us/j/99798153342?pwd=bDQwTkRHRHZlcWl2RE9kMlZUdk15QT09>

AGENDA

1. Call to Order at 6:32 pm
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call and Introductions Jenn, Jeff, Katie
4. Read & Approve Minutes for MAC meeting on January 27th, 2021
 - A. Minutes approved.
5. New Business:
 - A. MAC Chair Rachelle Roman appoints Vice-Chair, tabled for next meeting.
 - B. Western Municipal Water District update ◦ Western Municipal Water District Directors **Gracie Torres & Mike Gardner**

Mike Gardner: Board will not increase rates unless it's necessary; serves 520 square miles in Riverside County; 125,000 retail customers/majority of residents, 40 percent of water is local groundwater supplies, seeking to expand that, most expensive water is the imported water but it is also higher quality

Contact Mike Gardner: mgardner@wmwd.com, 951 897 8660

Gracie Torres: Having a meeting on April 7th, 9:30am, to discuss whether or not to hold a hearing for an adjustment to raise the water rate. Meeting can be joined at www.wmwd.com/boardmeeting

Contact Gracie Torres: gtorres@wmwd.com, 951 970 8692

- C. Riverside County Department of Waste Resources introduction
 - Riverside County Department of Waste Public Works & Government Affairs
Officer **Corrine Awad**, Government Affairs Officer
Joe Contaoi, Environmental Compliance Manager

Corrine Awad: Provided an overview of the department; first landfill was in Pedley in 1932 and was a burn site; responsible for 39 landfills; 5 are active in Badlands, Lamb Canyon, Blythe, Desert Center and Oasis; headquarters in Moreno Valley; Riverside County Waste System takes in 2.5 million tons of waste each year; by 2025 there is a legislated reduction of organic waste by 75 percent/20 percent for food recovery and human consumption; programs and services including community cleanup, illegal dumping, graffiti abatement and community outreach classes; become a "Zero Waste Hero" for residents and local businesses by calling 951 486 3200 or rcwaste.org; household hazardous waste event collection happens by 4 permanent sites (closest site to Highgrove is Agua Mansa) and free temporary events all over the county; Drop and Shop at all permanent sites including Agua Mansa (check website for hours) features barely used items that have been dropped off, items can be picked up for free; follow them on Facebook [@deptwasterresources](https://www.facebook.com/deptwasterresources), Twitter and Instagram [@rcwaste](https://www.instagram.com/rcwaste)

Contact Corrine Awad: cawad@rivco.org, 951 486 3356

Joe Contaioi: Graffiti program is countywide; report graffiti by calling 951 955 3333 or 866 732 1444 or visit rcwaste.org/graffiti, there is also a mobile app; In Highgrove 49 incidents so far in 2021, it is one of the busiest areas for graffiti; Highgrove community cleanup is pending due to COVID restrictions; call 951 486 3200 to report illegal dumping on Riverside County roads, you can also use the app; Highgrove does not have a high incident of illegal dumping;

Contact Joe Contaioi: jcontaioi@rivco.org, 951 486 3200

D. Riverside County Executive Office introduction on county redistricting ○ Riverside County Executive Office Principal Management Analyst **Jason Farin** ○ Riverside

Jason Farin shared a video about the Board of Supervisor's unincorporated county initiative to improve infrastructure, July 2021 June 2022; goal is to understand the community's needs and secure funding; Provide feedback by contacting MAC members, taking the survey and emailing rivcouci@rivco.org; presentation will be held on June 14; Highgrove is the 3rd highest responding community so far, main concern in Highgrove is better broadband.

Jason Farin also provided a PowerPoint on Board of Supervisors redistricting boundaries available at <https://rivco.org/community/unincorporated-communities-initiative>; happens every 10 years after the census; Planning Commission serves as Advisory Commission; state law requires that hearings, meetings and a website are created; boundaries are due by December 15, 2021; redistricting is a 7-step process beginning with developing maps; county website has a redistricting website page that will have details about hearings and outreach at rivco.org in the "About the County" tab



Contact Jason Farin: jfarin@riveco.org or 951 955 1124

E. County Services Areas (CSA) Highgrove Community Dog Park update o Riverside County EDA Development Manager **Mike Franklin**

Mike Franklin: shared a conceptual rendering of the dog park; KB Homes will construct at no cost, located where the current horse stables in the open area are near Pigeon Pass; large dog and small dog separation, with benches, dog waste stations, shade trees, water fountains and hiking trails; no timeline but will be coordinated with the KB Homes last phase of construction.

Spring Mountain Ranch resident Shannon Mead had a concern that the information about the dog park was not provided to her 4 years ago at time of purchase of her home and her neighbors; has witnessed several loud distractions. Suggested to put the dog park in a different location that has not been developed. Also has concerns about the cost of ongoing cost of maintenance. Mike Franklin said that he would like to work with Shannon and her neighbors to address her concerns.

Spring Mountain Ranch resident Sonary is also against the dog park and would not have bought her property if she had known. She has concerns related to allergies. Sonary is willing to collect signatures to stop the construction.

Spring Mountain Ranch resident Martha Gomez does not see the need for a dog park given the amount of open space and hiking trails. Martha also said there is research questioning the health and safety of dog parks.

Spring Mountain Ranch resident Lillian echoed similar concerns and also mentioned street cleaning, dangers related to parking and taxes being raised. Lillian also discussed writing a letter to the board.

Mussa Khair asked Mike Franklin why there is a necessity for a dog park and why it cannot be moved. Mike said the KB divisions are not taken into consideration when deciding on placement of the park.

Spring Mountain Ranch resident Martha asked who will benefit from it. Mike Franklin said it is open to anyone who wants to use it.



Shannon Mead had a question about who will pay for the ongoing maintenance. Mike Franklin said the maintenance is fairly minimal and will be the responsibility of the CSA maintenance crew.

Spring Mountain Ranch Deborah Bowler asked if the renderings are finalized. Mike Franklin said resident input can still be taken and will get the schedule to share. Wendell Bugtai said his office will also coordinate with Mike Franklin and asked for emails from residents to share with Supervisor Karen Spiegel. Emails should be sent to district2@rivco.org.

F. Riverside County Department of Transportation & Land Management Agency (TLMA) introduction on street sweeping ○ TLMA Administration Services Analysts II **Michelle Cervantes**

Michelle Cervantes: Showed a web page at rctlma.org/trans for street sweeping which included contact information and schedules; 45 routes for county street sweeping; shared a map of existing street sweeping routes and newly added roads based on new construction; 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month are for street sweeping, there are also makeup days

For street sweeping questions, contact: 951 555 2048.

Residents have not noticed street sweeping on Symphony, Stockyard and Opus streets.

G. Riverside County Department of Economic Development Agency introduction ○ Riverside County Business & Community Services Deputy Director **Rob Moran** ○ Overview & outreach pertaining to business attraction

Rob Moran: part of an economic development team for the county; talked about retail growth and business attraction; 3 locations will see retail in the short term: Proposed project at Center and Mt. Vernon is a 7-Eleven.

MAC members and residents voiced strong opposition to both Rob Moran and Wendell Bugtai and were disappointed to hear that a larger master plan is not being developed for retail. Wendell Bugtai is going to provide the planner's contact information.

Question from a resident, Ismael, to how to rezone the land based on a master plan that was created many years ago.

Rob Moran's contact information: rmoran@rivco.org or 951 555 6673

- H. CUP200041 (formerly El Rancho Mexican Food Restaurant) ○ Representative Ivy Nguyen ○ Representative Kevin Coleman ○ Representative Patrick Martin ○ Representative Mike N ○ Representative Chris Glew

Provided a design plan for their new cannabis dispensary. There was unanimous opposition to a fifth dispensary and significant concern to the amount of dispensaries already planned and approved for Highgrove. Wendell Bugtai clarified that the maximum amount of cannabis dispensaries in Highgrove is 4, but additional dispensaries can be added at the discretion of Supervisor Spiegel. Presently, there are 9 applications for additional dispensaries.

6. Public Comments*

7. **Future agenda items*** ○ Highgrove Town Center project update

Jeff Girod suggested inviting Supervisor Spiegel to attend, provide comment about her vision for Highgrove and specifically address the plans for a liquor store and more than 4 cannabis stores within a 3.2 square mile radius.

8. Announcements

- Date of Next Scheduled Meeting: May 26th, 2021
- 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. Below is the link to sign up for the monthly Spiegel Spotlight. Feel free to sign up at www.rivcodistrict2.org.

9. Adjournment

* Those wishing to ask one question or make a single comment after a presentation, should raise their hand. After being recognized by the board, please stand up, state your name and ask your question or make your comment and please sit down.

*New issues raised during the public comment period will not be discussed by the council during that meeting, they may, if warranted, be included as a future item.

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*Alternative formats available upon request. If you require reasonable accommodation, please contact DISTRICT2@rivco.org two weeks prior to the meeting.

*The Highrove MAC is advisory to Supervisor Karen Spiegel, not to Riverside County Staff. The Highrove MAC meetings are on the last Wednesdays of the scheduled month.


2nd District Supervisor Karen Spiegel:

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DISTRICT2@rivco.org

www.rivcodistrict2.org

 5/20/21
Jennifer Erub