

# THE EL RIO /DEL NORTE MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

*Serving as Advisory Council for recreational activities in the El Rio, Nyeland Acres, Strickland and Agricultural Areas or El Rio/Del Norte area, including advisory recommendations for the El Rio Roger Jones Community Center and the Nyeland Acres Community Center*

**Thursday January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025, 7:00 pm**

**Roger Jones Community Center**  
2864 Jourdan St, Oxnard, CA 93036

Meeting started at 7:03 pm

**I. Pledge of Allegiance**

**II. Roll Call**

Regular Members

**David Souza (Vice Chair) (Nyeland Acres)**

Present

**Bonnie Bernal (Cloverdale)**

Absent

**Julie Hupp (Strickland)**

Present

**Lorane Bailon (Rio Plaza)**

Present

At Large Members

**Mike Barber (Chair)**

Present

**Aaron Wedemeyer**

Present

**Brenda Heredia**

Present

Others Present: Captain Gibson, VC Sheriff's Office; Deputy Brian Helm, VC Sheriffs; Christopher Byrd, CHP; Kaya Boysan, OPD; Colter Chism, VC Parks Director; Ariana Castellanos-Rodriguez, Supervisor Kelly Long's office

**III. Approval of Summary Meeting Minutes for November 21<sup>st</sup> 2024**

David Souza made the motion to approve the minutes from November 21<sup>st</sup>

Julie Hupp seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Brenda Heredia asked to add the comment from Mary Anne Rooney that was received.

**IV. Public Safety Updates**

Ventura County Sheriff's Department, CHP, Oxnard PD

Officer Boysan handed out a neighborhood watch map of the Nyeland Acres area from the last two months from November 17<sup>th</sup> to January 15<sup>th</sup> 2025. The map has statistics of assault-aggravated, motor vehicle thefts, shoplifting, and theft. Julie H. asked for information on the El Rio area. Officer Boysan mentioned that Officer Martin is the Beat Cord. 14 and oversees that area while he is the Beat Cord. 11. Mike B mentioned Ventura Blvd is the area where most issues occur on. David S.

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mentioned traffic on Santa Clara & Ventura people rolling through the light cause many accidents. Mary Anne R. mentioned speeding on Ventura Blvd. especially semi-trucks. Officer Boysan advised to call the non-emergency line to report cars regarding public safety. Mary Anne R asked if the day lighting law will be enforced which was answered yes, they will be enforcing it and have been educating the public.

Captain Gibson from VC Sheriffs announced that they will be hosting Coffee with a Cop on Saturday, Jan. 25<sup>th</sup> in El Rio for community engagement. They will be coming to Nyeland Acres in about 2-3 months. With wind and fire events picking up, Captain Gibson mentioned the up-staffing patrol and being proactive. He reminded the MAC to sign up for VC Emergency and consider downloading Watch Duty app which is another resource to receive information about fires. He also mentioned that their VC Sheriffs website for community engagement is now live. Community members or groups can now request presentations, tours, or participation at events all through their website. For El Rio and Nyeland Acres emails/requests will go to Captain Gibson. He also mentioned bringing the Homeless Liaison Unit (HLU) to the next meeting. Lorane B mentioned helicopters flew over El Rio and residents were not sure whether to stay inside, asked if they can notify residents. He responded that the air units use fire coppers, patrol coppers, etc. for operational patrolling for deputies. In significant events, they will use reverse 911. The number to reach Captain Gibson is (805) 947-8097. Brenda H. thanked Sheriffs for having officers at Nyeland events which included 3 Kings celebration and Santa to the Sea. Mary Anne R. asked about immigration, where are resources to inform residents and community members, what are their rights because many are scared to go outside/to stores. He mentioned having the community come together to have a conversation in a group setting and to reach out to him. Lorane B. mentioned reaching out to local nonprofits to help get more information and spread the knowledge.

Officer Byrd with CHP reminded residents to report traffic concerns via email at [765\\_cops@chp.ca.gov](mailto:765_cops@chp.ca.gov) and to include location and vehicle description. They have been utilizing new radar signs in communities that tell you how fast you're going, and one is currently on Central Ave west of Rio Mesa High School. If anyone wants to see one of these signs in a specific area, let CHP know. Members of the board mentioned wanting to see one in Nyeland Acres on Santa Clara Ave. Officer Byrd said street sweeping enforcement will be coming back and in El Rio with the pedestrian project they have not been towing but will when the project is completed. Julie H. mentioned that on Central & Strickland Ave people are still parking where the curbs are painted red during school hours, big rigs are also using those roads, and individual's not following the light but using it as a suggestion.

#### **V. Comments from Supervisor Long's Office**

Ariana Castellanos-Rodriguez from Supervisors Long's office informed the MAC on a graffiti abatement event they'll be having with PWA Watershed Protection on Saturday Jan. 18<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 a.m. -11:30 a.m. She mentioned that information item IX are the tentative community cleanup dates for El Rio and Nyeland Acres. Residents will receive a postcard in the mail a few weeks before the cleanup. These dates will be on the agenda until the events pass for community members to refer to. She also reminded individuals about utilizing the PWA app which allows the community to report various issues such as illegal dumping, potholes, graffiti on county-maintained roadways, and more.

#### **VI. Public Comments for Items Not on the Agenda**

Sylvia O. mentioned a cleanup taking place the second Saturday of the month. Oscar H.

mentioned that the flyer for the cleanup was sent to all families at the schools. He also thanked Santa to the Sea for the run vouchers for the event where they were able to give them to students. He also said that the Rio School District participated in the Oxnard Christmas Parade and that they will be expanding their sports programs at the schools.

**VII. Council Member Comments**

Lorane B. mentioned that residents in El Rio are struggling to be mobile on Walnut Dr. due to construction related to the Pedestrian project. There are big holes/ditch in the area and homeowners are getting mad at construction works. She mentioned it being 2-3 weeks and they have not utilized perhaps using steel plates to cover the holes for residents that live on that street to pass/get around. She also wanted to put it on the agenda to bring in Public Works.

**Information Items**

**VIII. Update on the Nyeland Acres Community Center**

Colter Chism with VC Parks came to present the latest revision of plans for the Nyeland Acres Community Center. These come from community outreach efforts and comments that were received. The changes to the plans consist of the building being pushed back to allow for a full-sized basketball court and an open view for public safety to see as they drive by. The square footage of the building is the same. He mentioned the total estimated time until the ribbon cutting for the building would be 2 ½ years. Brenda H. asked about playground access which was responded with yes everyone will have access to it. Mike B asked where the water will be coming from which Colter responded that the City of Oxnard and the CEO's office is working on that. Aaron W. asked if the whole area will be shut down during construction which was answered yes. Mike B asked if the mural is going to be preserved which was responded that they are looking to preserve it. David S. asked if the remaining sycamore trees were going to stay which was responded with no they will be removed and will be planting others/more trees.

**IX. E.J. Harrison Community Cleanup Dates: El Rio, Eternal Life Church – June 14, 2025  
Nyeland Acres, Nyeland Acres Community Center – October 25, 2025**

**X. Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm**

**XI. Next Meeting: February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025 @ 7 PM / John C. Zaragoza Community Center**