

**El Sobrante Municipal Advisory Council  
Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, April 14, 2021  
7:00 pm**

**Members Present:** Thomas Lang, Tom Owens, George Cleveland, Melinda V. Mclain, Joe Sarapochillo, Mikki Norris

**Members Absent:** Jim Hermann, Emilie Whelan, Shirley Rosenthal-Winston,

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm.

The minutes of the February 10<sup>th</sup> and March 10<sup>th</sup> meetings were passed.

The ESMAC account has a balance of \$3,000.

**Presentation Items:**

P.1. **Supervisor John Gioia.** Supervisor Gioia began by acknowledging the opening of the new Fire Station 70 in San Pablo. El Sobrante has the highest percent of people completely vaccinated. 80% of residents have their first does and 51% have both doses. Across the county over 500,000 people have received their first dose and more than 334,000 are fully vaccinated. Sup. Gioia encouraged residents to still wear a mask even if they're fully vaccinated to help reduce the spread of Covid-19.

P.2. **Jamar Stamps, Principal Planner** with the Department of Conservation and Development was on hand to discuss the County updating its Tree Ordinance. The update is happening for a few reasons, but primarily because the original tree code was adopted in the mid 1990's, it is not intuitive for the public, and what constitutes a protected tree is unclear. Mr. Stamps shared a memo that includes the current and proposed versions of the ordinance as well as a chart comparing both. That memo can be viewed at: <https://www.contracosta.ca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/70469/CCC-Tree-Ordinance-Update-memo?bidId=>

P.3. **Sgt. Root,** with the Sheriff's Office gave a presentation. There were 704 calls for service in the month of March. Certain crimes have been increasing as well as an increase in theft. They have also been focusing on getting abandoned vehicles towed out of the community. If the tags are older than 6 months or looks like a junk car, those vehicles are towed. There has also been an increase in catalytic converter theft. Park in well-lit areas to help deter theft, but some of the thefts are happening during the daytime. Residents are encouraged to be aware of the surroundings.

P.4. **Battalion Chief Charles Thomas** with Contra Costa County Fire Protection District was called away before he was able to make his presentation. James Lyons with Supervisor Gioia's office read a portion of the Chief's Report dated March 9, 2021

P.5. **Officers Tim Leviste and Martin Lendway** with the CHP gave a presentation on behalf of the California Highway Patrol. They discussed an accident (with a pedestrian fatality) that occurred on April 1<sup>st</sup> along San Pablo Dam Road near Creekside Court. The sun was in the drivers face and he couldn't see the pedestrian who was crossing the road outside of a crosswalk. They also discussed a process where they have been able to get court ordered seizures for some vehicles that have been used in sideshows if the license plate is visible, allowing the CHP to impound those vehicles for up to 30 days.

**Discussion/Action Items: None**

**Standing Committee Reports: None**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:37pm.

Minutes prepared by Office of Supervisor John Gioia.