

**El Sobrante Municipal Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, May 12, 2021
7:00 pm**

Members Present: Thomas Lang, Tom Owens, George Cleveland, Melinda V. Mclain, Joe Sarapochillo, Mikki Norris, Jim Hermann, Emilie Whelan, Shirley Rosenthal-Winston
Members Absent:

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.
The ESMAC account has a balance of \$3,000.

Presentation Items:

P.1. **Sgt. Root** with the Sheriff's Office gave a presentation. For the month of April there were 641 calls for service in El Sobrante. Violent crime was down almost 50%. Sgt. Root said that Deputies are making more contact with the public as the community is opening back up. Lastly, he mentioned that the Sheriff's Office is actively looking for people stealing catalytic converters.

P.2. **Battalion Chief Charles Thomas** with Contra Costa County Fire Protection District (ConFire) read portions of the Chief's Fire Report dated April 27, 2021. ConFire is in the midst of an annexation study that is looking at incorporating East Contra Costa Fire and Rodeo/Hercules into ConFire. The study is due to be completed and presented to the Fire Board by June or July. There would be no negative impacts on response times to El Sobrante if the Rodeo/Hercules fire district is annexed into ConFire due to existing mutual aid agreements and existing working relationships. The Fire Prevention Bureau has begun participating in a new program called Firewise USA, more information can be found at <https://www.cccfpd.org/firewise>.

P.3. **Officers Tim Leviste and Martin Lendway** with the CHP gave a presentation. There was an accident on April 20th on San Pablo Dam Road (SPDR) where a vehicle swerved into oncoming traffic after braking hard to avoid rear-ending the vehicle in front of them, this resulted in a head on collision with a CalTrans truck. There weren't any serious injuries.

There were residents that spoke to the CHP encouraging more patrolling along Pebble Drive and SPDR. The residents shared that there is a lot of speeding on both of those streets and specifically during morning and evening commute hours. Residents that live on or near Pebble Drive also shared that there is a fair amount of drag racing going later into the evening. The residents that live along SPDR have said that these sideshows are challenging and dangerous for them entering and exiting from their homes.

P.4. **Ingrid de Santiago, Program Coordinator with Healthy Options at Point of Sale (HOPS)** introduced her Youth Advocates, Malaika and Kiran. They spoke specifically about their Healthy Checkout campaign which is focused on passing an ordinance in Richmond requiring healthier food options at checkout lines. They provided background as to why they are focused on the checkout. You can get more information about their presentation or submit support to idesantiago@bacr.org.

P.5. **El Sobrante residents Sona Kaur and Doug Deaver** spoke to the council and audience about the San Pablo Dam Road Safety Taskforce that they and their neighbors have started. They formed this group after some recent fatalities and accidents. Their perspective of living on SPDR offered insight into the serious nature of the speeding taking place. The taskforce wants the CHP to conduct more speed enforcement along SPDR since they believe that lack of enforcement is an issue.

P.6. **James Lyons, District Coordinator with Supervisor John Gioia's Office** gave a COVID-19 update. The update included the FDA authorizing the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine for children ages 12-15. President Biden announced that people can receive free rides from Uber and Lyft to vaccine appointments. Contra Costa Health Services, Kaiser Permanente and local districts are partnering to host vaccination sites starting in May. Mr. Lyons extended an offer to anyone who doesn't receive Sup. Gioia's eblasts to email him at james.lyons@bos.cccounty.us.

Discussion/Action Items:

D1.1 The council had no comment on application CDVR21-01012, site address of 5935 Alpine Road, San Pablo.

Standing Committees:

Mikki Norris, Chair of the Illegal Dumping committee shared a report on the April 28th Illegal Dumping Committee meeting. She mentioned that there would be cleanups in El Sobrante on May 15th and 16th. The next Illegal Dumping Committee meeting is on June 23rd.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10p.m.

Minutes prepared by Office of Supervisor John Gioia.