

# Winchester-Homeland Municipal Advisory Council

## MEETING MINUTES

Date: March 14, 2024

Place: Winchester Community Center, 32655 Haddock Street, Winchester

### Attendees:

Winchester-Homeland MAC: Andy Domenigoni, Chairman; Jimmy Sheldrake, Vice-Chairman; James Horecka, Secretary; Thomas Laury.  
Members of the Public.

**Call to Order:** Call to order by Andy Domenigoni at 6:30 PM.

Flag Salute. Introductions.

### Approval of the Agenda:

Motion JH; seconded JS: Unanimous.

**Approval of the Minutes** from February 8, 2024:

Motion TL; seconded JS: Unanimous.

### Staff Reports:

- A. Supervisor Chuck Washington's Office; Andrea Mares, Legislative Assistant:
  - Q: Supervisor Washington will be proposing the allocation of \$810,000 in Third District Unincorporated Communities Initiative funds for road improvements in Winchester. Will come before Board on April 2<sup>nd</sup>.
  - \$500,000 will be to pave Willard Street from SH 79 & Whittier. Once done, County will accept & maintain.
  - County will also pave Whittier Avenue between Simpson Road & Willard Street. Will also maintain.
  - Estella Wells encouraged residents to participate in the County's update of its Alternative Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) Report. Left flyers.
  - Upcoming Guest Speakers: CalTrans is slated to present to the WHMAC in May. Topics: Highway 79 Re-alignment, Haddock Street Pedestrian Beacon, an ETS Study for SH 79 between Domenigoni Pkwy & JH 74.
  - Q (AD): Status of Salt Creek Bridge? A: No known.
  - Q (AL): Has the Supervisor taken any interest in an interim alignment for SH 79? A: No.
  - Q: What is the status of GPA 1207? A: No update at this time.
  - C (AL): Why was Winchester left out of the process of the MOU between Menifee & County? A: Mares said the Chief of Staff had responded to Ms Little, advising that the MOU was adopted on a certain date.
- B. Sheriff Department update; Captain Kevin Lamb:
  - Winchester Stats: 242calls. For Homeland: 190 calls.
- C. California Highway Patrol; Steven Rusk, Lieutenant: Not present; no report.
  - Stats, Station 34: 79 calls; (50 medical, 9 traffic, 4 fires).
- D. Cal Fire Winchester Station #34; Dan Olson:
  - Stats, Station 34 (Winchester): 48 calls. (38 med, 10 traffic collisions, 1 PSA, 5 false alarms, 1 fire).
  - Stats, Station 54 (Homeland): 140. (133 med, 9 traffic collisions, 2 PSA, 7 false alarms, 5 fires).
  - No updates to staffing, nor to status of Station #34 Remodel. Hoping to hiring soon, to increase staffing.
- E. EMWD Updates; Alma Ramirez:
  - With the time change, remember to change your irrigation control time clocks.
  - Brought flyers on code info, rebates, and various fact sheets.
  - Q (AD): What is the status of EM II? It's in the Public Comments period.
  - Q (AD): Status of the Interim Lift Station (at Scott & Leon)? A: A lift station might be built at a different location, then abandon old Wickerd Rd station. The developer would have to take the lead. All she knows now.
  - The EMWD project at Esplanade is coming to an end.
- F. Code Enforcement; Sara Rhoades, Supervisor for Code Enforcement.
  - 18 new cases opened; 8 closed. Five abatements happened.
  - The Winchester Inn has been demolished.
  - The Winchester Clean Up held on March 2nd was a huge success! Fill all bins, including two tire bins.

- Q: Weed abatement? A: That's Fire.
  - C(GC): The Historical Society got a few pieces of wood from the Winchester Inn, for their collection.
  - Q: Is there a difference between inoperative & 'non-op'? A: Yes. Non-op is a DMV status. Inop can't drive.
- G. Emergency Management Department; Camille Collins, Senior Emergency Services Coordinator:
- The EMD is still updating their EOP. Done every 5-7 years.
  - CERT classes are coming up soon. See her.
  - She listed various notifications, including power outages, a few minor earthquakes, etc.
  - Sign up for WEA: The Wireless Emergency Alert system! See also: RivCo Ready.
  - Be prepared!
- H. 36th District Assemblymember Eduardo Garcia's office: No representative present; no report.
- I. 60th District Assemblymember Dr. Corey Jackson's office; Darrell Frye, District Representative:
- Representing Moreno Valley, Perris, and including Homeland.
  - Noted a \$60B deficit in California this year. Mentioned various bills put forth & assignments.
- Q: Where is your office? A: Near March Air Reserve Base.
- J. Senator Kelly Seyarto's Office; Amanda Fisher: Not present; no report.
- K. Valley Wide Park & Recreation District; represented by Craig Shultz:
- Baseball & softball season is underway. He covered various events; dog microchipping, Easter-related, etc.
  - Veteran's Park dedication slated for May 18th.
- L. Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians: No representative present; no report.
- M. Winchester Land Use Committee update; Tom Laury:
- See the Land Use Committee Meeting Report, dated March 14, 2024, on file.
  - The next meeting will be March 19th, Cindy's office, 3:30 PM.
  - Main topics of discussion include aspects of the Business Park Designation for our Community Plan.
  - DR Horton's project TTM 38536 (part of Specific Plan 293) proposes to reallocate 42 unused dwelling units from various PAs to PA12 in TTM 38586, in SP 293. The LUC is OK with the project moving forward, as it is in substantial conformance with Specific Plan 293. This was brought before the Winchester-Homeland town Association at their February 1, 2024 meeting; which supported the project moving forward. The Town Association and Land Use Committee recommend support of the project moving forward to public hearings.
  - Lance Retuya presented on the above topic, echoing the above. See brief, on file. He fielded questions.
  - Tom Laury moved that the Winchester-Homeland Municipal Advisory Council forward the WTA letter in support of the proposal to reallocate 42 unused dwelling units from one PA to another in SP 293 to Supervisor Washington, with our cover letter. Second by Sheldrake. Vote: Unanimous; motion carried.
- N. City of Menifee update; Doug Darnell, Planner:
- Planning Commission approved the Menifee North Specific Plan, SP 260. Recommended Council approval.
  - Next Wednesday, it is likely that the City Council will have a discussion regarding the sphere of influence. They have an ad hoc committee for this. This would encompass ~1,900 acres; Briggs Rd east to Leon Rd, Scott Road to Old Newport Road, etc. Heads up! Menifee City Hall, 6:00 PM. Those concerned: Attend!
  - Q: Misdirected mail ends up in Menifee sometimes? A: Please see Post Office.
  - Q: Dirt moving at Domenigoni Parkway, south side, west of the hump? A: A new tract of homes.
- O. City of Hemet: No representative present; no report.
- P. Department of Animal Services: No representative present; no report.
- Q. Other Departments and Public Agencies: None.

### **New Business:**

- A. Guest Presentation: Winchester Master Plan & Bridge Update. Deborah de Chambeau with Flood Control District and Dennis Acuna with the Transportation & Land Management Agency.
- The Flood Control District was formed in 1945. 240 employees presently. Covers western 40% of County. Seven zones. We are in Zone 4, along with Lakeview, Nuevo, Good Hope, up into the San Jacinto Mountains.
  - Funded by property taxes. Revenues: ~\$32M / year. Deborah showed our MAC boundary overlaid on map.
  - Map shows lines representing facilities. Zooming to our area, we could see lines of interest. Salt Creek, e.g.
  - Showed the proposed Hemet Valley MDP (Master Drainage Plan). Also Homeland MDP, Green Acres MDP.
  - Goals are to reduce flooding risk, reduce impacts on the environment, etc. Projects will improve much.
  - Next steps include: Continuing Engineering; hold additional Public Sessions (TBA), prepare for CEQA, Environmental reviews.

**Question & comments:**

- Q: You are still in the planning stages regarding alignment of facilities? A: Correct.
- Q: Status of Green Acres MDP? A: Finished the Geotechnical Evaluations, showing it's feasible. Packaging up to advance to CEQA & environmental impact studies. Dams are regulated by the State of California.
- Q: Where can we see Maps? A: On-line. Go to RCFlood.org. Current Map is still in draft form; *not published*.
- All thanked the presenter for his informative presentation and lively discourse.
- C: The Hemet Channel doesn't meet the FEMA requirements for a 100-year flood. A: True; working on plan.
- Q: How is your \$32M budget allocated? A: Existing projects first. Note: Inflation is consuming much of their funding these days! If any left, may fund requested projects. There is a Request Period every year for this.
- C: Line C status? A: Part of Line C is in the budget. Partially funded by City of Hemet & also developer.
- Flood Control is reevaluating some facilities. Large developments will build large lines in large tracts; Flood would look at filling-in the gaps.
- Q: Are developers paying into improvements for Salt Creek? A: Yes, via development fees.
- Q: Concerns over specific issues... A: For sewer issues: contact EMWD. Road issues, contract County Roads.
- Q: New development causes more runoff! A: Mitigated by mandatory water quality management systems.
- Flood maintains large features. They don't have general jurisdiction. They do channels, basins, backbone systems (ducts over 36"), etc. Note: There is no cost associated with suggesting a project; submit any time!

**Dennis Acuna:**

- The Transportation Department covers 2,300 miles. They have 400 employees. They maintain existing streets.
- They aim to assist with the Highway 79 Realignment Project.
- The Hybrid Pedestrian Beacon at SH 79 at Haddock Street is slated to be built in summer, while school's out.
- They are aware of the myriad potholes following the rains. Report them: RivCoMobile; download the app!
- Projects of local interest include two bridges over Salt Creek: Rice Road & Leon Road. These fall under the Menifee Road & Bridge Benefit District. There is some money in this pot. PSR: Project Study Report. Leon Road: 6 lanes, 400'; ~\$35M. Rice Road: Narrower, but longer; ~\$25M. For each, expect a four year cycle, then 18 months for construction. They would not be done at the same time. Most likely Lean Bridge first.

**Questions & comments:**

- Q: Various dirt roads? A: On the map, but not improved, and thus not adopted, not maintained by County. Thanks to Supervisor Washington for funding for limited improvements to make a few dirt roads passable.
- Q: Who maintains Winchester Road? A: CalTrans.
- Q: Status of a left turn lane from WB Simpson to SB Columbia, toward School? A: Unknown.
- Q: Possible low-water crossing at Leon, interim? A: Status unknown. Developer could try that, interim.
- Q: How are costs figured? A: Engineering estimates.
- Q: What is the proposed realignment of SH 79? A: See current maps.
- C: Impact of traffic on our area roads. Infrastructure seems to lag development; gaps, etc.
- C: Cowdery mentioned 1888 Map of Winchester. ROWs drafted way back then; offers of dedication.
- Q: TUMF? A: They are working on a nexus study now. This would reset projects. TUMF \$ may only be used for capacity-enhancing improvements. WRCOG controls funding. Employment centers are changing!
- Q: Info on SH 74 repaving? A: That's CalTrans.

**Public Comments:**

- None.

**Councilmember Reports and Comments:**

- Sheldrake mentioned that his daughter saw mountain lions in San Bernardino.
- Andy Domenigoni declared Winchester Cleanup Day a huge success: Thanks to all involved.

**Agenda Items for next meeting:**

- Suggestions for future topics: Land Use Committee update.

**Adjourn Meeting:**

- The next WHMAC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 11, 2024, 6:30 PM, at the Community Center.
- The WHMAC adjourned at 8:51 PM. M:JS / S:TL