

WISEBURN WATCH

September 18, 2019 – Meeting Minutes

1. Law enforcement update

- LA County Sheriff Department (police patrol)
 - Dwayne Allen introduced himself as the new Captain for the Southeast station, taking over for April Hardy. He has spent 31 years with the Department working all over County boundaries. He was part of the first community oriented policing team with County in the 1990s. He has rotated and promoted through a range of divisions and geographies – most recently with Administrative Services Division which manages the department’s budget.
 - Crime statistics
 - Thefts and stolen autos are up. Remember to not leave vehicle doors unlocked and not leave temptation in sight.
 - Cannabis shops
 - Currently 3 dispensaries have opened up on Inglewood Avenue. County Counsel is developing an approach to better manage how to increase enforcement against illegal dispensaries. Cannabis dispensaries are illegal in both unincorporated LA County (west side of Inglewood Ave) and city of Hawthorne (east side of Inglewood Ave)
 - Patrolling
 - Community member thanked for increased patrolling lately
- California Highway Patrol (traffic enforcement)
 - In response to community concerns on traffic enforcement and traffic volumes, CHP asked the community to give a more narrow location where the enforcement can be most effective.
 - Speeds on Douglas in front of Wiseburn High School are a safety hazard.
 - 4-way stop sign proposed for 134th and Ocean Gate instead of the current 2-way stop sign. Cars lining Ocean Gate make it hard to see oncoming traffic on Ocean Gate. Two serious auto collisions recently. Mary Jones from Supervisor’s office to advise further.

2. Scott Houston, Board President and Division 4 representative on the West Basin Municipal Water District

- Water Harvest Festival is Saturday, October 26, 2019 and is a free family event. Visit www.westbasin.org/waterharvest for more details.

- Free grass replacement classes happening all year – last class is October 18 in Gardena. Participation in the class is not necessary to be eligible for the lawn removal rebate program.
3. Dr. Blake Silvers, Superintendent of Wiseburn School District
 - Dr. Silvers presented an overview of the Long-Range Facilities Master Plan process which kicked off in March 2019 and will be completed in mid-2020. [See attached digital version of the presentation.]
 - Community survey will be part of the process. Wiseburn board asked Dr. Silvers to complete the survey before the first town hall meeting is held per the schedule for developing the master plan.
 4. Traffic safety improvements on La Cienega
 - Lighted pedestrian crosswalk is installed north of 135th St. Lighted crosswalk for south of 135th is still incomplete. Jon to check in with County Public Works.
 5. Replanting on Wiseburn Walking Path
 - Susan Curry from County Rec & Parks confirmed the replanting is scheduled for late October to early November for replacing the plants that died after the irrigation system broke after the September 2017 opening. In addition, the community expressed these additional needs for the path:
 - Confirm the irrigation system works
 - Susan from Rec & Parks says it works; Bill said it doesn't work as of 9/18
 - Remove hazardous plants to dogs
 - One dog ate hazardous plants and led to a \$1500 vet bill
 - Change the signs along the path from “Wiseburn Walking Trail” and “Wiseburn Walking Path”
 6. Utility box art
 - Mary Jones from Supervisor's office to provide Harley contact at County Arts Commission to discuss possible funding sources and approach to creating art on the utility boxes.
 7. Treasurer's Report
 - The Watch's budget has run at a loss this year, but prior year reserves are able to adequately cover these expenses – for now. Expenses include nominal costs associated with refreshments at putting on community events such as the Santa Parade. Watch has not done any fundraising campaigns recently. We will initiate a fundraising campaign to better sustain the Watch's activities going forward.
 8. Open forum
 - Community member suggestion for a fruit harvest exchange with neighbors.

- Discussion on bringing more people into our meetings. NextDoor is serving too much as a substitute for in-person, organized community meetings that allow the entire community an opportunity to address issues and organize a plan to address them in an efficient manner.