

MINUTES

Area 4 Community Meeting

April 25, 2024 6:30pm | *Mary Vagle Nature Center* Area Commander Lt. Tracy Dills

In Attendance

Traffic Engineering Ruben Hovanesian, Engineering Shawn Matejcek, Landscaping Technician Raul Esparza, Officer Parsons, Code Enforcement Officer Peggy Fonseca, Community Policing Technician Amber Smith, Councilmember Jesse Sandoval, District Attorney's Office Victims Advocate Sharleen Ormonde-Large.

Lt. Tracy Dills

- Welcomed everyone.
- He is currently the new Area Commander for Area 4. He currently works weekends and Monday. If you need to get a hold of him, you can reach him via email at Tdills@fontana.org. Email is the best way to contact him.
- City staff introduced themselves.
- Code Compliance Inspector Peggy Fonseca had a presentation on Weed Abatement (see below).
- The police department got 4 off-road motorcycles to help deal with all the off-road complaints we received in the hills. We have had several pursuits lately and it seems like we are making an impact, so spread the word we will be working up in the hills.
- Enhanced Traffic Enforcement-Occurred on April 17th with the primary focus near Southridge Middle School and Jurupa Hill High School. The detail included enforcement for speed infractions, commercial citations, and abandoned vehicles between the hours of 0730-1100. The Traffic Unit issued 18 commercial citations, 60 commercial parking citations and towed one vehicle.
- Upcoming Events:
 - May 2nd-Coffee with a Cop (Starbucks on Foothill and Citrus)
 - May 4th-Fontana Days Parade
 - June 1st- Fontana Days Run
 - Fontana Farmer's Market-Every Thursday from 2pm to 7pm Southridge Park Don Day Center Parking Lot.

Code Compliance Peggy Fonseca-Weed Abatement

- Weed Abatement is done twice a year. Code Compliance Officers canvas the entire city looking for any property that has weeds or trash on the property.
- The reason the city does this is to avoid potential fire hazards, especially with the winds we have here in the city.
- The first weed abatement of the year starts in April and ends sometime in July the next one starts in October and ends in December.
- So far for this first weed abatement she has already opened 311 complaints on properties throughout the city that have weeds or trash on their property.
- Weed abatement season for the city has recently started. Has already opened 100 cases in Area 3 for weed abatement.
- The City of Fontana started the Weed Abatement Program in 1999.

- Code Compliance Inspectors conduct semi-annual weed and waste inspections throughout the city.
- The purpose of this is to ensure that owners are maintaining their property and keeping it free of any weeds or rubbish per the city Municipal Code.
- Property owners are responsible for weeding their property by mowing, discing, and performing necessary handwork along fence lines, walkways, parkways, driveways, streets, and structures. Property owners must keep property clean of all green waste, solid waste, trash, and debris.
- Inspectors will inspect the property and open a case on any property that is not being properly maintained. Notices will be sent out to the property owner and the property owner will have 30 days to get into compliance.
- For violations that are not corrected by the compliance deadline, the city of Fontana will abate the violations and assess all costs associated with the clean up against the property. A lien will be filed with the San Bernardino County Assessors against the subject property.

Questions

- **Neighbors don't maintain their yard and it is full of weeds, is that what Weed Abatement covers?** Code Compliance Inspector Peggy Fonseca advised yes that is what they deal with during weed abatement. During weed abatement when a property has weeds on it, they are given a notice with a 30-day compliance date.
- **How does someone get a hold of Code Compliance?** Code Compliance Inspector Peggy Fonseca advised you can file a complaint on the 311 system, or you can call on the phone at (909) 854-8020.
- **If a house is rented or leased, does it matter when it comes to Code Compliance complaints.** Code Compliance Inspector Peggy Fonseca advised it doesn't matter if it is rented or leased if there is a violation on the property a notice will be issued and mailed to the property owner.
- **What about a resident who is flipping vehicles. There is a neighbor who has about 12 cars all for sale on the street, they have turned it in but haven't heard anything.** Code Compliance Peggy Fonseca advised them to get with her after the meeting and she will be able to look up the complaint.
- **A neighbor runs a puppy mill and doesn't clean up the fecal matter, is that something Code Compliance would deal with?** Code Compliance Inspector Peggy Fonseca advised because it is involving animals, the Animal Services Unit would deal with that.
- **He owns a business on Hemlock and there is a tree on the neighbor's property that is on the property line to his business. The tree drops leaves and makes a mess, is there anything that could be done with that.** Code Compliance Inspector Peggy Fonseca advised you are able to trim anything that hangs over on your side of the property line. It is considered a civil issue and Code Compliance wouldn't get involved. Lt. Dills advised that Code Compliance isn't proactive, they have so much work that they are not able to be proactive except for weed abatement, so if there are any issues within your neighborhood, they need you to call those in because they will not be addressed otherwise.
- **Advised there is an empty lot next to his property and it is full of graffiti. He used the 311 system, the first time he called nothing happened, but he called back and eventually it was all cleaned up and the graffiti is gone, and the weeds were all cleaned up. 311 works.**
- **There is a lot of graffiti along Beech and Jurupa.** With 311 you are able to take a picture of the graffiti when you turn it in and it makes it easier for the city to find the problem.
- **We have a lot of off-road buggies riding on the streets and walkways. Some are neighbors but there is a lot of activity in this area, some without lights or a helmet.** Lt. Dills advised when you see that activity occurring, please call it into our dispatch to have an officer go out.

- **A few neighbors are truck drivers and are parking their trucks in the area or in their driveways. Is that allowed?** Lt. Dills advised it is not allowed in a residential area if they are commercial vehicles. Our officers will usually give them an advisal at first but if they continue, they can be issued a citation.
- **Advised he has a home on Slover and a business on Hemlock. His neighbor parks 4 or 5 trucks in the center lane on Slover and it makes it hard to get out of his property.** Officer Parsons advised we are aware of the problem, and we have been issuing citations for that constantly in the area.
- **Neighbor has a 5-ton truck, they called it in, and it stopped for a while but it is starting to come back.** Officer Parsons advised when it is there call our dispatch to have an officer go out there, he can be fined up to \$500. He has cited him in the past.
- **We have a lot of traffic in the area. They are driving extremely fast. If they can get some speed bumps in the area that would be great.** Traffic Engineering Ruben Hovanesian advised they can put in a request on the 311 system. We try to bring awareness first by usually having the speed trailer in the area and maybe have the PD do some enforcement, some areas might qualify for speed humps but with speed humps come additional problems as well. It slows not only people driving but also emergency service vehicles as well.
- **There is street racing happening every night along Slover Avenue and Santa Ana.** Lt. Dills advised if you know a general time when this is occurring, please let us know so we can have officers check it out.
- **At Loyola and Elm, is there a way to put a big sign that says no parking or maybe put in a red curb.** Traffic Engineering Ruben Hovanesian advised you can put in a request for that in the 311 system, if the request makes sense, it will get installed.
- **He has a business on Hemlock and when the city installed the center median his business drastically declined.** Traffic Engineering Ruben Hovanesian advised he will look into it, advised to get with him after the meeting so he can get more information.
- **Along Live Oak there is a lot of used tires and trash being dumped, is it possible for the city to update that area, that might help with the illegal dumping.** Traffic Engineering Ruben Hovanesian advised the city gets improvements either by the city paying for it or any new development coming into the city paying for it when they are in the development process. If the city pays for it all the projects are prioritized however sometimes, we do get grants to help pay for projects. For illegal dumping you have the ability to report that on the 311 system and our city Public Works will pick up the trash.
- **Is there any update on the dog park.** The park was moved from the Don Day Park to the greenbelt where the electrical power lines are.
- **With the Farmer's Market, are they allowed to sell honey?** The city contracts with the Family Market Company who is in charge of reviewing the vendor applications and inquiries. They can be reached by phone, email, or in person, or by filling out an online application. Their phone number is (760) 956-0758. Their email is thefamilymarketco@gmail.com. You can find the online application at <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdFzMCkqaz7GQP5qgUiYOUnomg5KiIcOWKMWWDHuonx4ExtSw/viewform>
- **Do you need a special license to be a vendor for the Farmer's Market.** You can get that information from the Family Market Company (Information is above).
- **How is the situation on the street vendors?** It has gotten better, there aren't a lot out there anymore. We did have a lot of problems at some locations, so we have had less crime and less calls for service.
- **Some people don't pick up after their dogs, is it possible to put signs up that say pick up after your dog?** Public Works advised they will look into it.

Next Meeting

August 22, 2024 @ 6:30 pm, at **Southridge Middle School (14500 Live Oak Avenue)**