

ACONA Meeting Notes, September 27, 2016

After welcome and introductions the following topics were covered.

Altadena Sheriff's Update on Shootings & Intro to new Officers

Speaker: Captain Vicki Stuckey of the Altadena Sheriff's Station

Capt. Stuckey introduced new Altadena Station personnel:

Lt. Yolanda Clay (replacing Lt. Lewis - operations)

Lt. Mike Octave (detective bureau)

Sgt. Sandy Crostwaite (community relations)

She also presented a list of recent shootings (see Resources for September 27 meeting) and stressed that anyone with information about an assault should call the

station, We Tip (800-78CRIME) or Crime Stoppers. The station does not have caller ID,

so callers are anonymous. Emergency situations: call 911. If you're calling 911 on a cell

phone, you need to give your location since that information is not transmitted from a

cell phone (though it is from a land line).

Resolution of reported crimes: Not specifically made public, but those involved can

follow up with the assigned detective/s.

Be aware of your surroundings and if you see anything suspicious, call the station.

The station publishes a crime blotter each week on its website and on Next Door.

Traffic and Lighting and Road Maintenance (including speed bumps)

Speakers:

Edward Lee, Associate Civil Engineer, LA County Public Works Road Maintenance Dept.: Responsible for roads from La Crescenta to Claremont covered road and sidewalk maintenance. Only sweep alleys and streets with curbs. Streets that are too narrow for the street sweeper are posted both sides no parking on street sweeping days, otherwise just one side of the street at a time. The county will plant trees in a property's easement; the property owner is responsible for watering the tree.

John Ickis, LA County Public Works Traffic & Lighting Div. Speed humps are the most popular request the division gets in Altadena. Outlined the process to get speed humps on a street (see PowerPoint).

Carl Pederson III, LA County Department of Traffic and Lighting helped with questions.

The Hahamonga/Eaton Wash Altadena to Pasadena water pipeline

Speaker: Ken Zimmer, Senior Civil Engineer Water Conservation Planning, Water Resources Division, LA County
Pipeline is in feasibility stage. Flood control district isn't a water purveyor, but helps to recharge groundwater which benefits the purveyors.
Arroyo Seco Canyon Project is not part of the Hahamonga project.
In a year with normal rainfall, 6000 acre-feet flow through Devil's Gate and out to the ocean.
The pipeline would flow both to Eaton from Devil's Gate and vice versa via a pumping station. Pipe installation can be as much as 300 ft/day. A 46" pipe would require a 52-54" trench. CEQA process planned in 2017, with construction beginning in 2019.

Q&A:

Q: New York Drive is narrow. What about using Washington Bl. for the pipeline?

A: It's being studied.

Q: Trash in front of recycling center on Lincoln, and in an empty lot north of the recycling center. Whom do I call to get that answered? A: Call the County's Illegal Dumping Section.

Q: Our street couldn't meet the criteria for speed humps. No response from CHP. What can we do? A: Unfortunately the criteria for speed humps can't be ignored because they originate at a higher level. Many of the criteria are internationally observed standards set by the Institute of Transportation Engineers. County tries to take care of the streets with the worst problems. The county can try to set out traffic counters again to do a re-count if requested. CHP: Complaints have been decreasing. If citizens call, the CHP will respond.

Q: I think the criteria for speed humps are too stringent. If a high percentage of people are speeding but the number of cars is less than 500, we wouldn't qualify for speed humps. A: John Ickis welcomes emails to discuss the concerns further. Generally speaking, streets with volumes of less than 500 vehicles per day are not the most economically feasible streets to consider for speed humps in terms of servicing the maximum amount of constituents. Contact John Ickis (jickis@dpw.lacounty.gov) and he will look into a specific street again.

Q: Tree trimming: trees pruned back too much -- not healthy for trees. What can we do? A: Call the county and talk to Anthony Brown.

Q: The Hahamonga Project has been called "money in search of a project." This project sends water from Pasadena to Pasadena across Altadena. It could be only one year in five that there would be enough water to pipe across town, and the infrastructure is very expensive. Is the county or is Pasadena the lead agency on the funding? A: County is the lead. There was an in-house and external study done that measured actual output from the dam, and it was enough to justify a pipeline. The drought will make this project less productive. Acre-foot cost has about a 10-year payback.

Q: If Altadena becomes short of water, are we going to get water? A: Some of Altadena already gets water from Pasadena (the east side of town).

Q: Don't speed cushions damage your car? A: Not entirely sure with regards to the mechanics of the vehicle but the speed cushions are designed for a speed limit of 25 MPH.

Q: What can be done on Hill and New York, which has an open trench at the sides of the road and a pothole which makes a narrow turning radius? A: The roads division will take a look at the potholes.

Q: Speed humps on Casitas: If you have more than the number of cars in the criteria such as 2001 vehicles, does that disqualify you? A: The counts usually do not come within one or two cars but the county would consider doing another count if that did happen, to get a better representation of the traffic volume on the street.

Q: What about the Glendale reclaimed water? A: Nothing is happening that the county is aware of.

Q: Traffic on Palm east of Lake is heavy and makes it hard for residents to get out of their driveways. A stop sign on Lake at Palm or speed humps or something might improve matters. A: Stop signs require a different engineering study than speed humps. Call the county to start a study. CHP is aware of the complaints and is patrolling the area.

Q: Devil's Gate isn't rated to hold water for more than 10 days (vs. the claimed 30 days). A: We have no restrictions from the dam safety department. The county will check.

Q: Can the county present a session to explain why the Hahamonga project is necessary? A: The presentation will be revised to be more educational.

Q: Is the pipeline a temporary measure while Hahamonga is being upgraded? A: No, it's permanent.

Q: Does the county give consideration to planting trees that don't litter and damage cars, or that grow roots that damage sidewalks? A: We try to pick slow growth trees that won't damage the sidewalk. Trees are chosen from an approved list of slow growth trees. But one can't anticipate every problem.