



VENTURA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

AGENDA

Thursday, January 9, 2020 - 5:00 p.m.
City of Camarillo, Council Chambers
601 Carmen Drive
Camarillo, CA 93010

AGENDA REPORTS AND OTHER DISCLOSABLE PUBLIC RECORDS RELATED TO OPEN SESSION AGENDA ITEMS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE VCOG WEBSITE UNDER AGENDA AND MINUTES AT WWW.VENTURACOG.ORG AND AT THE PRINCIPAL VCOG BUSINESS OFFICE LOCATED AT 33 EAST HIGH STREET, SUITE 200, MOORPARK, CALIFORNIA BY APPOINTMENT DURING REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS, MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY, 9:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M. Call 805 217-9448.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND FLAG SALUTE

2. ROLL CALL

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

At this time, members of the public may comment on any item not appearing on the agenda upon completion of a speaker card. Individual Board Members may briefly respond to Public Comments or ask questions for clarification.

4. SEATING OF 2020 VCOG CHAIR AND ELECTION OF CHAIR-ELECT p. 3 - Nominating Committee Report and Election of VCOG Chair and Chair Elect for 2020. **Action:** Seat Janice Parvin as Chair for 2020 and elect a Chair-Elect for 2020.

5. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Oral Report (Handout)

6. AGENCY REPORTS – Oral Reports If Representatives Attend

- A. Southern California Association of Governments
- B. Ventura County Transportation Commission
- C. League of California Cities
- D. Other

7. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Summary of November 14, 2019 Meeting p. 5 – Approve Meeting Summary for the November 14, 2019. **Action:** Approve Meeting Summary as published.

B. Financial Report p. 8 - Approve Ventura Council of Governments Financial reports for the Budget Period October 31, 2019 to December 31, 2019. **Action:** Approve Financial Report

MEMBERS

City of Camarillo
Kevin Kildee, Member
Susan Santangelo, *Alternate*

City of Fillmore
Diane McCall, Member
Alternate- To Be Named

City of Moorpark
Janice Parvin, Member
Ken Simons, *Alternate*

City of Ojai
Randy Haney, Member
Ryan Blatz, *Alternate*

City of Oxnard
Tim Flynn, Member
Oscar Madrigal, *Alternate*

City of Port Hueneme
Sylvia Muñoz Schnopp, Member
Will Berg, *Alternate*

City of San Buenaventura
Lorrie Brown, Member
Cheryl Heitman, *Alternate*

City of Santa Paula
Jenny Crosswhite, Member
Rick Araiza, *Alternate*

City of Simi Valley
Ruth Luevanps, Member
Mike Judge, *Alternate*

City of Thousand Oaks
Al Adam, Member
Alternate - To Be Named

County of Ventura
Kelly Long, Member
John Zaragoza, *Alternate*

- C. **Register of Warrants & Debit Card Transactions p. 23** - Approve the Register of Warrants for Expenditures and Debit Card Transactions incurred from October 31, 2019 to December 31, 2019. **Action:** Approve Register of Warrants and Debit Card Transactions.
- D. **2020 VCOG Legislative Program p. 26** - Review of Legislative Program for 2020 and refer to Legislative Committee for Recommendations. **Action:** Refer Draft 2020 VCOG Legislative Program to the Administrative/Legislative Committee.
- E. **2020 VCOG Program of Priorities p. 31**- Review of Program of Priorities for 2020 and refer to Administrative Committee for Recommendations. **Action:** Refer Draft 2020 VCOG Program of Priorities to the Administrative Committee.
- F. **Appointments to SCAG Policy Committees p. 34** - Confirm appointments to SCAG Policy Committees. **Action:** Approve Staff Recommendation.
- G. **Adoption of Revised 2020 VCOG Schedule of Meetings and Merging the Legislative Committee with the Administrative Committee p. 37**- Adopt Schedule of VCOG Meetings for the Council and Committees and Approve Merging the Administrative Committee with the Legislative Committee. **Action:** Approve Staff Recommendation.

8. **PRESENTATION ITEMS**

- A. **Appointment of 2020 VCOG Administrative Committee p. 39** - Upon recommendation of the Chair, approve the appointment of two, At-Large Members to the VCOG Administrative Committee for 2020. **Action:** Approve Chair's appointments to Administrative Committee.
- B. **Ventura County Hemp Production Regulations p. 41**- Ventura County Agricultural Commissioner Ed Williams will report on plans for the regulation of the growing of hemp in Ventura County. **Action:** Receive and discuss report from Agricultural Commissioner Ed Williams.
- C. **Yes In My Back Yard- Another Point of View on Affordable Housing Development Projects p. 43** Ventura County YIMBY Coordinator Max Ghenis will discuss the group's plans for housing development advocacy in Ventura County. **Action:** Receive and discuss report from Max Ghenis.

9. **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Any Board Member may propose items for placement on a future agenda. Members may discuss whether or not the item should be placed on the agenda and the description of the agenda item.

10. **ADJOURNMENT: 6:30 PM – Next Meeting- March 12, 2020**

NOTE: The Airport Authority Will Be Meeting At 7:00 P.M. PLEASE BE PROMPT.


Copies of staff reports or other written documentation relating to each item of business referred to on this agenda are on file with the Ventura Council of Governments Executive Director and are available for public inspection. If you have any questions regarding any agenda item, contact the Executive Director at (805) 217-9448.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Executive Director. Notification 48 hours before the meeting will allow VCOG to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting (28 CFR 35, 102-35. 104 ADA Title II).



**VENTURA COUNCIL
OF GOVERNMENTS**

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members and Alternates
FROM: Hugh Riley, Executive Director 
SUBJECT: Seating of 2020 VCOG Chair and Election of Chair-Elect for 2020
DATE: January 9, 2020

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Council Confirm Janice Parvin as Chair for 2020 and elect a Chair-Elect for 2020.

Discussion:

Under the VCOG Joint Powers Authority Agreement, the 2019 Chair-Elect automatically becomes Chair at the beginning of the new calendar year and the Council elects a new Chair-Elect. City of Moorpark Mayor Janice was elected Chair-Elect in January 2019 and thus becomes VCOG Chair for 2020. (At this Point, Parvin assumes the Chair's Seat and presides over the remainder of the Item.

The VCOG Nominating Committee met on November 21, 2019 to nominate a candidate for Chair-elect for 2020. Santa Paula City Council Member Jenny Crosswhite was nominated for the office of Chair-elect for 2020.

Procedure for electing Chair-Elect:

- Chair reports on Nominating Committee's Nomination for Chair-elect
- Chair asks for nominations for Chair-elect from the Council. (Self-nominations are acceptable)
- A voice or show of hands for each nominee in the order of their nomination. Any member may request a secret ballot.
- The first nomination to receive a majority vote of the members present is the Chair-elect.
- If there are no additional nominations from the Council- the Committee-Nominated Chair-elect (Crosswhite) is elected by acclamation.

PAST VCOG CHAIRS

2019 - Al Adam – Thousand Oaks
2018 – Bob Huber – Simi Valley
2017 - John Procter – Santa Paula
2016 – Janice Parvin, Moorpark
2015 – Al Adam, Thousand Oaks
2014 – Jan McDonald, Camarillo
2013 – Bob Huber, Simi Valley
2012 - Tim Flynn, Oxnard
2011 – Janice Parvin, Moorpark
2010 – Aguirre, Santa Paula
2009 – P. Miller, Simi Valley
2008 – Holden, Oxnard



MEETING SUMMARY

November 14, 2019

5:00 p.m.

**City of Camarillo, Council Chambers
601 Carmen Drive, Camarillo, CA 93010**

-
- 1. CALL TO ORDER & FLAG SALUTE** – The meeting was called to Order at 5:03 PM by Chair Adam. The Flag Salute was led by Council Member Blatz.

- 2. ROLL CALL**

Present:

Al Adam, City of Thousand Oaks
Janice Parvin, City of Moorpark
Kevin Kildee, City of Camarillo
Keith Mashburn, City of Simi Valley
Lorrie Brown, City of San Buenaventura
Ryan Blatz, City of Ojai
Tim Flynn, City of Oxnard
Bob Huber, County of Ventura

Absent: Jenny Crosswhite, City of Santa Paula; Sylvia Munoz-Shcnopp, City of Port Hueneme; Diane McCall, City of Fillmore

Guests:

Darren Kettle, Executive Director, Ventura, County Transportation Commission
Dave Mullinax, Regional Affairs Manager, League of California Cities
Rachel Wagner, SCAG Regional Affairs Officer for Ventura County
Mina Layba, Legislative Affairs Manager, City of Thousand Oaks
Bill Ayub, Ventura County Sherriff
Undersheriff Monica McGrath
Naresh Amatya, Manager of Transportation Planning, SCAG.

- 3. PUBLIC COMMENT – NONE**

- 4. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT** – Riley reported on the following:

- **SB 5 Vetoed by Governor** - The League's main housing bill SB 5 was vetoed by Governor Newsom. In his veto message, the Governor stated that the bill was being returned to the legislature so that the concept could be examined along with other measures designed to provide resources to solve the affordable housing crises in California. This leaves reason for hope that some form of locally generated funding for infrastructure to support housing development will be included in the "Solution." The Governor's veto message is attached.

- **RHNA Allocations Distributed to Cities** – Ventura County Cities now have their assigned housing production goals based on the Regional Housing Needs Assessment Methodology approved by SCAG.
- **VCOG Legislative Committee**- The Committee was to meet on Thursday, November 21 at 3:00 PM however the meeting has been cancelled.
- **VCOG Administrative Committee**-The Committee will meet on Thursday, November 21 at 4:00 PM to establish the January 9, 2020 Council Meeting Agenda, finalize the VCOG Meeting Schedule for 2020 and other matters referred by the Council and staff.
- **League of Cities Annual Conference** - Staff attended the Annual Conference in Long Beach October 16-18, 2019. Sessions attended the General Sessions as well as breakout sessions including: *Optimizing Government Outcomes by Leveraging Technology; Where Transportation Technology and Funding Meet the Road; Resiliency in the Midst of Tragedy and Devastation; Tips to Improve Trust in Local Government; The Hidden Cost of Tackling Homelessness; Housing for All- Framing a New Conversation About Housing in Your Community.*
- **Capital One Crooks Arrested** - Suspects involved in the Capital One Credit Card Fraud have been identified and arrested. The investigation is continuing as there are additional crimes attributable to these suspects. Ventura County Sheriff's Department Detectives in Moorpark have been working with law enforcement agencies in Hawaii on the case. Authorities are confident that the case will be brought forward. On July 22, 2019 VCOG was advised by the Bank of America that our account had been credited for the full amount of \$3,718.77.

5. AGENCY REPORTS-

- **Ventura County Transportation Commission** – Darren Kettle reminded the Council of Steve DeGeorge's recent retirement but otherwise had no report.
- **League of California Cities** – David Mullinax summarized the main aspects of this year's legislative session including the governor's veto of SB 5 which would have created a local-state partnership to provide up to \$2 billion annually to fund state-approved affordable housing, infrastructure, and economic development projects that also support state policies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, expand transit oriented development (TOD), address poverty, and revitalize neighborhoods. He also reported on a number of affordable housing bills that were signed into law impacting local authority over accessory dwelling units, density restrictions and parking requirements. He stated that many of the measures that did not get through would, no doubt, be back next year.
- **Southern California Association of Governments**- Defer to Agenda Item 7A.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. **Summary of September 12, 2019 Meeting**– Approve the Meeting Summary for the September 12, 2019 Council Meeting as published. **Action:** Approve Meeting Summary as published
- B. **Financial Report** - Approve Ventura Council of Governments (VCOG) Financial report for the Budget Period from July 1, 2019 to October 31, 2019. **Action:** Accept Report
- C. **Register of Warrants & Debit Card Transactions**- Approve the Register of Warrants for expenditures and Debit Card Transactions incurred from September 13, 2019 to November 6, 2019. **Action:** Approve Staff recommendation
- D. **Approval of VCOG Meeting Schedule for 2020** Review the Proposed VCOG Meeting Schedule for 2020. **Action:** Approve Schedule.

Motion was made by Member Parvin to approve the Consent Calendar. The Motion was **Seconded** by Member Huber. The Motion carried without opposition

7. PRESENTATION ITEMS

- A. **CONNECT SOCAL – 2020-2045 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN/SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES STRATEGY** - Naresh Amatya, Manager of Transportation and Programming for SCAG Made a presentation on the Draft Connect SoCal – 2020-2045 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy. The document was released at the November 7th SCAG Regional Council Meeting. Mr. Amatya provided a brief overview of the RTP/SCS including public comment opportunities, planning methodology and time tables for final approval. The public comment period coincides with the end of the year.
- B. **REPORT FROM VENTURA COUNTY SHERIFF**- p. 33 Ventura County Sheriff Bill Ayub presented a report on various County Law Enforcement Topics, Issues, Projects and Programs impacting residents of Ventura County. Highlights included:
 - The Sheriff's insight on the future possible implementation of a Safe Passage Project in other Ventura County Communities
 - Homeless issues and citizen complaints
 - Department's reaction to new state legislation
 - Recent developments with marijuana and hemp regulations
 - Ventura County's efforts to implement a new law aimed at treating some mentally ill defendants instead of prosecuting them.
 - Cooperative efforts among the County and other agencies during the recent Easy and Maria Wildfires.

- 8. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS & REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS** – Member Blatz asked that a future agenda item be a discussion of the Planned System Power Shut-Off Policy being implemented by the State's primary energy providers. Also, in view of numerous citizen complaint concerning the odor produced by hemp production, some members suggested this as a possible topic


- 9. ADJOURNMENT** - Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m. to January 9, 2020



VENTURA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council and Alternates

FROM: Hugh R. Riley, Executive Director / 

SUBJECT: Financial Report

DATE: January 9, 2020

Recommendation:

Receive and file Financial Report for Period October 31, 2019 to December 31, 2019

Discussion:

This report transmits the Ventura Council of Governments (VCOG) Financial reports for the period ending December 31, 2019.

Investments:

The objectives of VCOG's adopted Investment Policy are safety, liquidity, and yield, with the foremost objective being safety. Prudence, ethics, and delegation of authority are the Policy's applied standards of care.

Below is a summary of VCOG's investments in compliance with the VCOG Investment Policy:

Institution	Investment Type	Maturity Date	Interest-FY to Date-7/1/19	Rate	Balance
Bank of America	Business Interest Maximizer 2635	N/A	\$ 4.56	0.03%*	\$47,077.67
Bank of America	91000164558339	July 7, 2020	\$150.52**	1.79%	\$20,150.52

* Variable

** Earned but not paid

ATTACHMENTS: Bank Statements–November and December 2019
Balance Sheet – As of December 31, 2019
Profit and Loss – July 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019
Budget vs. Actual – July 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019

Ventura Council of Governments

BALANCE SHEET

As of December 31, 2019

	TOTAL
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
BofA - 5797	-905.00
BofA - 9045	75,429.93
BofA CD - 8339	20,060.86
BofA MM - 1346	0.39
BofA MM - 2635	47,075.30
Wells Fargo	0.00
Wells Fargo - 3905	0.00
Wells Fargo - 4715	0.00
Total Bank Accounts	\$141,661.48
Accounts Receivable	
Accounts Receivable (A/R)	155.00
Total Accounts Receivable	\$155.00
Other Current Assets	
Undeposited Funds	0.00
Total Other Current Assets	\$0.00
Total Current Assets	\$141,816.48
Other Assets	
Fraud	0.00
Total Other Assets	\$0.00
TOTAL ASSETS	\$141,816.48
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
Accounts Payable (A/P)	148.80
Total Accounts Payable	\$148.80
Other Current Liabilities	
Payroll Liabilities	-1.04
Total Other Current Liabilities	\$ -1.04
Total Current Liabilities	\$147.76
Total Liabilities	\$147.76
Equity	
Opening Balance Equity	111,292.08
Unrestricted Net Assets	-8,020.26
Net Income	38,396.90
Total Equity	\$141,668.72
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$141,816.48

Ventura Council of Governments

PROFIT AND LOSS

July - December, 2019

	TOTAL
Income	
Annual Dinner Tickets	255.00
Dues Assessments	64,992.00
Other Types of Income	
Bank Interest	63.83
Total Other Types of Income	63.83
Total Income	\$65,310.83
GROSS PROFIT	\$65,310.83
Expenses	
Contract Services	
Accounting Fees	220.00
Executive Administration	22,875.00
Total Contract Services	23,095.00
Operations	
Printing and Copying	384.49
Website	755.00
Total Operations	1,139.49
Other Types of Expenses	
Insurance - Liability, D and O	1,761.30
Total Other Types of Expenses	1,761.30
Travel and Meetings	
Conference and Meetings	918.14
Total Travel and Meetings	918.14
Total Expenses	\$26,913.93
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$38,396.90
NET INCOME	\$38,396.90

Ventura Council of Governments

BUDGET VS. ACTUALS: VENTURA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS - FY20 P&L

July 2019 - June 2020

	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	REMAINING	% REMAINING
Income				
Annual Dinner Sponsorship		3,000.00	3,000.00	100.00 %
Annual Dinner Tickets	255.00	500.00	245.00	49.00 %
Dues Assessments	64,992.00	64,992.00	0.00	0.00 %
Other Types of Income				
Bank Interest	63.83	508.00	444.17	87.44 %
Total Other Types of Income	63.83	508.00	444.17	87.44 %
Total Income	\$65,310.83	\$69,000.00	\$3,689.17	5.35 %
GROSS PROFIT	\$65,310.83	\$69,000.00	\$3,689.17	5.35 %
Expenses				
Contract Services				
Accounting Fees	220.00	1,500.00	1,280.00	85.33 %
Audit		5,150.00	5,150.00	100.00 %
Executive Administration	22,875.00	45,000.00	22,125.00	49.17 %
Legal Fees		350.00	350.00	100.00 %
Total Contract Services	23,095.00	52,000.00	28,905.00	55.59 %
Operations				
Printing and Copying	384.49	500.00	115.51	23.10 %
Supplies		200.00	200.00	100.00 %
Website	755.00	1,700.00	945.00	55.59 %
Total Operations	1,139.49	2,400.00	1,260.51	52.52 %
Other Types of Expenses				
Insurance - Liability, D and O	1,761.30	1,700.00	-61.30	-3.61 %
Total Other Types of Expenses	1,761.30	1,700.00	-61.30	-3.61 %
Travel and Meetings				
Annual Dinner		7,500.00	7,500.00	100.00 %
Conference and Meetings	918.14	4,400.00	3,481.86	79.13 %
Travel		1,000.00	1,000.00	100.00 %
Total Travel and Meetings	918.14	12,900.00	11,981.86	92.88 %
Total Expenses	\$26,913.93	\$69,000.00	\$42,086.07	60.99 %
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$38,396.90	\$0.00	\$ -38,396.90	0.00%
NET INCOME	\$38,396.90	\$0.00	\$ -38,396.90	0.00%

BANK OF AMERICA

P.O. Box 15284
Wilmington, DE 19850


VENTURA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
33 E HIGH ST
SUITE 200
MOORPARK, CA 93021-1118

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Tampa, FL 33622-5118

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for December 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019

VENTURA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Account number: 3251 1981 9045

Account summary

Beginning balance on December 1, 2019	\$77,168.99
Deposits and other credits	150.00
Withdrawals and other debits	-15.00
Checks	-2,867.06
Service fees	-0.00
Ending balance on December 31, 2019	\$74,436.93

of deposits/credits: 1

of withdrawals/debits: 3

of Items-previous cycle¹: 2

of days in cycle: 31

Average ledger balance: \$74,757.67

¹Includes checks paid, deposited items & other debits

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SSM-01-19-2128D1 | ARG377KX

Deposits and other credits

Date	Description	Amount
12/03/19	Deposit	150.00
Total deposits and other credits		\$150.00

Withdrawals and other debits

Date	Description	Amount
Card account # XXXX XXXX XXXX 3951		
12/09/19	CHECKCARD 1205 ABM PARKING LA DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES CA 24789309340779700089071 CKCD 7523 XXXXXXXXXXXXX3951 XXXX XXXX XXXX 3951	-15.00
Subtotal for card account # XXXX XXXX XXXX 3951		-\$15.00
Total withdrawals and other debits		-\$15.00

Checks

Date	Check #	Amount	Date	Check #	Amount
12/04/19	370	-2,750.00	12/17/19	371	-117.06
Total checks			-\$2,867.06		
Total # of checks			2		



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¹You may elect to receive alerts via text or email. Bank of America does not charge for this service but your mobile carrier's message and data rates may apply. Delivery of alerts may be affected or delayed by your mobile carrier's coverage. You must be enrolled in Online Banking. ARJ5TCBJ | SSM-02-19-0703.B

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- ☒ \$15,000+ average monthly balance in primary checking account
- ☒ \$35,000+ combined average monthly balance in linked business accounts
- ☐ active use of Bank of America Merchant Services
- ☐ active use of Payroll Services
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Daily ledger balances

Date	Balance (\$)	Date	Balance(\$)	Date	Balance (\$)
12/01	77,168.99	12/04	74,568.99	12/17	74,436.93
12/03	77,318.99	12/09	74,553.99		



P.O. Box 15284
Wilmington, DE 19850

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P.O. Box 25118
Tampa, FL 33622-5118

Your Business Advantage Savings

for December 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019

VENTURA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Account number: 3251 2795 2635

Account summary

Beginning balance on December 1, 2019	\$47,076.87
Deposits and other credits	0.80
Withdrawals and other debits	-0.00
Service fees	-0.00
Ending balance on December 31, 2019	\$47,077.67

of deposits/credits: 1

of withdrawals/debits: 0

of days in cycle: 31

Average ledger balance: \$47,076.89

Average collected balance: \$47,076.89

Annual Percentage Yield Earned this statement period: 0.02%.
Interest Paid Year To Date: \$4.56.

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Inclusion on the Advisory Panel subject to qualifications.

SSM-01-19-2128D1 | ARG377KX

Deposits and other credits

Date	Description	Amount
12/31/19	Interest Earned	0.80
Total deposits and other credits		\$0.80

Daily ledger balances

Date	Balance (\$)	Date	Balance(\$)
12/01	47,076.87	12/31	47,077.67



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AR5TCBJ | SSM-02-19-0703.B

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MOORPARK, CA 93021-1118

Business Advantage

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P.O. Box 25118
Tampa, FL 33622-5118

Prepared: _____ Date _____

Approved: _____ Date _____

Your Business Advantage Checking

for November 1, 2019 to November 30, 2019

Account number: 3251 1981 9045

VENTURA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Account summary

Beginning balance on November 1, 2019	\$81,527.41
Deposits and other credits	50.00
Withdrawals and other debits	-80.00
Checks	-4,328.42
Service fees	-0.00
Ending balance on November 30, 2019	\$77,168.99

of deposits/credits: 1

of withdrawals/debits: 2

of items-previous cycle¹: 4

of days in cycle: 30

Average ledger balance: \$78,218.28

¹Includes checks paid, deposited items & other debits



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ARFKP87 | SSM-02-19-07048

Deposits and other credits

Date	Description	Amount
11/19/19	Deposit	50.00
Total deposits and other credits		\$50.00

Withdrawals and other debits

Date	Description	Amount
Card account # XXXX XXXX XXXX 3951		
11/27/19	CHECKCARD 1126 WPY*EDCVC SBDC 855-469-3729 CA 24692169330100662688105 CKCD 7399 XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX3951 XXXX XXXX XXXX 3951	-80.00
Subtotal for card account # XXXX XXXX XXXX 3951		-\$80.00
Total withdrawals and other debits		-\$80.00

Checks

Date	Check #	Amount
11/08/19	369	-4,328.42
Total checks		-\$4,328.42
Total # of checks		1

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Service fees

The Monthly Fee on your Business Advantage Checking account was waived for the statement period ending 10/31/19. A check mark below indicates the requirement(s) you have met to qualify for the Monthly Fee waiver on the account.

- ☐ \$2,500+ in new net purchases on a linked Business credit card
- ☒ \$15,000+ average monthly balance in primary checking account
- ☒ \$35,000+ combined average monthly balance in linked business accounts
- ☐ active use of Bank of America Merchant Services
- ☐ active use of Payroll Services
- ☐ enrolled in Business Advantage Relationship Rewards

For information on how to open a new product, link an existing service to your account, or about Business Advantage Relationship Rewards please call 1.888.BUSINESS or visit bankofamerica.com/smallbusiness.

Daily ledger balances

Date	Balance (\$)	Date	Balance(\$)	Date	Balance (\$)
11/01	81,527.41	11/19	77,248.99	11/27	77,168.99
11/08	77,198.99				



P.O. Box 15284
Wilmington, DE 19850

VENTURA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
33 E HIGH ST
SUITE 200
MOORPARK, CA 93021-1118

Business Advantage

Customer service information

1.888.BUSINESS (1.888.287.4637)

bankofamerica.com

Bank of America, N.A.
P.O. Box 25118
Tampa, FL 33622-5118

Prepared: _____ Date _____

Approved: _____ Date _____

Your Business Advantage Savings

for November 1, 2019 to November 30, 2019

Account number: 3251 2795 2635

VENTURA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Account summary

Beginning balance on November 1, 2019	\$47,076.10
Deposits and other credits	0.77
Withdrawals and other debits	-0.00
Service fees	-0.00
Ending balance on November 30, 2019	\$47,076.87

of deposits/credits: 1

of withdrawals/debits: 0

of days in cycle: 30

Average ledger balance: \$47,076.12

Average collected balance: \$47,076.12

Annual Percentage Yield Earned this statement period: 0.02%.

Interest Paid Year To Date: \$3.76.



Bank of America **Business Advantage**

Guaranteed next-day or 3-day delivery of direct bank-to-bank transfers

Pay individuals, vendors and suppliers who bank at other financial institutions — right from Online Banking. Just log in and click the **Transfers | Send** tab, then select **Send Money to Someone or a Business**.

Fees apply to wires and certain transfers. See the Online Banking Service Agreement at bankofamerica.com/serviceagreement for details. Data connection required for online and mobile transfers. Wireless carrier fees may apply.

ARFKP67J | SSM-02-19-0704.B



Your savings account

VENTURA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS | Account # 3251 2795 2635 | November 1, 2019 to November 30, 2019

Deposits and other credits

Date	Description	Amount
11/29/19	Interest Earned	0.77
Total deposits and other credits		\$0.77

Daily ledger balances

Date	Balance (\$)	Date	Balance (\$)
11/01	47,076.10	11/29	47,076.87

Bank of America **Business Advantage**

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We're committed to finding the smartest path to long-term growth for your business.

Our Small Business Specialists will work with you to help strengthen your business and plan for the future.

Please visit bankofamerica.com/SmallBusiness to learn more.

AR7RNN9G|SSM-01-19-281LB



Fixed Term CD - 8339

Summary

Current balance: \$20,150.52
Date opened: 07/08/2019
Term: 12 months
NOTE: a penalty for early withdrawal may apply

Services

View current CD rates



Account details as of 12/27/2019

Nickname: Fixed Term CD - 8339 Edit
Account number: Show Account number
Current balance: \$20,150.52
Date opened: 07/08/2019
Term: 12 months
Next maturity date: 07/08/2020

Deposit

Beginning balance this term: \$0.00
Last renewal date: Not available

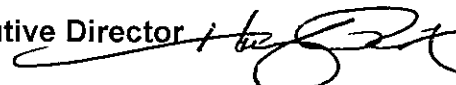
Interest

Interest rate: 1.79%
Annual percentage yield: 1.80%
Interest earned not paid: \$18.77
Interest paid last year: \$0.00
Interest withheld for taxes this year: \$0.00
Interest withheld for taxes last year: \$0.00



**VENTURA COUNCIL
OF GOVERNMENTS**

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members and Alternates
FROM: Hugh Riley, Executive Director 
SUBJECT: Register of Warrants and Debt Card Transactions
DATE: January 9, 2020

Recommendation: -

Approve the Register of Warrants for expenditures and Debit Card Transactions incurred from November 6, 2019 to December 31, 2019

Discussion:

This report presents expenditures including bank debit card transactions incurred by the Ventura Council of Governments for the period November 6, 2019 to December 31, 2019.

It is prepared in addition to the Financial Report so that the Council may be fully informed as to the expenditure of funds for services and other costs to the organization.

ATTACHMENTS: Warrant and Debit Card Registers

Register of Warrants
Ventura Council of Governments
January 9, 2020
Transactions from November 6, 2019 to December 31, 2019

<u>Check #</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Paid To</u>	<u>Inv. Date</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>
370	12/04/19	Hugh Riley Pro. Mangmt. LLC	12/01/19	Executive Administration- Aug	\$ 2,750.00
371	12/11/19	PostNet CA 110	12/01/19	Printing and Copying	\$ 117.06

Register of Debit Card Transactions Ventura Council of Governments

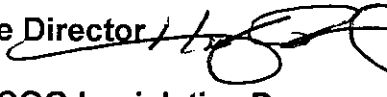
January 9, 2020

Transactions from November 6, 2019 to December 31, 2019

<u>Card #</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Paid To</u>	<u>Inv. Date</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>
3951	11/26/19	EDC-VC SBDC	11/26/19	EDC Annual Meeting Registration	\$ 80.00
3951	12/05/19	LA Downtown Hotel ABM	12/05/19	Parking-SCAG Summit	\$ 15.00



MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members and Alternates
FROM: Hugh R. Riley, Executive Director 
SUBJECT: Review DRAFT - 2020 VCOG Legislative Program
DATE: January 9, 2020

Recommendation:

Review, DRAFT - VCOG Legislative Program for 2020 and Refer to VCOG Administrative/Legislative Committee for Recommendation.

Discussion:

This report transmits the DRAFT Ventura Council of Governments (VCOG) Legislative Program for 2020. The attached document is unchanged from 2019. The Administrative/Legislative Committee will review the Program at their meeting on January 23, 2020 and recommend possible changes to the Board on March 14, 2019.

ATTACHMENT: DRAFT - VCOG 2020 Legislative Program

ATTACHMENT

DRAFT

VENTURA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS 2020 LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Ventura Council of Governments (VCOG) Legislative Program is to protect and promote the regional interests of the governmental entities within Ventura County on priority issues and matters that may impact those entities. In this vein, VCOG's legislative efforts are intended to support the fiscal stability of local government, and to provide for and preserve local control of governance and service delivery. The annual adoption of a Legislative Platform will guide the VCOG Board (Board) and staff in evaluating and taking appropriate action upon legislative proposals introduced at the state and federal levels. The goals of VCOG's Legislative Program are to:

- Advocate the region's legislative interests at the state and federal levels;
- Inform legislators and the VCOG Board regarding key issues and legislation that could have potential impacts on the region;
- Participate with other Councils of Government, the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), the League of California Cities, the California State Association of Counties (CSAC), National League of Cities (NLC), Ventura County Transportation Commission (VCTC), and other regional agencies on legislative issues of importance to the region;
- Seek support and assistance for regional projects, services and programs that enhance public services.

PROCESS

The VCOG Legislative Committee, comprised of staff from the ten cities, County, and the League of California Cities representative, shall review the status of legislative proposals and make recommendations to the VCOG Board consistent with the annually adopted Legislative Platform. In addition to the direction provided in the Platform, the Committee will consider positions established by the League of California Cities, California State Association of Counties, National League of Cities, and Southern California Association of Governments. VCOG will not address matters that are not pertinent to the region's local government services, such as partisan, socially divisive, or international issues.

When timely action is needed before the VCOG Board is able to convene to authorize a position, staff is authorized to prepare position letters for the Chair's signature, provided such position is consistent with the VCOG Legislative Platform or positions established by the League of California Cities, California State Association of Counties, National League of Cities or the Southern California Association of Governments. Should any of these positions be in conflict, no action will be taken without specific Board direction.

Should the Chair not be available to sign a position letter, the Vice Chair shall be authorized to sign the letter in lieu of the Chair. If neither the Chair nor Vice Chair is available, the Executive Director shall be authorized to sign in lieu.

All members of VCOG shall receive copies of position letters prepared on behalf of VCOG.

PRIORITIES

The primary priority areas for VCOG's 2020 Legislative Program include:

- Land Use and Environment
- Housing and Blight
- Economic Development
- Public Infrastructure
- Solid Waste Management
- Public Safety
- Resources Management
- Local Governance Sustainability

LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

A. LAND USE AND ENVIRONMENT

- Support legislation to extend CEQA streamlining provisions for land use projects that are consistent with the SCAG Sustainable Communities Strategy.
- Support use of cap-and-trade revenues and other funding sources for local planning activities to implement the regional Sustainable Communities Strategy.
- Seek to ensure that any future funding for SB 375 implementation includes funding for local initiatives.
- Support legislation that streamlines the environmental review process for mixed-use infill development without compromising environmental quality standards.
- Support legislation and/or funding for remediation of superfund sites.
- Encourage the state of California to fund and sponsor further research into the negative impacts of anticoagulant rodenticides to determine whether the use of these products should be further restricted or banned statewide.

B. HOUSING AND BLIGHT

- Support amending state policies to give jurisdictions flexibility to provide affordable housing that is appropriate for their communities, and remove disincentives and regulatory obstacles.
- Support funding opportunities for affordable housing projects and services.
- Support legislation that addresses occupancy levels and strengthens cities' abilities to reduce overcrowding in residential housing.

- Support permitting cities to exercise review and land use regulation of group home facilities and residential care facilities in residential neighborhoods including the application of zoning, building, and safety standards.
- Support legislation that defines an equitable process to determine a fair share of new housing needed to respond to growth trends in the region.
- Support funding and implementation of programs to prevent and address homelessness.

C. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Support the creation where appropriate of economic development programs.
- Support the retention of Naval Base Ventura County.
- Support legislation and programs to encourage job attraction and retention, and to promote a healthy business climate for Ventura County.
- Support legislation related to internet sales to insure fair share disbursement of sales tax as opposed to the current structure.
- Support the enactment and expansion of tax increment financing authority for economic development, infrastructure, and community revitalization.

D. PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE

- Support legislation to provide stable, adequate, and long-term funding for public infrastructure needs including but not limited to transportation alternatives, streets and roads maintenance, water and wastewater systems.
- Support legislative efforts of the Ventura County Transportation Commission, SCAG, Caltrans, and other appropriate parties to protect transportation funds from being diverted to other purposes.
- Support efforts of the League of California Cities, California State Association of Counties, and Association of California Water Agencies to establish an optional funding system for local agencies to finance storm water management, flood control, sewer and water supply projects, set rates to encourage conservation, and reduce water and sewer bills for low income customers.

E. SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

- Support legislation pertaining to VCOG's responsibility for approval of the regional solid waste plan.

- Oppose legislation that would restrict or limit local government's ability to franchise refuse and recycling collection services, to direct municipal or county solid waste flow (flow control), to contractually require haulers to guarantee achievement of AB 939 goals, or to local government's ability to protect landfill capacity.

F. PUBLIC SAFETY

- Support legislative efforts that strengthen local law enforcement's ability to prevent and reduce crime.
- Support funding opportunities for local law enforcement activities and emergency preparedness.
- Support increased local authority and resources to address impacts of early prisoner release policies and criminal recidivism.
- Support legislation that provides funding and resources to local governments to prevent wildfires and mudslides.

G. RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

- Support and encourage regulations and procedures that promote common sense implementation of State and Federal water quality control laws, and ensure State and Federal agencies work in a coordinated fashion to enable compliance with these laws.
- Support legislation to increase the availability and viability of energy efficiency and renewable energy options for public agencies, residential, and commercial customers.
- Support programs to ensure provision of a safe and reliable water supply.
- Oppose legislation that imposes new regulatory burdens on municipal utility systems without providing funding and/or consideration of the feasibility of monitoring and mitigating such requirements.

H. LOCAL GOVERNANCE SUSTAINABILITY


- Support legislation that protects local control and ensures equitable, dependable and predictable funding for vital community services.



**VENTURA COUNCIL
OF GOVERNMENTS**

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members and Alternates

FROM: Hugh R. Riley, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: Review DRAFT – VCOG 2020 Program of Priorities

DATE: January 9, 2020

Recommendation:

Review, Draft 2020 VCOG Program of Priorities and Refer to VCOG Administrative/Legislative Committee for Recommendation.

Discussion:

This report transmits the Draft - VCOG 2020 Program of Priorities. The attached document is unchanged from 2019. The Administrative/Legislative Committee will review the Program at their meeting on January 23, 2020 and recommend possible changes to the Board on March 14, 2020.

ATTACHMENT: DRAFT - VCOG 2020 Program of Priorities

ATTACHMENT

DRAFT - VCOG 2020 PROGRAM OF PRIORITIES

2016-2040 Sustainable Communities Strategy

Collaboration with Regional Partners

Consolidation of Municipal Services to Achieve Economies of Scale and Administrative Efficiencies (e.g., public safety dispatch)

Countywide High Speed Internet Access (consider Point to Point Protocol)

Economic Development

- Business retention/attraction issues
- Local preference in contracting and purchasing
- Sales tax measures

Fiscalization of Land Use

Homelessness

Housing Issues

- Addressing Substandard Housing
- Second Dwelling Units

Infrastructure Funding Issues

Joint Powers Authority for Provision of Countywide Fire Services (including review of methodology for establishing rates)

Legislative Priorities of:

- Land Use and Environment
- Housing and Blight
- Economic Development
- Public Infrastructure
- Solid Waste Management
- Public Safety
- Resources Management/Water Supply Reliability
- Local Governance Sustainability

Municipal Utilities Districts for Water and Wastewater

Power Plant Siting Issues

Solid Waste Management

- Landfill Capacity and Emerging Waste-to-Energy Technology

Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Implementation

Technology Trends in Transportation

- Emerging Trends i.e. scooters, bicycles


Transient Rentals Impacts

- Internet-based market



MEMORANDUM

TO: Council and Alternates

FROM: Hugh Riley, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: Confirm Appointments to SCAG Policy Committees

DATE: January 9, 2020

Recommendation:

Confirm Staff Recommendations for appointments to SCAG Policy Committees.

Discussion:

As a member of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), VCOG makes appointments to the three, SCAG Policy Committees: Energy and Environment; Transportation; and; Community, Economic and Human Development. These appointments are scheduled to be made for two-year terms beginning in January 2020. A description of the responsibilities of each of the policy committees is attached.

On October 21, 2019, A notice was sent to all mayors and councilmembers of VCOG Member Cities advising them of the vacancy opportunity. A copy of the notice is attached.

VCOG received requests for appointments from the following:

Will Berg, City of Port Hueneme - Reappointment to Transportation Committee
Elaine Litster, City of Simi Valley - Energy and Environment Committee
Richard Rollins, City of Port Hueneme - Energy and Environment Committee

There were no requests for appointment to the Community, Economic and Human Development Policy Committee.

Staff is recommending that the Council confirm the appointments for the above members to serve two-year terms on the SCAG Policy Committees listed.

Attachments:

1. SCAG Policy Committee Descriptions
2. Notice of Committee vacancies sent to VCOG Members

Southern California Association of Governments - Policy Committees

Energy and Environment Committee (EEC)

The Energy & Environment Committee considers environmental and energy issues of regional significance, including but not limited to air quality, water quality, solid and hazardous waste, habitat preservation, environmental justice, and environmental impact analysis.

Transportation Committee (TC)

The role of the Transportation Committee is to study problems, programs and other matters which pertain to the regional issues of mobility, air quality, transportation control measures and communications, and make recommendations on such matters to the Regional Council. Major programs that are under the purview of Transportation Committee are Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP), Aviation, Highway, Transportation Finance and Transportation Conformity.

Community, Economic and Human Development (CEHD) Committee

The role of the CEHD Committee is to study problems, programs and other matters which pertain to the regional issues of community, economic and human development and growth. This committee reviews projects, plans and programs of regional significance for consistency and conformity with applicable regional plans. The CEHD Committee has oversight of the Growth Visioning and Growth Forecasting processes, as well as the Regional Housing Needs Assessment, the Intergovernmental Review effort and the monitoring and analysis of the Regional Economy.

SENT TO Mayors and City Council Members of Member Cities

Dear Mayor and City Council Members:

In January 2020 VCOG will be making appointments to the three, SCAG Policy Committees:

- Energy and Environment Committee (EEC)
- Transportation Committee (TC)
- Community, Economic and Human Development Committee (CEHD)

A description of the roles and responsibilities of each committee is attached.

SCAG Policy Committees meet monthly at 10:00 AM at the SCAG Offices, Wilshire Grand Center, 900 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, California. The policy committee meeting schedule for 2020 including room location is attached.

If you would like to be considered for one of these appointments please provide a letter (or e-mail) indicating the committee of interest and expressing your ability and willingness to attend the committee meetings.


Please send your letter of Interest no later than Friday, November 15, 2019 to:

Hugh Riley, Executive Director
Ventura Council of Governments
P.O. Box 157
Moorpark, CA, 93020
ridgeriley@msn.com



MEMORANDUM

TO: Council and Alternates

FROM: Hugh Riley, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: Adoption of Revised 2020 VCOG Schedule of Meetings and Merging the Legislative Committee and Administrative Committees p. -

DATE: January 9, 2020

Recommendation:

Adopt Revised VCOG 2020 Meeting Schedule for the Council and approve the merger of the Administrative and Legislative Committees.

Discussion:

On November 14, 2019, the Council adopted a VCOG Meeting Schedule for 2020. At their November 21, 2019 Meeting the VCOG Administrative Committee discussed changes to the schedule including changing the start time for the Administrative Committee Meetings from 4:00 PM to 2:00 PM and combining the Legislative Committee with the Administrative Committee.

Due to the number of Legislative Committee Meetings that were cancelled or lacked a quorum in 2019, Staff recommended that the Legislative and Administrative Committees be combined with the scheduled meeting to begin at 2:00 PM with the administrative matters followed by any legislative matters. Members and staff wishing to remain for the legislative matters which would be placed on the agenda as necessary during the Legislative Session each year.

This change would save members and staff time and provide for an earlier conclusion to the committee business allowing more advantageous travel home. The Committee concurred and recommended the revised schedule and committee organization for consideration by the full Council January 9, 2020. The dates for the regular VCOG Council Meetings remain unchanged from the previously approved schedule.

Attached: VCOG Revised Meeting Schedule - 2020



**VENTURA COUNCIL
OF GOVERNMENTS**

**Schedule of VCOG Meetings for 2020
Camarillo City Council Chambers
601 Carmen Dr.
Camarillo, CA 93010
REVISED**

Council Meetings- Council Chambers

Thursdays from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

January 9, 2020

March 12, 2020

May 14, 2020

June 18, 2020 (*Annual Dinner*)

July 9, 2020

September 10, 2020

November 12, 2020

Administrative/Legislative Committee* – Admin or Central
Conference Room

Thursdays from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

January 23, 2020

March 26, 2020

May 28, 2020

June 25, 2020

July 23, 2020

October 22, 2020

November 19, 2020


*Committees Combined



**VENTURA COUNCIL
OF GOVERNMENTS**

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members and Alternates

FROM: Hugh Riley, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: Appointment of 2020 VCOG Administrative Committee

DATE: January 9, 2020

Recommendation:

Upon recommendation of the Chair, approve the appointment of two, At-Large Members to the VCOG Administrative Committee for 2020

Discussion:

The Bylaws of the Ventura Council of Governments establish an Administrative Committee as a Standing Committee of the governing body. The primary responsibilities of the Administrative Committee are to establish the agendas for the VCOG Council Meetings, handle routine legislative and administrative matters, and oversee the activities of the Executive Director.

The bylaws state that the Administrative Committee shall be composed of the Chair, the Chair-elect, and the Immediate Past Chair of the Governing Body and two (2) At-Large Members. The Administrative Committee would also include the Chair of any other Standing Committee established by the Governing Body but as VCOG presently has no other Standing Committees, this does not apply. The bylaws further provide that the Chair may recommend additional members for appointment to the Administrative Committee with the approval of the Council.

Since Bob Huber, City of Simi Valley, who would have served as VCOG's Immediate Past Chair, has left the Board to join the Ventura County Board of Supervisors, a third member (Jenny Crosswhite of Santa Paula) was appointed to fill the Immediate Past Chair Vacancy on the committee for 2019.

Members of the 2019 Administrative Committee were:

Al Adam – City of Thousand Oaks –Chair
Janice Parvin – City of Moorpark – Chair-Elect
Jenny Crosswhite – City of Santa Paula - At-Large Member
Kevin Kildee – City of Camarillo At-Large Member
Keith Mashburn, City of Simi Valley - At-Large Member

The Administrative Committee has generally met in Camarillo within a few weeks following the regular VCOG Council meeting, usually in the afternoon on a Thursday.

Upon recommendation of the Chair, the VCOG Council is requested to approve the appointment of two, At-Large Members to serve on the VCOG Administrative Committee for 2020. The Proposed Meeting Schedule for the Committee as adopted in Item 7G. previously on this Agenda is as follows:

Administrative Committee – Admin or Central Conference Room
Thursdays from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.


January 23, 2020
March 26, 2020
May 28, 2020
June 25, 2020
July 23, 2020
October 22, 2020
November 19, 2020



**VENTURA COUNCIL
OF GOVERNMENTS**

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members and Alternates

FROM: Hugh Riley, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: Ventura County Hemp Production Regulations

DATE: January 9, 2020

Recommendation:

Receive Report from Ventura County Agricultural Commissioner Ed Williams regarding the regulation of hemp growing and harvesting

Discussion:

Following the passage of the 2018 Farm Bill, which separated hemp from marijuana and defined hemp as an agricultural commodity, farmers began planting industrial hemp for the first time. The crop can legally be grown by farmers who apply for a license, pay a fee and ensure their crops have less than 0.3% TC, the psychoactive chemical in marijuana.

In 2019, the county allowed 47 registrants to grow 3,600 acres of hemp on 110 sites. Many of the sites are immediately adjacent to residential areas in cities and unincorporated parts of Ventura County. The proximity of the plantings and strong winds in the areas brought the strong, skunk-like smell into the homes promulgating hundreds of complaints to local city councils and the county Board of Supervisors asking them to place restrictions on the crop due to the health and quality of life concerns.

A number of Ventura County Cities have now passed temporary moratoriums on the cultivation, manufacturing, testing, storing, drying and processing of industrial hemp within their corporate limits. In addition to the health and quality of life issues, there are concerns about the crime the hemp has brought to the county. Thefts from hemp fields are steadily increasing due to the high value of the crop. Apparently, criminals are traveling long distances to gain access to the crops.

The Ventura County Board of Supervisors, struggling to balance the rights and needs of growers in a largely agricultural county with the impacts that hemp creates on the quality of life of residents, is considering numerous options under its authority to regulate industrial hemp cultivation. The state law precludes a moratorium or other restrictions on the issuance of registrations.

As of this writing, Board of Supervisors has directed William's, county counsel, and the CEO's office to develop an Urgency Ordinance prohibiting the outdoor planting of industrial hemp within a **half mile** of sensitive receptors such as schools, residential areas and parks in both city limits and existing communities in unincorporated areas. In addition they have talked us with developing an ongoing ordinance to require seasonal planting windows in other areas of the county and requirements for greenhouse odor mitigation within the half mile buffer zones.

A growers' working group has met in a public meeting with the Board appointed Agricultural Policy Advisory Committee, and plan a third working group with volunteer members of the public on January 9.

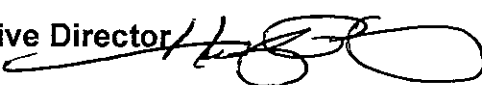
Ed Williams, Ventura County Agricultural Commissioner, finds himself in the spotlight of the issue and will provide his views and assess the options available to the County under the law.



VENTURA COUNCIL
OF GOVERNMENTS

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members and Alternates

FROM: Hugh Riley, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: "Yes in My Backyard"- Another Point of View on Affordable Housing Development Projects

DATE: January 9, 2020

Recommendation:

Receive Report from Max Ghenis, Ventura County Coordinator for YIMBY (Yes in My Backyard.)

Discussion:

A common statement from local leaders opposed to new state housing laws that reduce local government's land use decision making and planning authority is that solutions that work in the Bay Area don't apply here in Ventura County.

Max Ghenis is the Ventura County Coordinator for YIMBY, a San Francisco-based group that advocates for more housing construction oppose NIMBYism- an acronym for "not in my backyard" and a term used to describe opposition to new development.

Mr. Ghenis' first public appearance occurred at the City of Oxnard's City Council Meeting when the Fisherman's Wharf residential project at Channel Islands Harbor was being debated. (See Attached Article from the November 19, Ventura County Star.

Attachment: Ventura County Star Article- *"Activists take on housing issues, raise eyebrows."* November 19, 2019- Erin Rode



Activists take on housing issues, raise eyebrows

Erin Rode Ventura County Star USA TODAY NETWORK

A common refrain from local leaders opposed to new state housing laws is "solutions that work in San Francisco don't apply here."

Max Ghenis agrees that San Francisco's housing policies won't work here — because he wants Ventura County to do better. Ghenis moved to Oxnard in July from San Francisco, where he was involved with S.F. "Yes in My Backyard" (YIMBY). YIMBY groups advocate for more housing construction and oppose "NIMBYism," an acronym for "not in my backyard" and a term used to describe opposition to new development.

"Housing is getting less affordable here, and we're in a position where we could avoid some of the same mistakes made in the Bay Area by building more housing near jobs and building more transit so people don't have to drive everywhere," Ghenis said.

Ghenis launched Ventura County YIMBY in early November, joining a growing coalition of YIMBY groups across the state. Connor Finney, a regional organizing director for California YIMBY currently based in Los Angeles, helped Ghenis organize the new group. Finney is also originally from the Bay Area.

"We're currently trying to expand and trying to start local YIMBY groups across the state," Finney said. "Ultimately, the people who know their communities best are the people living there, so I offer support for locals to have the tools they need to organize their communities."

YIMBY groups have occasionally received criticism for supporting all new housing construction, including luxury and market-rate complexes without affordable units. Some argue that this market-based approach can further gentrification and increase housing costs.

Ghenis says "market-rate projects also reduce rents throughout the entire spectrum of incomes" by increasing the housing supply.

This debate was on display at YIMBY's first public meeting appearance, the Oxnard City Council's recent consideration of the Fisherman's Wharf residential project at Channel Islands Harbor. Ghenis and Finney made comments in support of the project while live-tweeting the meeting.

Who are NIMBYs? 'Wealthy, white, older homeowners'

The majority of Californians say they support less local control over housing decisions and want denser development. But at the local level, residents often oppose new development close to

See HOUSING, Page 2A



The Oxnard City Council Chambers was standing room only on Nov. 7 when local officials considered the approval of a housing development on Fisherman's Wharf. WENDY LEUNG/THE STAR

Continued from Page 1A

their homes.

"The problem is the loudest voices at these meetings are not representative of the places where housing decisions are being made," said Ghenis, who added that part of his goal is spreading information about housing. "So many people just don't know how housing works."

Finney emphasizes that there's a distinction between "marginalized communities who are genuinely concerned about being displaced" — although he calls many of those concerns "misplaced" — and the people he defines as "NIMBYs."

While opposition to some projects, including the Fisherman's Wharf proposal, include concerns that projects haven't allocated any affordable units, Finney argues that this concern isn't always genuine.

"One thing you see over and over again is people who want more affordability requirements, which sounds like concerns over equitability," Finney said. "But when we ask (leaders) who we need to out-organize, it's often wealthy, white, older homeowners. Unfortunately, equitability concerns are often just used as a shield."

This argument over affordable housing came up at the Fisherman's Wharf meeting. One commenter asked how supporting the project, which has no allocated affordable units, fits in with YIMBY's stated goal that "an equitable California begins with abundant and secure affordable housing."

Miguel Fernandez, a lifelong Oxnard resident and architect who is a member of the Oxnard Community Planning Group and calls himself an "advocate for more housing," echoed these concerns.

"Where my philosophy differs with YIMBY is that they don't care if it's highscale or low-scale housing, as long as you build more units. ... What works is local jurisdictions setting aside a certain number of units for lower or moderate income, and the YIMBYs don't agree with that apparently," Fernandez said.

'People who drive to grocery stores are not green'

Fernandez was one of many commenters at the council meeting whose photo was posted on Twitter by Ghenis or Finney, often accompanied by a sarcastic comment. Several tweets pointed out the race of speakers and attendees.

"It is a bit disingenuous to blame the race of the people there who are trying to speak ..." Fernandez said.

Carmen Ramírez, mayor pro tem of Oxnard, also noticed the emphasis YIMBY organizers placed on race.

"It is important to have dialogue with people you don't agree with, and it wasn't good to accuse people of particular biases about their ethnicity," she said.

Finney and Ghenis took a strong stance in support of the Fisherman's Wharf project at the Oxnard City Council meeting, with Ghenis emphasizing statistics. Finney took a more emotional stance.

"People who drive to grocery stores are not green. People fearmongering about this project increasing carbon emissions while they drive from their single-family homes are frankly being hypocrites," he said during public comments.

Some found this approach questionable.

"You don't want to go around calling people hypocrites. Unless you know them, can you really say that about somebody?" Ramirez said. "I just don't really think that advances our civil discourse."

Fernandez said: "What I came to realize (at the meeting) is that they tend to take a very aggressive approach. They try to be overpowering and freeze out other points of view. They were sarcastic and snarky ... and they were trolling everybody (on Twitter) during the course of the meeting."

What's next for VC YIMBY?

Ghenis says he personally wasn't impacted by the high cost of housing in Ventura County — prices were lower than he was accustomed to in the Bay Area. After moving to Oxnard, he began researching housing statistics and became concerned about the region.

VC YIMBY has a growing group of about 10 members. Ghenis says he's mostly received positive responses from residents who learn about the group.

"There are people who kind of say, 'Good luck with that,' not in a dismissive way but because they don't think it's realistic," he said. "I think the majority of people we talk to realize that housing is a huge problem; they just don't know what the solution is."

Ramírez and Fernandez both believe YIMBY could ultimately play a positive role in the county's housing problem.

"I think their heart is definitely in the right place with housing, and I definitely support that," Ramírez said. "YIMBY is going to be very helpful and hopefully will be there to help us do the right thing."

VC YIMBY's future plans include supporting rezoning efforts, general plan amendments and promoting prohousing local candidates.