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Meeting Location - Online Zoom: Webinar

1. CALL TO ORDER @ 6:36 PM

2. ROLL CALL - Quorum Established

REGION	PRESENT	NAME (TITLE) SERVICE TERM 2025-2028	PRESENT	NAME (TITLE) SERVICE TERM 2023-2026
I	X	JAMES STEPHENS	X	JASON GARDNER
II	ABSENT	ABIGAIL DESESA (VICE PRESIDENT)	X	STEVEN HOWSE
III	X	DANIEL POLO	X	MICHAEL MINOR (TREASURER)
IV	X	DARCY STINSON	X	BOB LEWIS (PRESIDENT)
V	X	MOHAMMED SABBAH	X	CHRIS DITTES (SECRETARY)

3. INVOCATION- Jason Gardner

4. HEARING SESSION

- A. Approval of Agenda - Motion by Steven Howse. Second by Mike Minor. Vote 9/0/0.
- B. Questions and Comments- Concerns raised regarding illegal truck parking in the center lane of Castaic Rd. Negative impact on existing business.
- C. Fundraising - No updates.

5. PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

- A. Public Safety.
 - 1. Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Dept.- Deputy Noyola reported The Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department reported a total of eight Part One crimes in Castaic for August, consisting of aggravated assaults and thefts.

The department acknowledged the parking issues and mentioned ongoing collaboration with



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parking enforcement to issue citations and potentially tow away vehicles.

Ongoing collaboration between the council, CHP, and Public Works was emphasized to develop effective solutions for the community's safety concerns.

2. California Highway Patrol - Officer Annett reported that four vehicles were impounded on Castaic Road in the past week, indicating increased enforcement efforts.

The CHP is actively monitoring the area and addressing parking violations, particularly concerning truckers who frequently receive tickets but continue to park illegally.

The presence of law enforcement near schools has positively impacted driver behavior, encouraging slower speeds.

Concerns were raised about dangerous driving during lunch hours, particularly around a curve where a fatality occurred.

A suggestion was made to park law enforcement vehicles at a memorable site to further influence driver behavior.

There was a noticeable difference in driving speeds since the increased presence of law enforcement.

The sheriff's department anticipates that the installation of tow away signs will deter illegal parking, particularly of tractor trailers.

There is a need for clarity on whether food trucks will be subject to the same enforcement as other vehicles. The sheriff's department has been actively monitoring food truck compliance and has issued tickets for violations.

The county has paused enforcement of food truck regulations due to concerns about the safety of public health staff and fears of ICE-related issues.

The public health department has ceased inspections of food vendors, leading to an increase in their presence.

Supervisor Barger is advocating for more proactive enforcement, but full board support is lacking.

Community members expressed frustration over the lack of enforcement against illegal street vendors, which negatively impacts local businesses.

The discussion highlighted the need for a policy to address the storage and return of confiscated equipment from illegal vendors.

It was noted that the state legislation has created challenges for local enforcement efforts.

The county faces difficulties in enforcing food vending regulations due to limited resources and the transient nature of illegal vendors.



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There is a call for better communication with state representatives to address the unintended consequences of state laws on local businesses.

The city of Santa Clarita has effective enforcement due to its size, while LA County struggles With understaffed health department enforcement across multiple areas.

Current concerns regarding ICE enforcement have led to a halt in health department.

3. Los Angeles County Fire Dept. Maria Grycan, Chief Sprengle - In August, the LA County Fire Department responded to 178 calls, including 133 medical calls and three fires, one of which spread to brush.

Chief Springle clarified that the fire department does not advocate for residents to stay behind during wildfires and emphasized the importance of preparation and evacuation.

Zone Zero regulations will require the removal of flammable materials within five feet of structures, effective for new constructions starting January 1, 2026.

The Board of Forestry is still defining what constitutes flammable materials, and the regulations will be phased in for existing constructions by 2028.

4. Traffic Safety Committee - Michael Minor / James Stephens - Towaway provisions for no parking zones along Castaic Road were adopted, with signage expected to be posted by October.

Updates on the Castaic Road center divider project indicate that conceptual plans have been revised based on community feedback, and funding requests will follow.

A community member raised concerns about trailers on private land without visible permits, which have been reported to local authorities.

6. SPECIAL REPORTS

- A. Report from 5th District; Los Angeles County Supervisor's Office of Kathryn Barger - Stephanie English.
 1. L.A. County won a preliminary injunction against Waste Connections, requiring them to negotiate relocation and home hardening for residents. The Judge requested an agreement within 30 days, while Waste Connections appealed the decision.
 2. The Board of Supervisors supported changing the name of the Castaic Sports Complex to honor Ryan M. Klinkenbrumer. A public ceremony will be held, and a scholarship will be established for a Castaic individual each year.
 3. The community is encouraged to report homeless individuals needing assistance to the county's team of deputies and social workers.
The team is effective in providing resources and placements for those willing to accept help.



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4. Updated version of the Rural Outdoor Lighting District (ROLD) Ordinance - Rod Kaufman - Los Angeles Astronomical Society - Rod Coffin presented updates on the rural outdoor lighting district ordinance aimed at reducing light pollution.

The ordinance proposes a five-year transition to more focused and subdued lighting to mitigate light pollution effects.

Light pollution disrupts circadian rhythms, affects wildlife, and increases energy costs.

The ordinance aims to transition lighting that is directed downwards and is less harmful to the environment.

Residents can report lighting violations to the zoning department for enforcement.

The ordinance includes provisions for shielding lights and ensuring compliance with the specified Kelvin rating.

Council members expressed the need for clarification on the specific changes to the lighting regulations before providing support. The council is awaiting further information from Supervisor Barger's office regarding the proposed updates to the ordinance.

The current ordinance allows a maximum of 400 lumens for outdoor lighting, sufficient for visibility on dark trails. There are compliant bulbs available that focus light downward and are cost-effective.

The proposed ordinance requires security lights to be motion-detected and limits their duration when activated, impacting homeowners. Homeowners may need to install motion detectors, which are inexpensive and easy to install.

A permit can be requested for additional all-night lighting without a fee.

B. Chiquita Canyon Landfill -

1. MCAT - Multi-Agency Coordination Task Force (LA County Task Force including Department of Public Health, Local Enforcement Agency DPH, Department of Public Works, Department of Regional Planning), USEPA, CalEPA and five of its entities (CalRecycle, DTSC, LA Regional Water Quality Control Board, CARB, OEHHA) -

The landfill's Community Advisory Committee (CAC) reported on the installation of additional wells and ongoing leachate management, with daily pumping around 200,000 gallons.

There were two instances of leachate spills into storm drainage, but they were contained before reaching hazardous areas.



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Air quality monitoring revealed a benzene exceedance, later determined to be an inaccurate measurement due to calibration issues.

Community members expressed frustration over frequent sensor malfunctions and the correlation between reported air quality spikes and health symptoms.

There were discussions about the need for accurate data reporting and the potential for operator and equipment related errors.

AQMD is exploring preventive maintenance requirements to reduce the frequency of monitoring issues.

A suggestion was made to correlate health complaints from residents with air quality data to identify patterns and validate sensor readings. There is no off gassing occurring, but calibration issues have been discussed with AQMD and SES.

Concerns correlating residents' complaints about gas spikes, suggesting that high complaint levels during spikes indicate exposure. The team is working to exclude erroneous data spikes to focus on actual spikes.

2. South Coast AQMD responded to approximately 228 community complaints. Surveillance confirmed odors on 13 out of 17 days this month, leading to the issuance of 11 nuisance violations.

The next full status hearing is scheduled for October 29th.

3. Chiquita Canyon Landfill - Kate Logan from Waste Connections reported no significant changes in operations but acknowledged ongoing drilling activities.

Community members expressed frustration over odors during morning drilling, suggesting a shift to later drilling times to mitigate impact.

Kate agreed to relay community feedback to the district manager, Steve.

C. Legislative email updates - Congressman George Whitesides introduced bipartisan legislation to ban stock trading by Congress members and their families.

A second bill, the Fire Guard Reauthorization Act, aims to enhance wildfire detection using DOD satellites.

Service academy nominations are open, with applications due by Halloween.

7. NEW BUSINESS - CUP 2014400130 - PROJECT R2014-03003- Castaic Truck Stop-
The truck stop seeks to renew its conditional use permit (CUP) with extended alcohol sales



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hours from 6 a.m. to midnight.

The council discussed the fairness of alcohol sales restrictions compared to surrounding businesses.

A motion was made by Chris Dittes to support the CUP renewal and allow alcohol sales hours to match those of competitors in the area. Darcy Stinson seconded the motion.

Stephen Howse motioned to amend, such that the CUP should allow hours to match surrounding business' that engage in the same sales.

The amendment was agreed to, and the motion passed with an 8/0/0 vote.

- C. CUP RPPL2024005284 Ralphps supermarket (29675 The Old Road, Castaic, CA 91384). Mailian and Associates. - The council discussed the request from Ralphps to extend their existing CUP for the sale of alcohol for off-site consumption.

A motion was made to approve by James Stephens, seconded by Chris Dittes and passed with a 8/0/0 vote.

- D. The Love Ride 34 is scheduled for November 9th, with a focus on community involvement and economic impact. - Oliver from Love Ride provided details about the event, including participation from local businesses and law enforcement for safety. The Grand Marshal will be Jay Leno, and there will be performances by Gene Simmons and Chevy Metal. The council discussed the need for a traffic control plan for the Love Ride, which is being coordinated with local law enforcement. Updates on traffic management will be provided in future council meetings

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

- A. Land Use Committee - Chair - Abigail DeSesa. - Nothing to report.

- B. Parks and Recreation - Email updates.

- 1. Tree-People in partnership with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and CAL FIRE, invites the community to join them for their Fall 2025 pollinator habitat restoration event at Castaic Lake on Saturday, Oct. 18, 2025, from 9:30am-2:30pm. They will be planting and giving away native Narrowleaf milkweed and other natives for monarch butterflies. There will be a pollinator costume contest, educational activities, prizes, and plant giveaways for all ages! Registration is required to attend, but parking is free, and volunteers can enjoy complimentary recreation at the lake.

Go to treepeople.org/volunteer to reserve your spot. Spaces are limited.



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9. TREASURER'S REPORT

- A. Treasurer's Report - Michael Minor. - Tabled

10. OLD/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. I-5 North County Enhancement Project email update Brief update regarding closures on I-5.
- B. Parks project list. - No Update
- B. Town Council priorities list. - No Changes

11. COMMUNITY EVENTS

- A. Announcement of Community Events.

1. **Love Ride 34** - Sunday November 9th - Love Ride Foundation.
Charity ride fundraisers from Glendale Harley Davidson to Castaic Lake supporting the Wounded Warrior Project & Adopt the Arts.

Join thousands of riders at Castaic Lake for an unforgettable day of purpose, music, and unity.

For additional information go to <https://loveride.org/>.

2. Community survey. - **TreePeople** through the Safe, Clean Water Program, is collecting community surveys from residents who live in the Upper Santa Clara River Watershed.

The SCW Program Community Strengths and Needs Assessment Survey (CSNA) is now live collecting responses from community members.

Participating is simple: the Survey has 11 questions and takes between 3-5 minutes to complete. Your participation will provide valuable insight to help the SCW Program align infrastructure projects, scientific studies, programs, and watershed planning efforts with community-stated needs and priorities. Community feedback shared through the CSNA Survey is summarized and visually displayed in the publicly accessible online CSNA Dashboard. Explore the CSNA Dashboard at SafeCleanWaterLA.org/CSNADashboard .

12. OPEN DISCUSSION

- A. None



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13. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Approval of minutes from previous Town Hall mtgs. - Tabled

14. CORRESPONDENCE/COUNCIL INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

- A. Notice of Projects from Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning and other correspondence and/or Council Information. - None
- B. Discussion of any items on the Notices that may require action prior to the next Town Council meeting. - None

15. CONSENT CALENDAR

Next Castaic Area Town Council Land Use Committee Meeting: 1st Monday of the month - October 6, 2025

Next Castaic Area Town Council Agenda Planning Meeting: 1st Wednesday of the month - October 1, 2025

Next Castaic Area Town Council Committee Meetings: TBD

Next Castaic Area Town Council Town Hall Meeting: 3rd Wednesday of each month - October 15, 2025

16. ADJOURNMENT @ 9:52 PM - Motion by Stephen Howse. Second by James Stephens. Vote 8/0/0