Willowbank County Service Area (WCSA) Advisory Committee DRAFT Minutes of the Meeting Held 15 October 2019, 7:00PM

Marguerite Montgomery Elementary School Multipurpose Room

1441 Danbury Street, Davis, CA 95618

1. Call to Order: Committee Chair Woods called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

Committee Members Present: Liz McCapes, Bill Corliss, Marcia Kreith, Joanne Roy, Kent Calfee, and Olin Woods

Members Absent: Brian Morrissey

Recording Secretary: Michael Curry

Others Present: Nann Fangue, Don Gueffroy, Ilene Gueffroy, Mike Rockwell, Kathleen Rockwell, Laura Schmidt, Mary Ann Skeels, Linda Clavinger, Seth Bruener, John Lindsey, John Cooluris, Mary Beth Buechner, Julie Auger, Pam Eisele, Sara Ringen, Ron Ringen, Shelly Cello, Lisa Simmons, Amy Hiss, and Lisa Simmons.

District 4 Supervisor Jim Provenza, **Deputy Supervisor** Rich Reed, **Yolo Co. new CSA Rep** David Block, **Deputy Sheriff** Gary Richter, **Davis Fire Marshall** Patrick Sandholdt

2. Report on neighborhood break-ins and security issues (John Lindsey, Oakside resident and Gary Richter, Yolo County Sheriff):

There have recently been several break-ins or attempted break-ins in the neighborhood, one on Willowbank and another on West Oakside. John Lindsey suggested that one preventative measure would be an increase of collaboration with El Macero, which is installing cameras. Given the small number of law enforcement personnel in the area it is important that residents be vigilant, though the county will also step up patrols in the area. The city is cooperating with the county in this matter. He advised that if we see a suspicious vehicle we, assuming that it is safe to do so, take a video of it.

Finally, Deputy Gary Richter commented that there are now technological devices—cell phones for photographs and video, and video-equipped doorbells such as Blink and Ring—that may provide useful information for law enforcement. In addition, residents should take care to control foliage that may provide cover for people attempting to break in.

County Law Enforcement can be reached directly from mobile or land lines at 530-666-6612. Calls to 911 from a landline go directly to a local dispatcher, while calls

- from a mobile phone are routed to a central dispatcher and may as a consequence lead to a brief delay.
- **3. Introductions:** Committee members and visitors gave self-introductions.
- **4. Approval of the minutes:** It was moved by Calfee and seconded by Corliss that after several small corrections the minutes of the 17 July 2019 meeting be approved. (The minutes are available online; from https://www.yolocounty.org go to Residents, then to County Service Areas, then to Willowbank CSA, then scroll down to Meeting Calendars, press All Past, scroll down again to Meeting Calendars to find past WCSA minutes since 2015).
- **5. Public comments:** None
- Yolo County Report (Supervisor Provenza): The county is in the process of writing waste removal contracts for various unincorporated areas. As it now stands, "claw" service will only be provided in Willowbank. A final decision on contract provisions needs to be made before the end of the calendar year. The final decision must be made by the Board of Supervisors.

Unfortunately, a letter sent out earlier in the year that asked residents to pick from among various choices was flawed because it did not provide information on the entire costs of various options. A new letter, spelling out the charges, will be constructed and sent out to residents. It is expected that the cost of yard-waste collection would be: Mandatory organics cart service, at \$16.95 per month in addition to the claw service for loose street piles, which would cost \$30.70/month for monthly pickup service or \$57.95 per month for twice-monthly service. Remaining waste and recycling charges would remain roughly the same as current charges. Any new contract will be for ten years and provide for annual cost of living increases. Any increase in charges needs to be approved by the Board of Supervisors.

Figgins urged that the next letter be more clear on the cost of each component of service and on whether claw service is to be once a month or every other week. It should also specify how long the contract would last.

7. **Green waste ordinance:** John Cooluris suggested that because there has over the last several years been an increase in piles of yard waste placed in the street long before scheduled pickup, or placed in front of neighbors' property, and because entreaties for residents to abide by past practices seem to have fallen on deaf ears, the only solution to this problem is the passage of an ordinance regulating proper practices. He outlined a proposed "Willowbank Green Waste Ordinance." The central requirement would be that yard waste not be put out on the street more than a week before the scheduled pickup. Since old Willowbank would be the only unincorporated area with the claw, the ordinance would be specific to Willowbank, and would not be countywide. An ordinance would stipulate fines for failure to comply.

Replying to a question from Woods, Cooluris stated that fines would increase for repeated infractions, and would not "recalibrate." Once someone had reached the highest infraction level subsequent fines would be at that level.

Auger and Fangue expressed positive reactions to the proposed ordinance. Kreith asked about the proposed size of allowed piles and whether the proposed ordinance is too restrictive in that regard. When Recology took over our service we were told piles could continue to be longer than five feet because that standard did not create a problem for DWR. She also noted that the placement of piles in the draft ordinance in some cases conflicts with the actual physical situation, because some properties have a ditch, gravel, or boulders instead of sidewalks, curbs, or designated bike paths. Shelly Cello stated that many do not need the claw service; while Kathleen Rockwell suggested that we try to eliminate the need for the claw. Provenza responded that individuals cannot opt out of only the claw service; however, one can opt out of the entire waste removal service if they take responsibility for their own waste removal. The question of responsibility for waste dumped on or in front of people's property was raised; several residents stated that they have had that experience.

8. Follow Up of items from the 12 July 2019 meeting:

- a. **Liz McCapes** commented on the "Mace mess." A public meeting at Pioneer Elementary School is set for October 24. Provenza stated he has been meeting with CalTrans re I-80 issues. The city is interested in metering at the intersection of Montgomery and Mace. An ad hoc committee to explore solutions has been set up and the next meeting is set for October 21, 4:00 PM, in Provenza's office. McCapes is a member of *ad hoc* committee and Provenza appointed Curry to the committee.
- b. **Willowbank history**: No report, as McCapes stated that work and family priorities have intervened temporarily
- c. **Access to county property:** Several residents have complained that the owners of property south of Montgomery have posted <u>No Trespassing</u> signs and blocked access on what residents have long believed was a Yolo County roadway upon which they can walk. The WCSA Advisory Committee urged Chair Woods to pursue this matter with County staff.
- 9. **Fire safety:** Patrick Sandholdt, Fire Marshall, made a report and provided a handout that lays out tips for fire safety inside and outside the home, including weed abatement, working fire and CO alarms, types, placement and their need for maintenance, fireplace/chimney safety, fire extinguishers, and more.. The report was in part initiated in response to recent concerns about property that appeared to pose a fire risk. In the event of a fire or CO alarm alert call 911, or from a cell phone (530) 756-3400.

Fire Marshall Sandholdt encouraged calling him at 530-757-5682 with your questions and to bring children by the fire station to get acquainted with firefighters and their equipment.

10. Water rates and quality: Marcia Kreith reported that the city is in the process of initiating a Comprehensive Water Rate Study that will analyze a 20-year period with a five-year Proposition 218 rate schedule. The last annual rate increase of 9% went into effect on January 1, 2019. Rates cannot be raised until another Prop 218 schedule is passed. Six consultants are offering proposals, which will be evaluated by the City Utilities Commission. Tentatively, the City Prop 218 process for 5-year water rate schedule(45 da) is envisioned for a July 2020 protest vote. Rate adjustments (if applicable) would be January 2021.

Kreith suggested we should explore whether there are possible Prop 218 implications for WCSA and whether we might want to attend/birddog the City commissions and Council's interactive deliberations. She noted our water bills have paid for Community Arts Grants in the City, which are funded by 1% of all capital improvement projects and that a City water rate study will consider future infrastructure costs (which are presumably capital improvement projects); she noted that conditional to connecting to the City water system WCSA residents paid for their capital improvements. Lastly, it has been suggested that an upcoming policy decision for the Council is whether to reduce or eliminate unfunded pension liabilities rather than create an increased reserve fund for water.

Kreith noted that Paul Brady died in September and that we need to pick up his mantel. She encouraged residents to advise the WCSA committee if they are aware of other issues that the committee should explore relevant to the next Prop 218 rate-setting process.

Woods reported that both the City's Annual Water Quality Report and a recent article in the <u>Enterprise</u> indicate that quality of water supplied to Old Willowbank meets or exceeds all state and federal standards.

Woods expressed a desire to add Kreith to the water rates subcommittee . Woods moved and Corliss seconded, motion carried. The subcommittee: Woods, Kreith, Calfee.

- **11. Budget update:** We have a balance of about \$3,000.
- 12. Approval of WCSA Advisory Committee Meeting 2020 Calendar. Tuesday, January 21; Tuesday, March 24; Tuesday, August 25; Tuesday, October 20, 2020.

 Moved to approve, Corliss. Second, L. McCapes. Carried.
- Advisory Committee Comments: Kreith, We need to attend to the water issue. Woods, Upcoming GWIA Fall Social. Mailboxes: Thefts from mailboxes have been reported. Cable/internet service: There are discussions about a switch from Comcast to Wave as a cable/internet service provider.
- **13. Paul Brady:** The meeting closed in memoriam of Paul Brady.

Adjournment at 9:02 PM: Next regular meeting of the WCSA Advisory Committee meeting scheduled for Tuesday, 21 January 2020, Marguerite Montgomery Elementary School Multipurpose Room.

