

Mojave Chamber of Commerce: Highlights of the Monthly Community Meeting, 26 January 2023.

District Manager for Supervisor Zach Scrivner, Laura Lynn Wyatt, gave a progress report on several improvements to the community of Mojave.

She said that construction on the K Street Transit Center is underway again, noting that the project has been 4 years in the works. She also said that the replacement parts for the solar lights on K Street have arrived and the lights should be operational by late February. The design contract for the East Park renovations is out for bids. In response to audience questions, she said that there would be meetings to address specific community requests, such as adult workout equipment and walkways.

Illegal dumping is an ongoing concern and she reported that in District 2 alone, 44 sites were cleaned in December and 1,507 sites were cleaned up in 2022. She asked that residents contact her office or the Public Works Department for clean-up services. She mentioned that only public/common areas can be cleaned.

Derelict cars are a vehicle code violation and can be reported to the California Highway Patrol; again, only cars in public right-of-ways can be removed. Please provide as much descriptive information about the car as possible: make, model, color, location, license number.

For information about the Inland Port, visit the Inland Port website.

In response to the theft of catalytic converters, the District Attorney's Office has scheduled etching events throughout Kern County. The Mojave event is scheduled for March 3, 2023, at the Mojave Tire and Lube on Business 59 and M Street from 9 am to 3 pm, by appointment. A link for appointments will be available on social media soon.

There are no new solar farm applications. The farms being installed are working from previously issued permits.

She said that she has no information about future housing construction, low-income or otherwise. The rezoning that took place last year was in response to the California state requirement that each county have a certain amount of land zoned "affordable" or "low-income".

Mojave Chamber of Commerce President Ted Hodgkinson invited attendees to give updates on activities of interest to the community.

Samantha Barbic, Mothers of Mojave, said that her organization is working on providing after-school activities for Mojave children. The group needs a building to house the activities and she asked for interested parties to assist with acquiring a suitable site.

TaxTactics is currently located in Lancaster-Palmdale and is interested in expanding their services to Rosamond and Mojave.

Rick Marshall and Amir Fakir introduced their plan to construct a full service travel center/truck stop northwest of Mojave, on the intersection of Highway 58 and Minard Trail. Union 76 is the fuel vendor. They should have a site plan available for public viewing in 3 weeks. The center should be operational in 2024.

Cal Rossi, So Calif. Edison, discussed challenges ahead for Edison, including wildfire mitigation and planned outages during repairs, procurement of energy, and transporting energy. A new substation is in construction for California City. He noted that Kern County is a leader in all types of energy production.

Chamber President, Ted Hodgkinson, announced that S&Y purchased the Mission Bank building and is remodeling it. It will house the furniture showroom and a small bank or credit union office. In other news, the Christmas Tree Lighting event was very successful, thanks to the generosity of Mojave businesses and residents, and the volunteer efforts of CHIPs for Kids, Mothers of Mojave, Desert Search and Rescue, Landmark Missionary Baptist Church, New Life Baptist Church, Mojave Queens, and Mojave Elks. A full listing of donors can be found at www.visitmojave.org, as well as event photos. Approximately 600 people attended and more than 200 gifts were distributed.

The next community meeting is February 23. Katherine Aguirre, MUSD Superintendent, is speaking.