



**Question and Answer Responses from the  
Mayor's Night Out  
La Sierra Acres Neighborhood  
June 24, 2009  
La Granada Elementary School**

**Code Enforcement:**

Q – There is standing water in the canal between Bushnell Avenue and Wells Avenue and Wells Avenue and Hole Avenue which is unsightly and creates potential health concerns. Can the City clean that area of the canal and prevent standing water?

A – The canal in question is maintained by the Riverside County Flood Control & Water Conservation District. The District has cleaned the canal in the Bushnell, Hole and Wells Avenue areas.

Q – Could the City work with the property owners of the large empty lot on Wells to clean it up?

A – The Code Enforcement Department inspected the property and found several violations prompting the property owners to diligently work towards compliance. Code Enforcement will continue to re-inspect the property.

**Development:**

Q – What is happening to the development and re-alignment of the Five-Points area of La Sierra?

A – The La Sierra Five-Points street improvement project which includes the realignment and widening of the Five-Points intersection area, termination of Bushnell as a cul-de-sac, and the addition of vehicular and bicycle lanes is currently in the right-of-way acquisition phase. Negotiations are currently underway with affected property owners. The demolition of buildings will begin in late September 2009.

**Public Works:**

Q – The City has done a great job adding sidewalks and curbs in our neighborhood. Can sidewalks and curbs be added to the 10500 block of Wells Avenue?

A – Wells Avenue between Hole Avenue and Tyler Street for the most part lacks curb and gutter. Construction of sidewalk would require pavement widening (General Plan requires a width of 40 feet curb to curb within 66 feet of right of way), curb and gutter, drainage facilities, relocation of utilities and acquisition of right-of-way. The estimated cost of improvements is approximately \$500 per linear foot of the street, which translates to approximately \$2.5 million for the segment between Hole Avenue and Tyler Street. The City currently has no

funding for a project of such magnitude. We can, however, consider this as a future capital improvement project in stages or in its entirety, subject to funding availability. For now, the City has reviewed the shoulders and will trim trees as needed to allow for safe pedestrian passage.

Q – The traffic on Bushnell Avenue is very fast and there are limited sidewalks along the street. Could the City add sidewalks for the protection of our children, and speed bumps along the road to reduce traffic speed?

A – The City has studied Bushnell Avenue for speed calming devices including centerlines and a stop at the intersection of Keller Avenue and is recommending both. Neighbors in the vicinity will need to agree prior to any devices being implemented. Also, as a part of the proposed street improvements at Five-Points, Bushnell Avenue is proposed to be terminated in a cul-de-sac at La Sierra Avenue. This project will provide full street improvements on Bushnell Avenue from La Sierra Avenue to Bogart Street, resulting in a significant reduction of traffic in the segment of Bushnell Avenue from La Sierra Avenue to Wells Avenue. Construction of sidewalk in the remaining parts of Bushnell will have to be considered in conjunction with future capital improvement projects, as the City has no funding for this project in its 2009-2010 budget.

Q – The traffic on Warren Street is very fast. Many people use the street to walk to the park. What can be done to slow the traffic? Can speed bumps be installed on the street?

A – The City has studied the speeds on Warren Street and concluded a residential stop sign at Trey Avenue will break up the street into two smaller segments. The stop sign has been installed and reduced speeds along Warren Street. No further calming devices are being proposed at this time as speeds are down to a typical level for a residential street. The Riverside Police Department has been alerted to enforce stop sign violations and speed limit accordingly.

Q – The traffic on Bushnell Avenue is very fast. Would the City please place a three-way stop at Keller Avenue and Bushnell Avenue?

A – The City has studied this intersection and can proceed with a three-way stop if adjacent residents agree to the implementation of a stop sign. A petition will be prepared and circulated for signatures and upon return of the completed petition, a stop sign will be installed within two weeks.

Q – There is great concern about speeding on Cochran Avenue east of La Sierra Avenue. What can the City do to manage this problem?

A – The City has met with residents on Cochran Avenue to share results of recent studies along Cochran Avenue and Jones Avenue and have developed numerous options for traffic calming for both Cochran Avenue east of and west of La Sierra Avenue, as well as for Jones Avenue north of and south of Cochran Avenue. Residents met on July 27, 2009 with Councilwoman Hart to discuss options and select which one they feel will work best for and be supported by their neighborhood. The City is awaiting feedback from the neighborhood.

## **Police**

Q – I am concerned about the potential of the availability of drugs at the apartments on Philbin Avenue at Wohlstetter Street. The apartments are rundown with trash around.

A – The City has developed a two-pronged approach regarding the apartments at this location. The Fire Department has inspected the apartment complex regarding excessive trash and potential fire hazards and is working with the management on this issue. The Police Department has initiated directed enforcement on this street and, in particular, the residence in question. They will continue to patrol the area.

## **Other:**

Q – Many people in our neighborhood use the bus for their transportation. We need the buses to come more often. What can the City do to help?

A – The City of Riverside partners with the Riverside Transit Agency (RTA) to provide bus transit for Riverside residents. Unfortunately, RTA's sources of funding have decreased because of the current recession, and they have had to cut back service as well as raise fares. As a result, they are not able to increase service at this time. However, the request will be considered by RTA for possible future service enhancements when economic conditions improve.

Q – Since the Fire and Police Departments have gotten several large grants, can we use a small portion of the funds to keep C.E.R.T., Neighborhood Watch and Citizen's Police Academy funded?

A – Grants for which the City applies are generally program specific, which requires that funding received for particular programs be spent for those purposes. The City can, however, pursue grants to preserve the types of programs mentioned; by copy of this Mayor's Night Out report, Departments will be encouraged to do so.

Q – Please see if WiFi can be extended to Campbell Avenue – the curve in the road hinders the signal?

A – The La Sierra Acres neighborhood is in the City's Wi-Fi coverage zone. Due to foliage in the area, some residents need a wireless access device, such as a Ruckus 2211, to gain access to the free service. Such wireless devices can be purchased at electronics stores in Riverside. For additional information go to [www.smartriverside.com](http://www.smartriverside.com).

