

MINUTES
Inter-Neighborhood Council Organization (INCO) General Membership
Wednesday, September 3, 2025

A. ROLL CALL/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

At 6:05 p.m., Chair Diana Velzy called the meeting to order.

Present were: Christopher Bissonnette, Blackstock South; Jon Huycke, Bryce Canyon North; Raini Steffen, Cabrillo; Ronald Arruejo, East Village; Roger Poirier, Hobson Park East; Robert Lucio, Kamala Park; Larry Stein, Lemonwood/Eastmont; Diana Velzy, Orchard Park; Lissa Hewitt, Oxnard Dunes; Walt Hagedohm, Oxnard Shores; Sandy Diaz, Rio Lindo; Paul Schnebelen, Riverpark; Alfonso Arroyo, Rose Park; Doug Tauber; Via Marina; Michael Gleason, West Village; Angela Whitecomb, Wilson; Brian Landers, Windsor North.

A quorum of members was present.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. SUBJECT: Minutes of the meeting of August 6, 2025

RECOMMENDATION: Approve.

ACTION: Motion by Angela Whitecomb, seconded by Larry Stein to approve the minutes of August 6, 2025 with the correction to add "for the Tamale Festival and Holiday Parade" to item H-1 and to verify if Christopher Bissonnette was present or virtual for the meeting. Minutes approved.

C. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Larry Stein - recommend that INCO address city council to indicate that elevators in the parking structure be open for public meetings.

D. BUSINESS

1. SUBJECT: Neighborhood Quimby Projects, Community Parks, and Parks & Recreation Master Plan

RECOMMENDATION: That the INCO General Membership receive a verbal update from Public Works Staff on Neighborhood Quimby Projects, Community Parks (Sports Park, College Park, Campus Park) Progress, and the Status of the Parks & Recreation Master Plan, followed by Q&A.

Quimby Projects: Morgan Kessler, City Engineer, provided an update on active Quimby Projects. The following neighborhoods have active projects in various stages: Eastwood Park (Carriage Square), Sea View Park (Sea View Estates), Community Center Park East (Hobson Parks), Via Marina (Via Marina), and Five Points park. Steve Howlett, Assistant Public Works Director, provided background on outreach to neighborhood councils regarding the Quimby projects and neighborhood requests.

A Q&A followed, including questions regarding what Quimby funds can and cannot be used for, feedback about the benefit of a fenced area for recreational opportunities, potential for pickleball courts with these funds, and dog parks.

Community Parks: Morgan Kessler, City Engineer, provided an update on the Campus Park project, including that the city expects to put the project out to bid by the end of September, followed by a 45 day bid period.

A Q&A followed, including questions regarding the air being tested for safety, considering if relocating the dog park is an option, and how to provide feedback to the plans.

Parks & Recreation Master Plan: Assistant Director Public Works Steve Howlett provided a brief update on the status of the Parks & Recreation Master Plan, which addresses specific items and also best management practices. The Parks, Recreation & Community Services Commission reviews the master plan each year and identifies a work plan each year in collaboration with staff. Ongoing discussions related to the plan with the commission include the Five Points park, tennis/basketball court conditions, creative solutions for park space, urban forestry, and reviewing the city's sunset ordinance.

A Q&A followed, including discussion on parks being different across neighborhoods, the acquisition of Sports Park with Quimby funds, the future use of Sports Park, and the aquatic center at College Park.

2. SUBJECT: Holiday Parade & Tamale Festival INCO Participation
RECOMMENDATION: That the INCO General Membership receive an update from the Holiday Parade & Tamale Festival subcommittee, followed by Q&A.

Raini Steffen provided an update on the work that the subcommittee has done for the Holiday Parade & Tamale Festival. Raini spoke with the Downtowners regarding parade information, released mid-month. Finalizing theme and fee structure. That will be a good determining factor for us. Currently reaching out to chairs/vice chairs to see how much participation we can get. Ask anyone who's here to grab one of the committee members before you leave.

A discussion followed, including what participation from neighborhoods is expected to look like, what the intention of participation is, and if banners from neighborhood councils could be displayed.

E. NEIGHBORHOOD CHAIR REPORTS

Sandy Diaz, Rio Lindo - holding a meeting on 9/18 at the Rio Lindo cafeteria, planning to have OFD present on CERT and hoping to have the Mayor attend.

Ronald Arruejo, East Village - hosted a successful meeting last week with County Supervisor Long and Mayor Pro Tem Teran. The City Clerk will attend their next neighborhood meeting to talk about the special election coming up in November.

Roger Poirier, Hobson Park East - a District 4 meeting was held on July 17th. Wilson had a quorum and Kamala was close. He encouraged others interested in hosting those meetings to contact him for assistance.

Paul Schnebelen, Riverpark - held a meeting on 8/16 and will be holding another meeting on 10/8

Walt Hagedohm, Oxnard Shores - hosting an election meeting scheduled on September 24th at Hollywood Beach Elementary and working on wifi to see if they can hold a hybrid option. They have been very active with the airports recently.

Raini Steffen, Cabrillo - had a successful national night out event, although she was unable to attend. They are planning their election meeting in October.

Christopher Bissonnette, Blackstock South - hosted a picnic on 8/31 in the park and have an election meeting scheduled at South Oxnard Center on 9/18.

Doug Tauber, Via Marina - their next meeting is scheduled for December, date TBD.

Diana Velzy, Orchard - their next meeting is set for October 23 with the cleanup on October 25th. They might need to set up another meeting in September to discuss the playground.

Angela Whitecomb, Wilson - election meeting scheduled for October 13th, there are multiple positions available.

F. REPORT OF THE COMMISSION SECRETARY

The Executive Secretary received the INCO treasury binder from the former first Vice Chair and is passing it along to current first Vice Chair Hewitt with \$150.10.

G. EXECUTIVE BOARD REPORTS

None.

H. ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

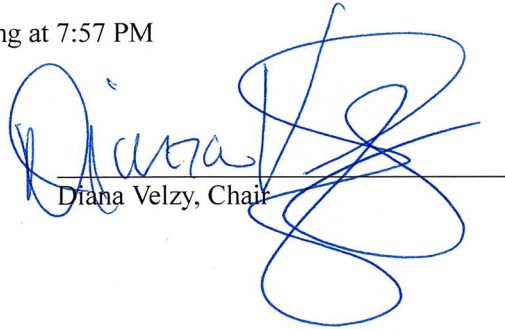
1. Presentation from successful neighborhood councils on best practices: how they keep their neighborhood active, how they run their meetings, how to activate inactive neighborhoods
2. Discussion to have INCO provide updates at City Council periodically (e.g. monthly, quarterly) on recent work they've been doing and INCO requests for Council.

I. ADJOURNMENT

Without objection, Chair Velzy adjourned the meeting at 7:57 PM

Samantha Shapiro

Samantha Shapiro, Secretary


Diana Velzy, Chair