



NEWS



News Headlines 10/17/2019

- Pedestrian killed on Mariposa Road in Hesperia Wednesday night
- Cash-strapped San Bernardino now responsible for 350 acres of formerly unincorporated land
- Residents of unincorporated Fontana can participate in cleanup event on Oct. 19

Pedestrian killed on Mariposa Road in Hesperia Wednesday night

Staff Writer, Victor Valley News

Posted: October 16, 2019



Hesperia deputies shutdown the roadway as they investigated. (Gabriel D. Espinoza, Victor Valley News Group)

HESPERIA, Calif. (VVNG.com) — A portion of Mariposa Road in Hesperia is closed Wednesday night after a pedestrian was struck and killed.

It happened at 7:00 pm, October 16, in the 10100 block of Mariposa Road just south of Live Oak Street in the City of Hesperia.

San Bernardino County Fire, CHP, and Hesperia Sheriff's responded and pronounced a male pedestrian deceased.

The driver of a blue 2006 Honda Odyssey that struck the pedestrian remained at the scene and cooperated with officials.

Officials said Mariposa Road is expected to be closed for several hours for an investigation.

The Hesperia Police Department is investigating the crash.

<https://www.vvng.com/pedestrian-killed-on-mariposa-road-in-hesperia-wednesday-night/>

Cash-strapped San Bernardino now responsible for 350 acres of formerly unincorporated land

Brian Whitehead, San Bernardino Sun

Posted: October 16, 2019, 3:05 pm



A map of a proposed housing development of 350 acres on unincorporated land in northern San Bernardino is projected behind the San Bernardino County Local Agency Formation Commission at the Norton Regional Event Center in San Bernardino on Wednesday, Oct. 16, 2019. The San Bernardino County Local Agency Formation Commission was to decide early Wednesday, Oct. 16, whether to annex 350 acres of unincorporated land in northern San Bernardino into San Bernardino so a previously-approved housing project could be built there. (Photo by Will Lester, Inland Valley Daily Bulletin/SCNG)

After hearing from those opposed to San Bernardino's annexation of 350 acres of unincorporated land for the development of 215 single-family residences, the county Local Agency Formation Commission voted in favor of the plan Wednesday, Oct. 16, putting the cash-strapped city in charge of providing public services to the area and allowing the previously approved Spring Trails project to move forward.

The agency ruled in favor of annexation despite warnings from San Bernardino Councilman Henry Nickel, who represents that part of town, that the city is in no position financially or practically to assume responsibility of the land.

“We had an \$11 million cut in our budget this year, and had to reduce services significantly to residents,” Nickel said. “At present, our city services are significantly depleted. ... I am extremely concerned this annexation proposal and annexation is at best premature, if not ill-advised.”

About 20 residents of the neighboring Verdemon community and nearby Devore followed Nickel and echoed his concern that San Bernardino in its current state could not afford the expansion and increased demand for services.

Furthermore, they added, building 215 residences on 199 acres in a high wind- and high fire-hazard zone would put future residents in danger in the event of a fire or earthquake. Several public speakers said they survived devastating fires that consumed their neighborhood more than a decade ago, and couldn’t fathom trying to flee an area already subject to heavy traffic alongside a couple hundred more homeowners should disaster strike again.

“We’re trying to save (future residents’) lives because they don’t know what they’re buying into,” said Darcee Klapp, a longtime Devore resident. “When you condense everybody like that, you can’t get them out. We’re trying to get them out, residents we’ve never met before.”

While sympathetic to the myriad concerns shared in 90 minutes of public testimony Wednesday, LAFCO commissioners noted that the project already has been approved by former San Bernardino planning commissioners and council members.

Questions about how the city plans to provide services to the site moving forward should be directed toward the council, LAFCO commissioners said.

“All LAFCO has the ability to do is determine who is the logical service provider” for the area, Commissioner Jim Bagley said ahead of the vote. “In this case, it’s the city of San Bernardino. The private property owner made a petition through the city to ask for services, and we have no legal or conditional reason to deny that application.

“But,” he added, “that doesn’t invalidate your concern.”

With no **county fire** official present to explain the area’s emergency plans, Commissioner James Curatalo, a retired battalion chief from the Rancho Cucamonga Fire Protection District, voted against the annexation.

LAFCO’s decision to annex the lot has created an adjacent 26-acre unincorporated island.

A condition of the agency’s approval requires San Bernardino to initiate a separate plan to annex that island within one year.

“LAFCO is not hearing us,” Verdemon resident Richard Kaplan said following the vote. “I don’t think they’re doing their job. I don’t think they’re looking out for the community. They’re supposed to determine whether the city can provide the services, which San Bernardino can’t.”

<https://www.sbsun.com/2019/10/16/cash-strapped-san-bernardino-now-responsible-for-350-acres-of-formerly-unincorporated-land/>

Residents of unincorporated Fontana can participate in cleanup event on Oct. 19

Staff Writer, Fontana Herald News

Posted: October 14, 2019

Residents of unincorporated areas of San Bernardino County (ID required) can dispose of non-hazardous trash for free during a community cleanup event in Fontana on Saturday, Oct. 19.

The event will be held from 8 a.m. to noon on Live Oak Avenue between Bamboo Court and Ebony Place.

For more information, call Code Enforcement Officer Melissa Malcom at (909) 266-3477.

https://www.fontanaheraldnews.com/news/residents-of-unincorporated-fontana-can-participate-in-cleanup-event-on/article_512ee9d0-eeb4-11e9-9552-b7b5b479192d.html