

Chino Hills City Council
League of Women Voters of the Claremont Area Observer Report
By Observer Pauline Corse
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Mayor: Ray Marquez; Vice Mayor, Peter Rogers; members Art Bennett, Ed Graham and Cynthia Moran.

Meetings: every second and fourth Tuesday at Council Chambers. I have attended about three-fourths of the meetings.

Council follows good government practices, encourages participation of residents, and recognizes young people in the audience who often attend as a school requirement.

Chino Hills celebrated its 25th anniversary this year—a major milestone for a new city. And Chino Hills High still has a winning basketball team.

Although two challengers ran in November, incumbents were re-elected, so there is no change in Council membership, only the usual change in positions. A change in election procedures is under consideration, however, as the Council is planning to divide the city into districts for future elections in order to comply with the Calif. Voting Rights Act. Citizen groups have submitted five maps delineating possible divisions. A decision is expected soon.

Land use continues to be a major concern of the Council. A major issue is the 2450 acres known as Tres Hermanos, which is located on either side of Grand Avenue in both Diamond Bar and Chino Hills. The land belongs to a City of Industry holding company that acquired it after the state abolished redevelopment agencies. Reports indicate that Industry wants the land for development. Diamond Bar and Chino Hills want to keep the land as open space. Negotiations will likely ensue.

The City has begun an open space purchase program through which property owners can purchase city-owned land that their property has encroached upon.

Council has adopted an ordinance establishing clustering standards for single family homes in the *Agriculture/Ranches* and Rural Residential zoning districts.

A long-awaited park in the Los Serranos area is nearing completion. Playground equipment will be donated by the city's Foundation, which has held a variety of fundraisers including a recent jazz and blues festival that netted \$31,000 profit. Street and lighting improvements in the Los Serranos area are continuing as part of the Safe Routes to School project, which is now in its third phase.

City Council has adopted a "Boarding House" ban that limits the number of times a home can be rented during a year and the number of individuals who can rent

rooms at one time. A boarding house is defined as a home rented to more than three people under separate rental agreements at one time.

Ever mindful of the drought, Council has recommended watering standards that limit outdoor water use. They recently sponsored a poster contest in which 4th graders submitted some clever and colorful artwork.