

OFF HIGHWAY VEHICLE TASK FORCE FACT SHEET

December 15, 2008

3/05 Cathedral City does a presentation to the CVAG Public Safety Committee regarding increase in Off Highway Vehicle activity in North Cathedral City, near Edom Hill/Landfill Road area. The Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy and the Bureau of Land Management representatives also attend discussing impact to the environment, endangered species and air quality.

The Public Safety Committee directs CVAG staff to meet with key stakeholders to determine key issues and what resources are there to help address issues.

5/05 The CVAG Off Highway Vehicle Task Force is formed. Stakeholders initially include the Bureau of Land Management (BLM); the SCAQMD; Cathedral City Police Department; the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians; the Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy and the Riverside County Sheriff's Office.

11/05 CVAG Public Safety Committee recommends that CVAG Executive Committee send Resolution to California Judicial Council requesting increase in base fine of bail schedule which is only \$34.00 (with a total bail of \$134.00) to discourage OHV violators.

2/06 Riverside County Board of Supervisors forms an Off Highway Vehicle Commission to look at potential OHV Park sites. One representative from each supervisorial district appointed. Brian Nestande appointed by Supervisor Wilson as Fourth District representative.

3/06 Riverside County develops and implements OHV Ordinance impacting unincorporated areas involving stronger restrictions including limited hours of riding; number of vehicles per ten acres; riders distance from the property line and neighbors homes.

5/06 Cathedral City passes the first Zero Tolerance Ordinance for Off Highway Vehicles in Coachella Valley. Mayor Kathy DeRosa requests that CVAG financially assist the City to perform the needed enforcement.

The OHV Task Force meets to discuss City's request. The Task Force decides to pool funds rather than fund one city. This will also help cities and the County that are also addressing illegal OHV activities. CVAG assists Cathedral City financially using a portion of its unspent Colmac funds that had been set aside for another project.

6/06 CVAG revises its grant application for Colmac funds to include a request for funding to address illegal OHV activity and to use these funds as a pool to be used by local agencies to address illegal OHV activity. Request to Colmac Committee submitted.

The OHV Task Force creates billboard signage. Several 4x8 billboard signs are placed at critical areas near I-10 and Date Palm and Varner Road.

- 9/06 Use of billboards proves to be successful in keeping illegal activity down.
- 1/07 CVAG awarded \$80,000 in Colmac funds to implement and facility a regional Off Highway Vehicle enforcement effort.
- 2/07 Riverside County Sheriff's Office and CVAG develop criteria and draft agreement for participating agencies to receive reimbursement for straight overtime and related OHV equipment purchase.

Agreement approved by CVAG Executive Committee. Agreement is circulated among all the participating agencies for signature. Agencies are: Cities of Cathedral City, Desert Hot Springs, Indio, and Palm Springs, the Bureau of Land Management, the Riverside County Sheriff's Department (Palm Desert station and Indio Station)
- 5/07 CVAG OHV Task Force determines the targets for deployment of the Task Force and a schedule.
- 6/07 - 9/07 Little activity - summer months, OHV riding decreases.
- 9/07 CVAG OHV Task Force recommends a second grant application to Colmac for additional funds for a second year of the program. Amount is \$100,000.
- 11/07 Following execution of the Agreement by all parties, the first deployment launched: Flat-top Mountain and Edom Hill Area.

12/07 - 6/08 Schedule of deployments initiated during this time frame;

- 2/08 CVAG OHV Task Force participates in County Date Festival Parade.
- 3/08 CVAG awarded second grant Colmac request of \$100,000
- 4/08 The Riverside County's Off Highway Vehicle Enforcement team (ROVE) attends CVAG OHV Task Force and offers assistance.
- 5/08 County Code Enforcement attends CVAG OHV Task Force and offers assistance.
- 6/08 Task Force determines targets for Fall 2008 deployment schedule. County determines several potential sites for OHV Parks: Prado Dam; Jack Rabbit Trail; Drop 31). Supervisor Wilson tours Drop 31 site with OHV Commissioner Nestande.
- 9/08 Billboard size signage approved by OHV Task Force. Lamar Advertising to design three billboards with badges or logos of participating agencies. Locations determined with assistance of Task Force. Funding to come from Colmac.
- 10/08 Deployments occur - OHV Task Force begins planning for unveiling of Billboard event.