

## **UPDATE: GOOD SHEPHERD CEMETERY**

In 2020, an application was made to the San Diego County Planning Dept. to create Good Shepherd Cemetery, in conjunction with St. Thomas More Church, at 1505 Buena Vista Drive and Keys Place.

Nothing much was heard about the project since then, but recently a new fence was installed.



Adam Kooienga of Hofman Planning Associates kindly provided this information:

Our client is currently having a fence installed along Buena Vista Drive. Per the County's Zoning Code, this fence is allowed by right in this zone as long as they adhere to the development standards set by the County. The fence is separate from the overall cemetery project (this kind of fence could be installed at this location by whoever was the property owner), but it will eventually be the fence for the cemetery.

The cemetery itself is still going through the review and approval process with the County. We are working on a few remaining items on it prior to being scheduled for a hearing. Once we've completed everything and have a tentative hearing date scheduled, we are planning to have another public meeting with neighbors, stakeholders, and other interested parties.

## **THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER** **City of Vista Action on E-bikes**

The use of e-bikes has increased dramatically in North County. Although many have applauded their increased use as "clean energy" convenient and affordable vehicles, a number of issues regarding safety and proper use have attracted close scrutiny by the City of Vista and by other nearby cities (Carlsbad, San Marcos, Oceanside, Encinitas). Many of our neighborhood residents are used to seeing e-bikers riding recklessly at inappropriate high speeds, doing circus-like maneuvers, carrying a piggy-back rider, or in tight clusters. A rise in e-bike thefts has been reported by the North Coastal Sheriff's station. Most of these have occurred in shopping stores with large retailers such as Walmart and Target. About 50% of stolen bikes were unlocked.

The increased use of e-bikes has increased the number of fires, at times deadly, from exploding lithium-ion batteries. Many e-bike batteries lack the ability to automatically shut off to prevent overheating and thermal runaways that lead to explosions and fires.

E-bike parking issues affecting neighborhoods include a) parking locations such bike racks, sidewalks, and designated parking areas (especially in parks and natural areas); b) parking restrictions to improve visibility and safety for all road users (no parking within 20 ft. of corners or crosswalks); c) parking enforcement rules similar to those applied to traditional bicycles.

The City of Vista has amended sections of the Municipal Code pertaining to bicycles, recently on 1/9/24. Vista has aimed to clarify the rules around the growing use of e-bikes, with the key focus on ensuring safe and

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