

# It's Politics: Friend Hills Property Owners Association moves into Whittier oil debate

By Mike Sprague, Staff Writer

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*Editor's note: It's Politics reports Saturdays on the ins and outs of Whittier-area politics and city government.*

The Friendly Hills Property Owners Association has moved into the center of the debate over whether to drill for oil in the Whittier hills.

Faye Hill, who took over as president in May, stepped into the hornets' nest at Tuesday's council meeting to discuss the group's position on drilling.

"We are against the proposed road located behind Lodosa Drive," Hill told the council.

"We're absolutely against any and all traffic traveling through residential streets: Colima Road, Mar Vista Street and Catalina Avenue," she said. "Decisions were made before the (environmental impact report) was released ... that didn't take our homeowners' need for quality of life into consideration."

Those comments led to questions from Councilwoman Cathy Warner about who voted and why.

Hill later confirmed the vote was by the board and it was unanimous.

Later, Councilman Greg Nordbak said he was unsatisfied with the position.

"I was very disappointed to hear the president of the homeowners association where I live," Nordbak said. "I know I haven't been contacted."

Nordbak said he also was unhappy a flier from the Whittier Hills Oil Watch, an group opposed to drilling in the hills, was circulated with the association's newsletter.

"I hate to see this thing divide the community," he said. "At this point, I just wish people would relax. I'm hoping there's enough trust ... to let the five of us in public hash it out."

Hill - when interviewed - said she isn't sure what Nordbak was complaining about.

She said the association board is neutral on oil drilling but opposes any trucks or equipment using Catalina, Colima or Mar Vista and is opposed to an access road behind Lodosa.

"It's preposterous to think that anyone would have trucks like that going through residential neighborhoods," she said.

In regard to the flier, Hill said her group has had articles about oil in previous newsletters that pointed residents to the city website.

The group also put a disclaimer on the flier, saying it didn't represent the association, she said.

Matrix Oil wants to include a brochure with the next mailing and she said the association will do it.

Read more: [It's Politics: Friend Hills Property Owners Association moves into Whittier oil debate - Whittier Daily News](http://www.whittierdailynews.com/ci_15641071?IADID=Search-www.whittierdailynews.com-www.whittierdailynews.com#ixzz0vYIvpgld) [http://www.whittierdailynews.com/ci\\_15641071?IADID=Search-www.whittierdailynews.com-www.whittierdailynews.com#ixzz0vYIvpgld](http://www.whittierdailynews.com/ci_15641071?IADID=Search-www.whittierdailynews.com-www.whittierdailynews.com#ixzz0vYIvpgld)