

The Springs Municipal Advisory Council represents the people of the Springs in Sonoma Valley as the voice of the community to elected representatives. SMAC is committed to engage with all community members in meaningful and inclusive ways to promote the health and wellbeing of the Springs.

**Springs Municipal Advisory Council
Minutes of the hybrid zoom/in-person Meeting
May 10, 2023**

1. Call to Order & Roll Call 6:32

Roll Call: Chair Iturri

Present: Reyes, Alcaraz, Allan. Lombard & Winders via zoom/home

Absent: Hardeman

Chair Iturri: Encouraged Council participation. Acknowledged MAC's support team. Announced changes to the Agenda. Items 6, 9 & 10 postponed but Public Comment will be called.

There will be no Spanish translation due to absence from illness. A new system is being evaluated that would allow people to request interpretation in advance of meeting. Emphasized importance of staying within time limits on Agenda items.

2. Approval of Minutes of April 12, 2023 meeting

Councilmember Reyes moved to approve April 12, 2023 Minutes. Councilmember Alcaraz Seconded. Using Roll Call Vote - 2 members on zoom. Unanimous approval.

3. Public Comment (Limited to items not appearing on the agenda) 2 minute limit

Greg Larson, Springs' resident/Lucas Ave; disgusted w/ road conditions in Springs & Sonoma County. Has paid into Gas Tax; then SB1 CA Senate 2017 doubled funding to all counties. Then also Measure M quarter cent Sales Tax levied for Smart Train, to maintain local streets, & fix potholes. Requested info on how county picks a road to be paved. Neighbor has lived on nearby road for 40 years; never been paved. Must be a system for picking road. Cherry St. to be done in six months; was potholed, a waste of money. Would like a meeting w/ Supervisor Gorin on MAC Agenda; also include county Treasury rep, can't find how money is spent on paving. How much brought in to county? 1,380 miles of road in county. How much in District 1? How much money allocated to District 1? List of 3 roads to be paved in Springs: Cherry, Riverside, 7th St East. Also roads in Kenwood. Requested roads be paved not patched; that will last for 20 years.

Chair Iturri called for Public Comment Zoom. None. Closed.

4. Chair Iturri Update (@2:23 you tube video)

- Will be resigning from position on SVCAC; going back to school for Doctorate. Will need someone new to apply for position; it is an Application & Appointment

process. Changes dynamic on Council; she will move back to Voting Member.
Invited MAC members to consider.

Karina Garcia, clarified - position for SVCAC will be vacant on Springs MAC. Chair Iturri would move to a Voting Member. SVCAC would continue to have an Alternate vacancy.

Councilmember Allan remains an Alternate on MAC but could apply to SVCAC. Also any community member can fill the position.

- SVCAC Meeting of April 26th no report, did not attend. May 24 Meeting cancelled.
- Presented at Springs' Rotary in April; supportive of MAC. Looking at possibilities to support Larson Park improvements.

Chair Iturri called for Public Comment. Zoom. None

5. Supervisor Susan Gorin Update (@5:55)

- **Thanked Greg Larson/Public Comment re roads.** She responded to his neighbor's complaint, drove the road herself, agreed w/ him re poor condition. Explained road repair identification, acknowledged both Springs MAC & North Valley MAC Ah Hoc subcommittees who helped identify this area's roads that need paving for the next 2 year paving cycle. Yes, the local tax dollars are at work. Sonoma is a large county; wish there was more funding for District 1 but must be shared. There is a Preservation Pavement Program either currently before or soon to be before the BoS. Next 2 year cycle is planned 2 years in advance; 2024/25/26 for paving. Had to spread money out to do potholing between paving cycles. Did note on list that Lucas is a road to pave in near future. Invited Greg to meet w/ her to review funding, can provide links to road paving, Sonoma County Public Infrastructure website for info on all roads past & present. In a recent review, noted that Public Infrastructure, due to bad rains, received 2,000 requests for pothole repairs throughout county. Doing their best. Will have to increase funding for 2024, just to stay even due to cost of asphalt going up. Noted that in CA, Sonoma County spends greatest % of General Fund on road repair; other counties lower. Continue to commit at BoS to increase Paving Program.
- **Update on new Sonoma Valley Resource Center in Nelson Building/south of Verano Ave.** County in negotiations w/ property owner for county front door for health & human services, i.e. housing navigator, housing voucher assistance/WICK, etc. Still evaluating which services will move from county to Valley. In Agreement w/ property owner, expected to move in Aug/Sept. Will be a Public Notice & Open House. Half of building for county, little less than half for community organizations' offices. Catalyst Fund working on selection. Will be a large conference room, perhaps MAC could meet there; good opportunity for community meetings/conferences in Springs.

- **Cal Trans & Verano Ave.** traffic improvements update. Pushing Caltrans for these improvements, pursuing all possible funding sources. Meeting w/ legislators - new City of Sonoma Manager David Guhin, City of Sonoma Mayor Lowe.
- **County Budget:** preparing for June Hearings, just concluded Budget Workshops to preview funding status. Each Supervisor makes request/s for funding. She requested: \$1M for Larson Park and \$1.7M Donald St Gap/potential funding. Exploring an infrastructure program - *Reconnecting Communities* for both locations.
- **Verano Ave. multijurisdictional challenge**, pursuing better information to solve. Involves Cal Trans, city, county. Recommending County take lead in clarifying. Recognize need to move forward more easily.
- **Verano Ave.** topic includes discussion to install overhead signal crossings for crosswalks.
- **Bike Lanes:** when Mayor of Santa Rosa identified funding for bike lanes/paths in city, but has met her match in county. In her ten years as Supervisor not able to complete any bike lanes. She & Supervisor Hopkins committed to pursue financing & planning for bike lanes. Must have safe routes to get up Valley, not on Hwy 12, maybe alongside. This project will transcend her term in office, but committed to continuing work.
- **Other Informational Requests:** efforts worthwhile to emphasize interests of Valley, push the process, clarify it, create a new process, move forward to meet Springs' needs.
- **Mental Health Forum in Santa Rosa:** will be online available to view virtual. Panels on: Abuse, Caregiving, etc. Acknowledged all Mental Health Advisory Board workers, plus Hanna Center. Valley Mental health needs clearly identified.
- **Special thanks** this week to all Public Servants for service, including MAC

Chair Iturri called for Council Comments

Councilmember Reyes, inquired if Sup Gorin will attend ribbon cutting on 31st? Sup Gorin, yes.

Chair Iturri, re Donald St. Gap funding. Is \$1.7M for delineators or something more substantial? Sup Gorin need more substantial. Redesign that stretch. Need safer, clearer access to mobilehome park, intersection w/ Donald St., plus Hwy 12. Need sidewalks, will require Right of Way. Need to put in a retaining wall. Delineators not replacing bridge. Area south of bridge needs to be redesigned, expensive work.

Councilmember Lombard, re Donald St Gap, confused. If it is on Hwy 12 then it is the state's responsibility. Sup Gorin, agreed. That is why county is trying to package Verano Ave and Donald St Gap together to qualify for Reconnecting Communities infrastructure funding from Federal Gov. through State. Pushing as hard as possible; meeting resistance. Moving forward.

Chair Iturri called for Public Comment

Greg Larson, re roads - he went to Public Infrastructure website. No breakdown for District 1. No expenditures. Nothing. Need to know where the money is. How much is being allocated to

each mile of road? How much is cost comparison to pothole vs paving? Crews out potholing all winter, why not just pave, better. Could not find any info.

Supervisor Gorin, there is a lot of info, may be buried deeply. Suggested meeting w/ Public Works to get info. **Greg Larson**, requested a public meeting. **Sup Gorin**, yes, MAC heard his request.

Chair Iturri called for Public Comment, zoom. None. Closed.

6. MAC Norms/Expectations (POSTPONED)

Council discussion and direction on adopting respectful public comment, norms, and meeting length resolutions.

Chair Iturri called for Public Comment. None.

7. Emergency Preparedness: Sonoma Valley Fire (@21:45)

Receive an informational update from Chief Steve Akre (unavailable).

Gary Johnson, Sonoma Valley Fire District Administration

- **Weed Abatement** Season approaching. Deadline June 15th, will be sending out notices to property owners to fix or Fire Dept. will fix. There is a Weed Complaint Form, website sonomavalleyfire.org. He does inspections.
- **Defensible Space Inspections** begun. This year switching from upper Springs/Mountain Ave/Michael Drive to west side of Valley. Inspections at Temelec, Carriger Rd, Arnold Dr. - 280 parcels to be inspected.
- **Hazardous fuel reduction county project**, First Phase successful. Strategic fuel break from Wahl Road/Trinity Rd to across top of ridgeline to Norrbom Rd; moving into Second Phase. County will notify landowners through letters to 44 parcels, for access to do EIRs. If homeowners allow work to be done, then go forward after FEMA grant funding released in early 2024. Large project, covers 8.5 miles. Includes Hazardous Fuel Reduction, shaded fuel break, roadside clearance.
- **SOCO Adapt Program**, county. Free home assessments. Rebates available for structural hardening, defensible space work. 2024 rebates increasing to \$10,700.
- **Firesafe Sonoma Grant Program for low income and senior** up to \$2 thousand for structural hardening, defensible space work. Program ends at end of June. Money still available. Contact Fire Safe Sonoma.
- **Emergency Preparedness event in Springs**, attended. Well organized. Good public response/interaction.
- **Staffing being provided for SDC's Fire Dept.**, 2 days a week. Also, under contract w/ Kenwood Fire District, daily staffing for them, 4 members for emergency staffing needs.

- **AED Community program.** Adding more to City of Sonoma at Bocce courts, in front of City Hall. Collaborating w/ “Just one Mike Foundation” at Hanna Center ball fields. 2 weeks ago a community AED used to save a life at Friedman’s. Invited public to identify public locations.
- **Sales Tax Initiative County-wide,** for county Fire Services, half-cent Initiative. Signature acquisition begins next month. Need 20 thousand signatures to qualify for Ballot. Raise \$60 million for county fire services. Primarily to increase staffing up to 200 firefighter positions. Also infrastructure updates; many fire stations need work.

Chair Iturri called for Council comments.

Councilmember Reyes, re tax increase. Clarified - \$60 million. How will it be divided by District? **Gary Johnson,** over last 4 years has been a working group from all Fire Services/Districts/Depts. to identify needs. That’s how it will be divided, i.e. how much is needed now? With new Tax Initiative 95% of needs will be met. Benefit overall; will vary by department. Improved staffing for one department benefits all. Been methodically analyzed.

Councilmember Reyes thanked SVFD for Emergency Prep event in Springs.

Chair Iturri, re all the mitigation programs, i.e. Weed Abatement, Defensible Space, Hazardous Fuel Breaks - was that work also happening prior to the 2017 fire or is that work now a result of fires? **Gary Johnson,** always had the Weed Abatement Program within the Fire District, what's changed the most is amount of grant money for Vegetation Management. A lot has come from county, either a pass through or them funding those Defensible Space Inspections. Fire District is boots on ground for county; they reimburse FD for that work. Much improved since 2017 Fires. A ton of money out there now w/ Cal Fire Grants, State Grants, Federal Grants, local grants. Things that affect wildfire growth are - fuel, weather & topography. Can’t change the weather or topography - can change the fuels. So that's where all those dollars are now going.

Councilmember Alcaraz, how are Vegetation or Weed Abatement Inspections conducted? Also, what does the approaching fire season look like?

Gary Johnson, re Weed Abatement: conduct on-site property inspections. Must meet state & county codes; Chapter 13A Fire Safe Code for county, unincorporated or Local Responsibility areas. In the State responsibility areas; follow the Board of Forestry Code & Cal Fire Codes. Then issue a letter of violation if appropriate. Provide a time frame to abate fuel. If miss deadline, county will hire a company to do abatement work, issue homeowner a bill.

Re fire season, was looking bleak at beginning of 2023; recent rains have helped fuel moisture. This week hot & windy; drying out will start. Compared to 2016/17 winter, same amount of rainfall, then had 2017 fire. Been in drought for 10-15 years; would take 50 years to recover. Locally w/ fires, dead & dying vegetation still a concern. Hard to predict. In 2021, throughout state 2.5 million acres burned. Last year only 350,000 acres.

Councilmember Allan, re abatement. If/when someone is sent request to take care of problem, what is general time start to finish of process? And what would be done in emergency?

Gary Johnson, vague, due to fact CA is a litigious state. Average, from 30-120 days. Yes, could be in height of fire season in Aug/Sept. Hands tied due to legalities.

Chair Iturri called for Public Comment

Greg Larson, re 2017 fire & general problems w/ communications - this is his area of expertise, 33 years' experience. Fires burned fiber optic cables, & cell sites. People panicking, no service. Can there be emergency/fire preparation for problems w/ communication? Updates through scanners or ham radios?

Gary Johnson, yes, that work ongoing since last fires. Many state law changes w/ communication companies. Cellular companies must have back-up generators now, not just cell towers. Fall under Vegetation Management requirements around their towers. Cal Fire money going to those sites to perform clearance around cell towers. Re Ham radio operators, yes, ongoing. And there are other redundant emergency systems in place.

Suzanne Ring, thank you for all that you've done for the community re the fires. Re prevention. Does county go down by the creek where people are living? Fires have started there before. Now there's a lot of fuel, and there's building going on, cutting trees, building places to live. This is along the creek & down behind Larson Park where we're trying to get good, healthy activities. Do you get to go there? Funded for that? Or does that go through Cal Fire or other?

Gary Johnson, ability to control gets worse at creek w/ vegetation management & laws; problems due to EIR requirements. Can't just go down there & cut grass. A lot of money goes to EIR before work is done. When in a creek area, have to deal w/ Fish and Wildlife, other agencies, Water Resources Boards, etc. Near waterways it's very difficult.

Sup Gorin, thanked Gary Johnson for report. Added her encouragement to community - It's time to get out & cut our grass. Recent rains, warm temperatures growing grass tall. Depend on community as well as county agencies. Still evaluating the status of new projects. Mentioned a new tool – a Map. The County Wildfire Protection Plan approved by BoS yesterday. Go on to BoS Agenda, or Permit Sonoma & download 200 pages of great information & the mapping tools that they have crafted to overlay both priority projects for county as well as being a portal for local Fire Safe Councils to upload their projects. Exciting to have all on one map, one tool for everything going on in county.

8. Emergency Preparedness: COAD <https://www.sonomacountycoad.org> (@44:08)

Receive an informational presentation from the COAD.

Jeanette Pantoja, Director of Sonoma County, Community Organizations Active in Disaster Power Point

Purpose to coordinate response of community-based organizations (CBOs) during disaster event. Throughout year do preparation & capacity building of community organization

members, insuring they have info, resources, training to support community through disaster, whether wildfire or severe winter storms. Now 50 community-based organizations in county.

Clarified, COAD not a service providing agency – do not provide direct services. Goal: help work alongside county to identify unmet needs during disasters, or in anticipation. To work w/ network of CBOs to identify who can meet needs. If not, then elevate needs to county. Has a seat in Emergency Operation Center during disasters. She serves as liaison to other COAD members who also rotate in. Embedded during key decision-making during disasters. Disseminating info to member organizations, & feeding info into county operations so that it's informed by real world community conditions. Know that CBOs have more granular info about their communities, also often more trusted partners w/ community members, especially people who have been historically marginalized by linguistic, technological or economic barriers.

COAD is fairly new; emerged in response to 2017 fires. CBOs realized needed a more coordinated response. Hired first Director in 2020. Part of network. COADs or VOADs (Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters) in other North Bay counties. Part of Nor Cal VOAD. Also a national organization.

Collaboration of public & private entities

Benefits of Collaboration

Coalition is diverse. The nonprofit organizations focus in different areas of county. Provide different types of services & bring different skills & expertise that can inform a more realistic response. Can disseminate information to community effectively. Have been focused on an equitable response to disaster. Over the last couple of years our members have been strong advocates for linguistic & cultural competency, whether in its shelters or in emergency communications.

COADs Impacts in Sonoma County

Activated network earlier this year, in January 2023 in response to the winter storms. She was embedded at the Emergency Operation Center for 2 weeks. In that time mobilized over 50 community organizations that were disseminating information. Were distributing emergency financial assistance & other kind of food & basic needs, like water & clothing. Were recruiting volunteers, especially bilingual volunteers to serve within shelters & other capacities. Worked with county to help pilot these recovery support centers, which are really a first in California effort to set up a recovery operation in absence of a FEMA Declaration. And this really happened because we were getting that information from grassroots organizations &

community health workers who even though the counties' damage assessments were saying - *maybe only a dozen homes were damaged, maybe we don't need a recovery operation.* We had the information to say - *actually, what we're hearing from community is that a lot of people have been without power for more than a week. Many people w/o work for several weeks, and they're feeling real economic distress. And more folks experienced damage to their home that they're just not reporting, because maybe they are renters, or maybe they live in un-permitted housing situations.*

Worked hand in hand with county to set up this recovery operation, & had more than 1,000 families come & apply for emergency financial assistance & receive connection & referral to other county & community based organization services. The County Board of Supervisors responded to just how many people came to these centers & increased the amount of emergency financial assistance to a \$1 million.

Three Ways to Get Involved

If you are a member representative of a faith based organization or a community based organization become a member. A simple Google form. There are meetings; general membership meetings every other month. Have committees that are very active & do a lot of work together. You can volunteer. Join our On-Call COAD Volunteer Disaster Response Team that's really our hub for where we source folks who can volunteer in shelter settings at the Recovery Support Center & other capacities during the disaster & stay connected to us.

See website. Sign up for Newsletter, & we're also on social media. Had a lot of fun yesterday at the Preparedness Fair working here in the area and got to connect with a lot of residents who are just starting their preparedness journey because they had not been signed up for alerts, or they didn't know their evacuation zone, & we were able to help meet that gap.

Chair Iturri called for Council Comments

Councilmember Reyes, acknowledged Jeanette for presentation & also for helping put up flyers (w/ her baby) on 25% of Hwy 12 corridor. Also appreciated opportunities to do subcommittees of COADs in sub-region areas which are very needed to be able to coordinate services in the different regions.

Chair Iturri, how many nonprofits or organizations are you working with in the valley?

Jeanette, unsure. When she began as Director last year, much membership concentrated along 101 corridor; beyond La Luz didn't have members in Valley. Her recent efforts to identify connections here & in West County to strengthen network. Focused on supporting efforts emerging from Valley & making connections with folks. In the winter supportive of warming center efforts here & helping to recruit volunteers for that. This is part of work of helping establish those relationships. Thanked Karina for invitation today to MAC.

Councilmember Reyes, noted that Springs' MYN is part of group. Get newsletters, share contact info, very well networked. Still need more internal connection among agencies that are here doing emergency preparedness.

Chair Iturri, yes, highlighting or illuminating that a lot of the organizations here are volunteers. Making those connections is more of a challenge.

Councilmember Reyes, yes, e.g. MYN are volunteers; now need to organize our time, since pandemic is officially over today according to Federal Gov. Need to re-prioritize, personally, be able to at least attend the meeting. Been watching all the newsletters & getting all the emails. Be more proactive now & get ready for fire season.

Jeanette, yes, if there's interest & leadership for it here will be happy to support facilitating some convenings, tabletop exercises, & provide resources.

Chair Iturri, your approach is really important; the language, the cultural piece of that is something that's really needed in this community.

Councilmember Reyes, Jeanette has an inventory supply list of [supply] Pod at Altamira. It's important to work with the COAD because Covid charities share info with Nathan. Have proposed an Emergency Ad Hoc 2.0, & suggest that MAC work more closely with the COAD.

Councilmembers Lombard & Winders acknowledged speaker & presentation.

Chair Iturri called for Public Comment

Greg Larson, where are the COAD centers located? There is much need for that assistance.

Jeanette, there are no active centers now; previously were in response to winter storms. Piloted effort; open January 15-18 for four days in Guerneville, 3 in Healdsburg. Decision led by Emergency Operations Center in response to data for areas most impacted by power outages & other impacts from storms. Was also an effort to outreach to other areas to apply for Emergency Financial Assistance (EFA) at centers. Plus BoS approved additional funding for additional organization to accept additional applications for EFA; based on Sup Gorin's comment that access was limited outside of north & western counties to the EFA opportunities.

Sup Gorin, BoS has prioritized discussion this year on how to open warming & cooling centers in response to climate change. Many Springs' residents w/o air conditioning. Considering plan to open Veterans Bldg. or other locations in Springs, how to staff or partner w/ community organizations, all TBD. Will be Agenda Item before BoS. Invited MAC input on decisions for centers. What are thresholds to be considered?

9. Emergency Preparedness: CVNL (POSTPONED)

Receive an informational presentation from the CVNL

Called for Public Comment

Gary Johnson, re Vegetation Management, Center Volunteer & Nonprofit Leadership (CVNL) will come out to work one day for free. Network on this w/ COAD for volunteer groups. Can do vegetation clearing, help others.

10. Emergency Preparedness: Springs MYN (POSTPONED)

Receive an informational presentation from the Springs Map Your Neighborhood program

Councilmember Reyes, re Springs MYN, currently her & Dana; in collaboration w/ MAC & DM did Emergency Prep Fair. Looking for fiscal sponsor, perhaps SIS (Sonoma Immigrant Services), to formalize, get a website, do neighborhood events. Keep momentum going in Springs MAC neighborhood. Active on social media.

11. Caltrans Letter of Support (@1:04:22)

Discuss and approve draft letter of support for Caltrans traffic and safety improvements at the Verano-Highway 12 intersection in the Springs.

Chair Iturri introduced, read letter out loud, edited live w/ Council Discussion.

FINAL VERSION: <https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/springs-mac-meeting-may-10-2023>



Caltrans letter
Traffic Safety 05.10.:

Chair Iturri called for Public Comment (@1:21:01)

Mike Berger, Director of Public Works City of Sonoma. To be noted in the Letter that he represents one of four separate Agencies w/ Sup Gorin's Office who are all working on this Agenda Item: Cal Trans, Sonoma County SCTA (Sonoma County Transportation Authority), City of Sonoma, Public Infrastructure (SOCO PI) <https://www.sonomacity.org › departments › public-works>

Greg Larson, worked w/ a community group 25 years ago to get a walkway over Hwy 12 from Maxwell Park tennis courts to bike lane. Just for pedestrians; so many agencies involved it was tossed aside. Now everyone on board. Suggested looking at this idea again. Over Highway 12 to bike path, back and forth.

Chair Iturri, added suggestion to Letter. *Consider alternative to crosswalks.*

Councilmember Allan, include mention of amount of time involved w/ limited progress, consider overall ongoing costs. Add that the accidents were and are preventable.

Councilmember Lombard, important to convey urgency needed for job.

Chair Iturri called for Public Comment, Zoom. None.

Chair Iturri called for Motion to approve revised Letter to Board of Supervisors.

Councilmember Lombard made a Motion to approve the revised Letter to BoS.

Councilmember Reyes seconded. Roll Call Vote. Unanimous. Approved.

BREAK 8:16pm – 8:24pm

12. Ad hoc and Community Projects Updates

Council Reports, Announcements, and updates

- **Adopt a Highway/Road**

Councilmembers Allan, Reyes – researching possible programs. Adopt a Highway not best, selections in Rohnert Park, Forestville, don't rep Springs. Adopt a Road better - 3 sections short listed: two on Arnold Drive - Orange to Agua Caliente or Solano to Craig. Or Petaluma Ave which is not being claimed; a little shorter which is a benefit in that it would encourage volunteer turnout, less of a distance to cover. But all still highly trafficked for greater visibility. Further discussion pending. Will foot bill for a sign. 2-3 days a year to do cleanup.

Councilmember Reyes, clarified only 2 in Springs are Solano or Aqua Caliente to Orange/Arnold Dr. Recommended looking at map & choosing one in Springs.

- **Bicycle Rack Project (@1:48:16)**

Councilmembers Hardeman, Iturri – bike rack at Art Escape, cannot paint it. Experimented w/ applying vinyl strips that stick, costs less. Have 5 bike racks to do & place at bus stops in Springs; locations TBD. Bike racks free. Ad Hoc seeks approval from MAC for \$50 for vinyl wrap. We need to coordinate with Sonoma County Transit to have other 4 delivered to Art Escape by June. Karina sent an email to Brian. Then need to review & approve the installment of the 5 bike racks from the previous transit list. Will do that at the next Ad Hoc update. A Motion to approve will be made at end of all Ad Hoc reports.

- **Community Picnic (@1:50:36)**

Councilmember Winders, application is in for permit, got quote on porta potties, asked for invoice to be sent to SIS (Sonoma Immigrant Services). Will send proof of insurance to Regional Parks. Encouraging community to walk in/reduce traffic, & to pack out their trash. Drafted Press Release, made some edits. Chair Iturri read Press Release out loud.

Power Point: <https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/springs-mac-meeting-may-10-2023>



SMAC Picnic Press
Release .pdf

Discussion:

Chair Iturri, can a taco truck be invited? In case people don't bring their own picnic.

Councilmember Winders, on Special Use Permit there are questions, rules about food. Unsure of possibilities; will find out.

Councilmember Lombard, we need ice cream too, it's summer.

Sup Gorin, has Community Picnic on her calendar. Noted there is another event same night - Juneteenth, 5-8pm. She & Karina will check re taco truck approval AND ice cream.

Karina Garcia, recommended getting a translation of flyer.

Karina Garcia, clarified funding for Picnic event. Does the money allocated prior cover the taco truck expense, or will you need more money? If you do, either have an option to bring that forward tonight if this is a Resolution Item, or you will need a Special Meeting before this event. Chair Iturri, Discussion. Agreement to research further possibilities w/ hiring taco trucks, or free tacos.

Chair Iturri called for Public Comment

Greg Larson, music at event? Councilmember Winders, not currently. Didn't put that on the Application, because we don't have anyone signed up. However, Ballet Folklorico had expressed interest in participating. But we hadn't planned on bringing a band.

- **Emergency Preparedness 2.0 (@2:02:19)**

Councilmember Reyes, and Rachel/ volunteer. Chair Iturri will join Ad Hoc. (inaudible comments)

Presentation: <https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/springs-mac-meeting-may-10-2023>



SMAC Emergency Preparedness Fair po

- **Logo Competition (@2:08:07)**

Councilmember Winders, have not gotten much response. Recommended bumping deadline to fall. Need better advertising push. Announce at Community Picnic. Discussion. Agreed. Suggested September 30. A vote is required to make the date change; will be done at end of reports.

- **Springs Community Plaza Funding update (@2:10:31)**

Chair Iturri, Councilmember Allan, Josette/volunteer. Have not met officially as group. Got confirmation that close to \$2M still available. Discussion pending on next steps.

Sup Gorin, in discussion w/ county on Plaza & potentially land around Plaza. Would like to meet w/ Ad Hoc to plan another MAC & community/public meeting. Focus on what people want, not necessarily considering the funding available. What does the community want to see in a Plaza? Then county can move forward as well.

Chair Iturri called for Public Comment

Greg Larson, will plaza funding leave if not used before June? Has it been extended?

Sup Gorin, no, funds will not leave; will not be considered for re-use by BoS. But Springs' community does need to move forward. A request was made to use some of funding for Larson Park; she said no. Keeping her priorities for Springs; been protecting funding for eight years.

Greg Larson, re securing land - main issue of a plaza – how big, location? Still unclear. Use \$2M to procure land in downtown Boyes, use Eminent Domaine over e.g. Uncle Patty's property, gas station. The current space is too small for a plaza.

- **Utility Box Project (@2:14:44)**

Councilmember Alcaraz, Chair Iturri

File:

<https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/springs-mac-meeting-may-10-2023>

Goal to beautify Springs' neighborhoods by decorating/painting the utility boxes. Walked along Hwy 12 from Aqua Caliente Rd to el Verano to identify & photograph. Unsure which units were Utility Boxes, so documented all. Seems that the main utility boxes are in the main intersections. Some are just randomly placed. Some have graffiti. Jeff, from Cal Trans, has directed Ad Hoc to have a contact in local government to move forward. Next steps to meet w/ Karina, & required officials re legal aspects. Added that while walking he saw much garbage on Hwy 12. Recommended using the Adopt a Road for those sections.

Sup Gorin, thanked Councilmember Alcaraz, noted large quantity of units/boxes. Has seen street art in Fort Collins, CO w/ beautifully painted utility boxes, & brought this idea forward five years ago. Cal Trans first said idea would be easy, but then it's not. Wants to stay involved, work w/ Art Escape, local artists. Will share her travel photos for examples. Talked to Comcast; they approved idea, said yes, paint their boxes too.

Karina Garcia, some units/boxes may be PGE; they have said no way in past.

Public Comment

Greg Larson, worked in utility industry; there are many units - PGE, Comcast, etc. There's always graffiti. There are easements and rights. Find out who owns it, get permission in writing. County owns boxes, on Hwy 12, so have to include Cal Trans.

Karina Garcia suggested Greg participate in Ad Hoc. Agreement.

Chair Iturri called for Council Comments.

- **Dia del Nino, Quetzalen Concert, April 23rd (@2:25:14)**

Councilmember Reyes

Powerpoint: <https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/springs-mac-meeting-may-10-2023>



SMAC_Dia del
Nino_Quetzalen conc

Chair Iturri called for all Motions.

Councilmember Alcaraz made a Motion to approve \$50 for vinyl wrap to complete work for bike racks at Art Escape. Councilmember Lombard seconded. Roll Call Vote. Unanimous. Approved.

Councilmember Winders made a Motion to change deadline for Logo Contest to Sept 30th. Councilmember Alcaraz seconded. Roll Call Vote. Unanimous. Approved.

Karina Garcia, clarified another motion would be needed for both scenarios re either hiring a taco truck or providing tacos for free, unless it's taken out of existing Budget.
Chair Iturri, also need to approve Press Release, as well as taco truck options.

Councilmember Reyes made a Motion to approve Press Release, to be translated into Spanish. Councilmember Lombard seconded. Roll Call Vote. Unanimous. Approved.

Councilmember Lombard made a Motion to approve inviting taco truck to sell own tacos. Councilmember Alcaraz seconded. Roll Call Vote. Unanimous. Approved.

Chair Iturri, if a motion is made to approve inviting taco truck & pay for tacos would this request need a quote & a Special Meeting?

Discussion:

Councilmember Winders clarified, we allocated \$1,000 towards event, & the porta potties have come out to be considerably less than expected. So there may be enough in the Budget; will get a quote from a taco truck.

Chair Iturri, the motion would be to distribute the funds we currently have to potentially pay for Tacos based on the quote.

Councilmember Lombard, each option has its appeal.

Councilmember Reyes, suggested people pay for tacos, but MAC give away ice cream; more affordable, popular. Council agreement.

Chair Iturri will research quote for ice cream.

Councilmember Reyes made a Motion to use additional money to purchase ice cream from local vendors to give away until it runs out, & invite a taco truck to sell their tacos.

Councilmember Alcaraz seconded. Roll Call Vote. Unanimous. Approved.

13. Consideration of Future Agenda Items (@2:36:52)

Share ongoing list of future agenda items and note others of interest.

Chair Iturri: JUNE - Economic Growth & Small Business; may remove that Item due to return of Call Trans which will be popular topic. And Sonoma Water, presentation on Local Hazard Mitigation.

Ad Hoc updates.

Councilmember Alcaraz, re Greg Larson's request for better info on funding for road paving
JULY - bus route update Sonoma to Rohnert Park

Councilmember Lombard, norms for June? Chair Iturri, may have to wait for July.

Also Emergency Preparedness for July.

Public Comment

Greg Larson, re banning of single-use plastics in county. Can MAC take this issue on? Single-use plastics are everywhere, at bars, restaurants, & are not recyclable. County can only recycle 15% of all items that are recyclable. Banning would help prevent as much going to landfill or ocean. Would force corporations to change format & make biodegradable items. Helps w/ climate change because that's all fossil fuels.

Chair Iturri, suggested Zero Waste could do presentation.

Chair Iturri dedicated meeting to Dia de las Madres, celebrated in Latin American countries today

Councilmember Reyes recognized May as Mental Health Month; May 9th Children’s Mental Health Day

Adjourned 9:21pm

Springs MAC You Tube meeting May 10, 2023

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=khNZ7EKL6wE>

All files in or related to Minutes can be downloaded at this link:

<https://share.sonoma-county.org/link/HeaQYmj9Z-Q/>

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Springs MAC website <https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/springs-mac>

https://share.sonoma-county.org/link/zM_Zkql-nq8/

Susan Gorin’s website for zoom video https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLOdzlO4_wWVEgcBB5907iZTimmplqLGhJ

Materials related to an item on this Agenda submitted to the Springs Municipal Advisory Council after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection in the Board of Supervisors’ Office located at 575 Administration Drive, Room 100-AI, Santa Rosa, CA, during normal business hours. You may also find them on the Springs MAC website at <https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/springs-mac>

Note: Consideration of items will proceed as follows:

1. Presentation by proponent
2. Questions by Commissioners
3. Questions and comments from the public
4. Response by proponent, if required
5. Comments by Commissioners
6. Resolution, if indicated

Web Links: County of Sonoma: www.sonoma-county.org select Boards and Commission