

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
April 12, 2023**

1. Call to Order & Roll Call 6:34

Roll Call: Chair Iturri

Present: Reyes, Hardeman, Winders, Alcaraz, Allan

Absent: Lombard

Chair Iturri & Karina Garcia welcomed new member Jack Allan. Oath of Office completed.

Announced resignation of Councilmember/Vice Chair Perot. Acknowledged her service to community.

Chair Iturri: Encouraged Council participation. Acknowledged MAC's support team.

Spanish interpretation provided.

Present: Julie Burns & Claudia Mendoza-Carruth

2. Approval of Minutes of March 8, 2023 meeting

Councilmember Hardeman moved to approve March 8, 2023 Minutes. Councilmember Alcaraz Seconded. Unanimous approval.

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

Seth Dolinsky, 36 year Carriger Rd. resident. Affiliated w/ Sonoma Valley Grange Hall & Larson Park Community Garden, managing in partnership with county & Regional Parks. Larson Park Community Garden been an opportunity for positive change there. Springs' residents using many other facilities. More work to be done; invited volunteers. Everyone welcome at open hours - Fridays 9:30am-11:30. Event: Sat April 22nd an Earth Day Celebration, in conjunction w/ Regional Parks - a Creek Clean Up, Waste Disposal w/ large debris box. Partnering for plant giveaway, nursery plants, flowers, native, vegetable starts. 20 yards compost from Zero Waste Sonoma County & Recycling Napa. Encouraged community participation. Requested more resources for Larson Park to sustain projects & positive momentum. Noted ongoing issue of homeless people living on the creek, drug traffic.

Nick Koerner, Valley of Moon Park Riders Union, w/ additional representatives & members present. Update on Skate Park. In fundraising Phase One; requesting portion through Supervisor Gorin's office. Requesting a Letter of Approval from MAC. Providing document materials w/ summaries, photos. Needs: painting, weeding, developing youth programs. Progressing w/ other interim projects during building renovation. Voiced support for solution to Hwy 12/Verano intersection hazard which is regularly utilized by people to Park, especially

children using restrooms at nearby businesses across street. No restroom or water fountain at Park.

Jim Price, Springs resident, on Steering Committee for “Next 100 Years Proposal”. Learned last week State of CA did not award their community centered proposal which would provide affordable housing for work force workers; instead awarded project to friends of Gov. Newsome - will end up w/ a Plum Jack Resort at SDC. Emphasized community should not be discouraged. Thanked MAC for Letter supporting North Sonoma Valley MAC; formed predicate for Next 100 Years Proposal. In spite of discouraging position of Sacramento, this project will not be done until community says so. Do not give up hope.

Public Comment from Zoom

Fred Allebach, greeted everyone. Tech problems.

Chair Iturri called for Community Announcements:

Karina Garcia, Charla Comunitaria. In Spanish Community Charla, Thursday 6-7pm, Facebook live; re best health practices for family & individuals, updates for Covid, updates on emergency preparedness



Charla Comunitaria
AGENDA 13 de abril 2

Councilmember Reyes - Events:

- **School Safety Forum at Boys & Girls Club;** Monday April 17th 6:30-8:30, collaboration w/ RISK, School District, Sonoma Valley Youth Family Services, City of Sonoma Police, Spanish interpretation available.
- **Day of the Children, Concert,** at Hanna Boys Center, April 23rd, giving away toys for children. Springs MAC supporting, & Immigrant Services as Fiscal Sponsor.
- **Emergency Preparedness,** Tuesday, May 9th, 4:30-6:30; Boyes Blvd, next to Post Office, collaboration w/ Dept. of Emerg Mgmt., all first responders & stakeholders. Giving away FREE Go-Bags.

Councilmember Hardeman, re School Safety Forum, encouraged carpooling. Parking lot tight, rough, potholed.

4. Chair Iturri Update

- Welcomed new Councilmember Allan; sent best wishes to former Vice Chair Perot & her new family member.
- Springs MAC has two vacancies, Alternate Seats; accepting applications through county.
- Liaison report from SVCAC Meeting, March 22nd: lengthy discussion on Winery Guidelines, not for a Resolution, no action taken.
- April 27th she will be presenting at Springs Rotary as MAC rep.
- SVCAC inviting MAC to April 26th Meeting, presentation on Zoning & Planning overview. Encouraged MAC to attend. Hybrid option. To learn about the Zoning Districts Commission's application process, & land use. Will save MAC from future agenda item if

able to attend that meeting & hear presentation.

- Pavement Funding Program. BoS discussing mitigation funding on Tuesday. Item found at Sonoma County website; does work of MAC Ad Hoc (Lombard, Perot) to identify roads needing paving. Recommendations went to Public Infrastructure for consideration. List of roads selected for Pavement Funding Cycle on Sonoma County website.
- Larson Park, Supervisor Gorin submitting budget request to BoS for Larson Park funding. Working w/ Regional Parks to submit documentation. MAC may send letter of support. Can Agendize for May calendar.

Councilmember Alcaraz, inquired re SVCAC meeting. April 26th, City Council Chambers or hybrid, 6:30

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

5. Supervisor Susan Gorin Update (@22:17 on you tube)

On zoom, from Colorado visit w/ family

- No BoS Meeting this week so will be many Agenda Items for next Tuesday.
- **Pavement Preservation Program** in 2 parts: First - 2024-25 Program to be approved by BoS, many roads, will send Attachment D w/ list of county roads for repaving/resurfacing. Second - List of roads being completed/paved w/ last of PGE Settlement Funds. E.g. Nuns Canyon Rd., Arnold Drive. Donald St Gap has more funding; working on grant proposals to complete. Hwy 12/Donald. Hwy 121/8th St. East for future roundabouts. Managed by SETA, also seeking funding for design; Congressman Thompson delivering earmark \$1.25Million for project. Grove St. widening, turn outs & retaining walls via Fire Safe Council work of many years. Lichau Road, other side of Sonoma Mountain, been partly paved. Regular paving funds being used for local roads plus remainder of District One. Due to heavy rains, many roads in horrible condition. Transportation Public Works got over 2,000 repair requests; everyone wants it done completely this year. Reality - will be put on priority list next 2-4 years, will be analyzed by list.
- **Grants for Vegetation removal**, as part of FEMA, BRIC* Grants to County; many areas not prioritized but have been around Sonoma Mountain.
[*Google:<https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/building-resilient-infrastructure-communities>. [Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities | FEMA.gov](#) Jan 27, 2023 FEMA's **BRIC grant** program give states, local communities, tribes and territories funding to address future risks to natural disasters, including ones involving: wildfires, drought, hurricanes, earthquakes, extreme heat, and flooding. Addressing these risks helps make communities more resilient.]
- **Utility undergrounding**. Moving forward. Important to identify stretch of Madrone to Arnold as place for undergrounding due to transition w/ SDC project.
- **Sonoma Valley Regional Services Hub**. Update. Old Nelson Building, south of Verano intersection. Two parts: first, confirming lease agreement w/ owner Gary Nelson for larger side, plus joint conference room. Once confirmed, go on BoS Agenda, possibly move-in by August 2nd. In conversation re what services will be delivered at new Hub, e.g. Health & Human services, possibly housing navigator, other services. Second, Catalyst

Fund in conversation w/ owner, Gary Nelson, re terms for rent or sale of other half. Evaluating what service organizations would best be served by office in second half of building. Will be a Hub for services, Sonoma Valley Health Center will be key for services there. The project has taken 7-8 years; coming to fruition. Resulted from discussion of a new county complex at the site of the Central Administration Center, when she & Supervisor Hopkins advocated for regional hubs to decentralize some of those services. Want people to be able to walk in & access services.

- **Fridays at the Hood** summer music series. Negotiation w/ concert provider, series of summer concerts, like Funky Fridays, at Los Guillicos, will be called "Fridays at the Hood." Nathan Krause to hire music, food trucks.
- **Concern over tent on Boyes parking lot**, next to Mattson Bldg. BoS item - Second Reading of Camping Ordinance specifies where people cannot set up tents. Ordinance specifies - public places, parking lots, county property, and/or Regional Parks cannot be sites for encampments. SOS & HAS have outreached to aforementioned individual in tent; does not want to move, will have to when Ordinance is in effect. County will offer appropriate shelter accommodations, if person refuses, will need to move belongings in 1-2 days, or be evicted & belongings confiscated. This is a tool to clear Trail, & managed tent encampment at tent center. Also heard there is another tent at Fiesta parking lot. There are many homeless individuals in Sonoma Valley, but have mostly been hidden. Annie Falandes working to complete Quick Haven Huts in progress; 20 people will be moving in there. County increasing professionalizing services, but not perfect.

Chair Iturri called for Council Comments

Councilmember Winders, will County's House & Human Services include a satellite HUD office? Medical, etc.? Supervisor Gorin, yes, hoping for that. Will be outreaching to CDC. Eligibility workers will definitely be there. Invited recommendations for services; send an email. Councilmember Winders, suggested a space for applications for child care subsidies, e.g. 4Cs, Head Start Supervisor; saving trip to Santa Rosa or w/o internet access. Supervisor Gorin, good idea. Hopes Catalyst Fund will be able to fund.

Chair Iturri called for Public Comment - Zoom

Mario Castillo, appreciated report from Supervisor Gorin, in particular update on the Hub. He advocates for transparent public process on this project. As a 23 year Valley resident, his experience is that in spite of all the nonprofits there are people who struggle all the time to get services. Valley good at coming up w/ nonprofits & organizations but feels they are self-serving. Only acting like they are getting the job done. Apologized for raining on the parade. Seems to always be the same people running things; still waiting for minimum to be met, i.e. housing, basic human necessities. Acknowledged generous to donations to Food for All; grass roots, women volunteers working consistently for three years on the front lines. And then there are people who are getting paid to do the same job but do it poorly. Supervisor Gorin, thanked Mario for his contributions as a community advocate. Hub is a work in progress; will be a "walk in" center for community to access resources. May need an appointment. Been advocating for this Regional Service Center for better accessibility.

6. Caltrans (@38:16)

Receive an update from Caltrans on the Verano/Highway 12 intersection and other areas of interest in the Springs. Receive informational presentation on the Caltrans Adopt a Highway Program. Council discussion and ad hoc creation for Adopt a Highway project. Receive informational presentation on the Caltrans Transportation Art Proposal Program. Council discussion and ad hoc creation for Utility Box Art Project. And may decide to send a Letter of Support for improvement on Hwy 12/Verano intersection.

Aung Maung, Division Chief for Transportation Safety, Chief Safety Office CalTrans District 4, responsible for nine Bay Area Counties. Providing an update re efforts by Cal Trans, City of Sonoma, County Public Works & SETA for Verano/Sonoma Hwy 12 intersection. With Supervisor Gorin's leadership, formed an Ad Hoc to look into three things:

- 1. Immediate Enhancement
 - 2. Short Term & Long Term Enhancements
 - 3. Permanent Enhancements
- ALL for intersection & corridor.

#2 requires additional funding to go through project process.

- Also did **Lighting Intensity Survey** at intersection to see if current crosswalks were meeting lighting standards. Results came in – standards are being met. However, there is an island for the free right turns from Sonoma/12 onto Verano, in both directions, and a little short crosswalk. Those two quadrants which will be East & Northeast quadrants, need the lighting enhancements. City of Sonoma is going to step up to procure solar power for temporary lighting for those quadrants.
- Re other Immediate Enhancements being considered: based on Crash Data, the conflicts happen when drivers turn left from Verano onto Sonoma/12, hitting pedestrian/s on Sonoma 12 crosswalk. To mitigate: noted that currently in Signal Timing Phase, when traffic on Verano on east/west bound get the “green light” - pedestrians Sonoma 12 get the “walk.” This has created the potential conflict.
- **First option: Split Phase green time** for Verano traffic, i.e. when west bound Verano gets the green; pedestrian for south side crosswalk will be red. So no chance of left hand traffic & pedestrian walking.
- Same thing for other direction. When east bound Verano gets green the north sidewalk will be red.

Splitting the Phase like this will take more time for driver to travel through intersection.

- **Second option: the All Exclusive Pedestrian Crossing Phase** i.e. all vehicles in the intersection will be red when pedestrians are crossing any direction.

Seeking Council & community feedback on these two options.

Additional note: w/ **All Exclusive Pedestrian Crossing Phase**, like to have a Blank Sign; would show “no turn on right” symbol, typically by law allowed to turn right on red. Would need to restrict that movement as well. For these electronic signs, design needed, additional wiring, installation. Can go w/ signs – “no right on red”.

Requested Outreach. Whatever options are chosen will create congestion; want to be sure community understands they are sacrifice mobility for safer intersection.

Re the **Split Phase Option**; will still have potential conflict, right turn on red w/ pedestrian crossing on crosswalk on Sonoma 12 would still be a risk.

Will have more details on two Options. Need feedback and Outreach.

- Next step for Immediate Implementation of those options; regroup w/ engineering partners at city, county, SETA to observe, tweak/modify/signal timing to optimize the throughput. Typically do a full blown Traffic Study analysis first, but understand urgency. Trying to observe, modify as needed to make implementation.
- Re **Short Term & Long Term Plans**, Cal Trans secured funding to do Permanent Enhancement for intersection. Current scope being considered - add a protective left turn on Verano, eliminate conflict of left turn & pedestrian crossing. Currently Verano westbound through on left. To make the protective left, will be basically adding a lane, will have to restripe whole block. Has potential of taking away the free right turn into Taco Bell.
- Other options: Upgrading intersection signal pole, lighting, adding left hand signal, speed feedback sign to alert drivers to slow down at intersection approach.
- Short Term option funded, but need project development stages, i.e. 2 years out.

For Immediate solution, need input feedback on two Options, could implement by end of spring. Requires making sure hardware is all good, develop the signal timing plan, so estimating two months, by June.

Also SETA looking at funding opportunities to enhance whole corridor, not just Verano/Hwy 12 intersection.

Chair Iturri called for Council Questions (@48:58 you tube)

Councilmember Alcaraz, asked for clarification on funding.

Aung, have commitment for funding for Short Term project i.e. the one that is 2 years out. For Immediate Implementation going to redirect the current resources & staff.

Councilmember Winders, inquired re inclusion of crossing timing for pedestrians w/ mobility disability issues. Not enough time. Increase that timing. Also, voice instruction that is audible for those w/ visual impairment.

Councilmember Reyes, re feedback & Outreach. What is timeline?

Councilmember Hardeman, personally makes left turn onto Verano northbound onto Hwy 12 regularly. Possible to add lanes as dedicated left turn. Biggest problem is that left turn. Might not need restriping— just put dedicated left turn from Verano running eastbound, turning left northbound on Hwy 12, like change made at West Thompson turn. Thinks that would mitigate many of the issues. A drive can sit at that light through four cycles, only move up one vehicle.

Councilmember Allan, re a more long term solution, by Cal Trans reports & other countries, consider for corridor program the introduction of concept of a roundabout; traffic flow would be slowed down, fewer collisions, don't get t-boned, more visible to those crossing, would complement the completion of Maxwell Park's redevelopment.

Aung's Answers: re crossing time. Typical Cal Trans guidelines are 3.5' per second to account for wheelchair users. To implement enough time for All Exclusive Pedestrian Phase will make sure there is enough time for all pedestrians to cross Hwy 12 & Verano. In that signal configuration, Hwy 12 is wider, needs extra time.

Re Audio/audible signals, needs to be included in Short Term project.

Re **Public timeline on feedback**, will provide further info to Karina on Immediate Enhancements; requested feedback be provided in 2 weeks. At next Ad Hoc meeting will review options, then return to MAC.

Re Turn dedicated lane, the one he mentioned for Short Term Project, is for Verano westbound going south on Sonoma 12. Will look into opposite direction as suggested by Councilmember Hardeman.

Re Roundabout, yes, do consider that option. That corridor right of way is back of a sidewalk, partly even at curb. Will need to require more right of way. Costs would rise. Community must want it; everybody's support. Can explore funding opportunities. Work w/ SETA. That type of project relies more on local partners; more on improvement w/ safety part of it. There are formulas that get applied for funding.

Public Comment via EMAIL from Ruth Lombard iris.rlombard@gmail.com

Sent: Wednesday, April 12, 2023 12:51 PM

To: Maité Iturri <basqueinsonoma@gmail.com>; Karina Garcia <Karina.Garcia@sonoma-county.org>

Subject: CalTrans Comment

Dear Maité and Karina,

Please include my comments at the appropriate time.

CalTrans, please consider:

- 1) All vehicle traffic should stop at the same time for pedestrians.
- 2) there should be designated left turn lanes for all four directions of traffic.
- 3) the uprights (scansions ?) at the intersection make it more difficult for drivers to take notice of pedestrians. My observation is that the perpendicular supports for the traffic lights are what we as drivers expect to see. It is, unfortunately and sometimes disastrously, to be distracted by the expected, and not see pedestrians.

Thank you, Iris Lombard

Chair Iturri called for Public Comment - 2 minutes

Jim Price, Springs' resident, is outraged. Extremely upset, not a laughing matter. People have died at this intersection; taking too long to find solutions. Criticized speaker's suggestions - another two years? The lack of the left hand turn lane creates road rage. Drivers become angry when they have to wait for very long, lose their focus. Wake up and do something. In honor of those who have lost their lives at that intersection.

Lisa Willet, 23 year Springs resident, familiar w/ intersection, has navigated it by foot, bicycle, car. On April 2nd going to Skatepark w/ son, saw person on gurney on Verano intersection on west side. Deaths on Hwy 12. Two 12 year old girls hit in crosswalk, have life altering injuries. This has to be addressed sooner than two years from now. Her son, 11 years old, he & his friends should not be at risk to get into Park where \$13M worth of upgrades are being done, which will attract more people to that Park & navigate that intersection. Must be sooner, must move faster. Not ok for people's lives & ability to walk be endangered any longer. Understands discussions in offices away from here, just talking about doing something. Can't continue to let

people die in that intersection because there's no money to fix it. We have to find the money to fix it. If there's money to rent a facility for the county to do who knows what, to rent a building from Nelsons, should be money to fix the intersection.

Eris Weaver, Executive Director of Sonoma County Bicycle Coalition, concerned about all vulnerable users & everyone's safety on streets. Anything that makes it safer for one category makes it safer for all others, i.e. bike, wheelchair, or car. Recommended entire state should go "no right on red". The right turn lanes are designed to let cars zoom & slip through. Put barriers out, block those lanes, that wouldn't cost much. The challenge is how wide? How far people have to go? How many of us are in our cars all the time going places? People drive because they don't feel safe walking or riding a bike; making the roads less safe. Infrastructure helps drive behavior. Things need to happen sooner. In another city, Santa Rosa, where 3-4 pedestrian/bicyclists killed, still nothing done on Stoney Point Road in six months. Expressed her outrage to Santa Rosa, still nothing done. Someone killed in SF; they put a protected bike lane in 2 weeks. SF more densely populated, more street funding per capita, fewer roads. Shares the outrage - 2 months isn't *immediate*, 2 years isn't *short term*. All need to look at our behavior. Proposed solution to slow down traffic? Deal with it. We aren't IN traffic we ARE traffic. Can't be mad about other traffic, unless we get out of our cars, get on bikes, etc.

Jordy Serafini, lives on Hwy 12, suggested another more immediate option - employ Crossing Guards, reflective vests, during high traffic hours. Children hit, many kids going to Park, facility being enlarged.

Public Comments - Zoom (@1:06:09)

David Eichar, major problem is the left turn, not the right turn. Most immediate solution to split traffic east & west bound green. When making left will be nobody crossing. Has seen that on westbound on Verano, people making right on Hwy 12, it back up. People go to Lomita & Donald. If you make a no right turn on red there, & that's the short light, you've got a long wait for Hwy 12 green to finish up & turn red before Verano turns green. People will go up Lomita, into Donald, will be more traffic in neighborhood. Not good. Need to think about no right turn on red there. Look at unintended consequences. May work in other direction. Is right turn on red a problem? Don't know. Look at statistics; if it has been then consider it.

Carol, has Cal Trans been told there's a 70 unit apartment building on Verano, about a block from that intersection? Along w/ a hotel? Unsure how that figures into their projections. Street will need to be widened. Are they aware, can they consult w/ county? Chair Iturri, in reply, Cal Trans is aware of that upcoming project.

Rachel, lives near intersection in El Verano. Concerned that District is talking about closing schools, so instead of going to Sassarini, sending kids to el Verano will have to cross highway.

Intersection is completely unsafe. Can hear people's dying screams at their house. Lived there two years. Refuses to use that crosswalk, won't let kids walk to school. Important to hustle on this, not prolong.

Chair Iturri & Council will read 2 minutes of each Public Comment received via email (@1:10:15)

Georgeann Quinn, I walk [Hwy] 12 every day to get my steps, & this is what I observe, & what is needed to make everyone safe at the crossing at 12. **Agua Caliente & 12:** need Voice Alert, Walk Light Is On & a Countdown. Better striping. **Mountain Avenue at Flowery School:** A Voice Alert, Walk Light is on, and Countdown, better striping. **Boyes Hot Springs Post Office.** Better striping and a Countdown. **Fruit Basket:** Voice Alert, Walk Light is on, & a countdown. **The Dollar Store:** this is a safe crosswalk has Voice Alert and a Count down. **McDonald's** needs a dedicated left turn arrow from Verano to 12, Voice Alert, walk, light is on, and countdown. **Lucky's** needs: Voice Alert, Walk Light On, & Countdown.

Pete, recently got back from a trip to Honolulu. For those who have traveled to Waikiki area the main thoroughfare (unclear) Drive is incredibly busy for cars & pedestrians in all 4 directions. Noticed in this recent trip that many intersections converted to pedestrian crossing lines, so that all traffic is stopped & pedestrians can cross in any direction, including diagonal. Maybe something worth considering for the highway 12/Verano, since all traffic will be stopped. Including right turn on red, & pedestrians have full access to all directions in the intersection. Maybe diagonals don't make sense for this intersection. Thanks.

Lisa Willet, On Sunday, April 2nd, 2023 my 11 year old son & I were in transit to Sonoma Skate Park at Maxwell Farms, when we witnessed a person being loaded onto a gurney & into emergency vehicle from the crosswalk on Verano Avenue and Highway 12. My young son watched in disbelief, and said again, Mom, why does this keep happening? He followed by saying that he will never come through this intersection again without an adult with him. I am appalled that we've had yet another injury accident in what has become the most dangerous intersections in Sonoma County. I'm appalled that we've had multiple fatalities & life altering injuries at the intersection and yet no meaningful changes have been made. I'm saddened that my son & all of the children in our community cannot safely navigate their way to Maxwell Farms, where 13 million dollars in upgrades are currently underway. It occurred to me that by upgrading the park we are enticing more members of our own community, our children and visitors from outside our community to navigate an intersection that we know is deadly. What are we doing? I'm well aware of the intersection overlaps the territory of State of California, Cal Trans and Sonoma County. We cannot continue to allow bureaucracy to slow the progress of addressing this killer intersection. Today I am asking the Springs Municipal Advisory Committee to consider stronger actions and exploring legal avenues to hold the municipalities responsible for addressing and resolving the problems contributing to the deaths and injuries to members of our community. Furthermore, it should be noted that is mainly the residents north of the intersection that are not able to access Sonoma County Regional Maxwell Park unless they

navigate the killer intersection, which is an equity issue that cannot be overlooked. While the East Side Sonoma residents and children can safely make their way west on a dedicated bike path. Springs residents and children must navigate bike lanes along highway 12 which narrows between the bridge and the intersection increasing the danger. Enough is enough. We need action.

Ann & Robert Clear, my husband, who frequents that intersection most days on his bike, would request a left hand turn arrow on all 4 turn sections of the intersection. Currently there is none, and we will urge flashing lights both on the pavement and alongside the pedestrian walk button, especially after dark alerting stopped cars that a pedestrian is crossing. This is familiar at other high-risk intersections. So how is it possible that it is not already in place, and at this intersection which is clearly high risk, even though Highway 12 is managed by the state? Verano Avenue is county road. There needs to be some mutual cooperation on both entities to avoid serious accidents in the future.

William Hinder, I'm writing to you to give you my suggestion for improving the Verano Highway 12 intersection. I bike and drive through it on a regular basis. Put in a roundabout. Here's why:

1. 50% more traffic moves through a roundabout as opposed to a traditional four-way stop
2. There are far fewer deaths, as the speeds traveled through a roundabout are greatly reduced.
3. It's more cost-effective because you don't have to maintain the lights and pedestrian crosswalks signals.
4. We're fortunate to still have enough room on the intersection to put one in.
5. There are fewer emissions from cars and trucks idling while waiting for the light to change.
6. The accidents that do occur are also far less severe, due to the reduced speeds of the intersection.
7. It reduces the noise of the intersection.

(off topic re Larson Park, misplaced) Josette B Eichar, can you please forward this to the Springs MAC ahead of the 4.12 meeting. I also plan to attend virtually. I have forwarded correspondence to you from County Parks concerning Larson Park. It appears from the information I have received that the county does not consider Larson Park to be an ideal location for the type of events that would take place on a plaza. It appears that they think Maxwell Park may be more suited to these types of events. I am not sure what other Springs' residents feel about Maxwell Park. It is my impression that many do not consider it as in the Springs, even though it is technically considered to be. I've also been asking in the last 2 meetings if the Springs MAC still has a Plaza AD Hoc committee or not. In addition, I have asked if the MAC will be interested in the Survey data I have collected from over 100 Springs' residents and what they would want in the Plaza, along with all their comments and suggestions. So far I've received no responses other than from Karina, suggesting that I apply for a Position on the Springs MAC. As I work full time running a floral design business that is not an option for me at this time. I'm often away when the MAC meets. I will attend the next meeting to see if there's any possibility of interest in this subject. I would love to hear back from the members of the Springs MAC.

Jeanette Sarich, kindly include my comments for this meeting, beginning with my emails below, dated February 24th to Miss Susan Gorin. Please read. I find it beyond belief that nothing has been done to remedy this dangerous, deadly intersection. How hard it can be for Miss Gorin to get Cal Trans to install a left turn arrow signals at the east and west sides of Verano Avenue at Highway 12 intersection in Sonoma as well as pedestrian crossing signals. The cost to do this should be secondary to safety. Saving lives should be a priority. Get it done.

Paul, Hello, I asked the County of Sonoma to adopt Continental Crosswalk Pattern for all major intersections in major roadways in the county. The Continental striping is used worldwide and in all major American cities. It is rapidly being adopted and used by towns of all sizes. Why? Because it would add a standardization of crosswalk patterns in the county of Sonoma. The City of Sonoma, for example, adopted the continental pattern for all major streets several years ago. During the recent highway 12 project, Cal Trans used the Continental striping on all of highway 12, with the exception of the Verano intersection. The County of Sonoma required the ladder pattern. This change from seeing the Continental to the ladder can be a source of motorists' confusion. It might not seem important, but it is. A good example of standardization is the (unclear) stop sign which is found across the country. It has the same red color, the same shape, the same white lettering. It is a standard that everyone readily recognizes, and knows what to do when they see it. By adopting the Continental Crosswalk Pattern it adds to the standardization for crosswalks. It was developed, by the way, by traffic engineers for high visibility for motorists. It has been used worldwide for decades for safety features. Pedestrian safety deserves many safety methods to help pedestrians and motorists avoid tragic conflicts. One of the most basic examples of pedestrian safety is a lowly cross walk, the simple crosswalk usually overlooked and taken for granted. It is the very foundation of all pedestrian & motorists safety. I urge the County of Sonoma to adopt the Continental Pattern of the crosswalk.

Colin Thoma, System Change Advocate with Disability Services and Legal Center. My following comments are to address safety and accessibility needs for the people with disabilities on the highway 12 and Verano Avenue intersection. As evident by the 3 tragic deaths, safety improvements for pedestrians are long overdue. In order to make the intersection safe and accessible for people with disabilities several things will need to be done. All crosswalks will need to be signalized and adequately timed. The best way to determine the amount of time needed: people with disabilities and average will travel 3.5' per second. This will probably need to be between 20 to 30 seconds to allow for safe crossing. If the time can't be extended to allow for safe crossing, the refugee islands will need to be added, and will need to be long enough to accommodate mobility devices. The signal button for crosswalks will need to be no higher than 48 inches and be activated by pressing it w/ a hand, fist or elbow. This will make it easier for those who have a mobility device to activate the button. They will also need to vibrate and provide audio cues when it's safe to cross for those with sensory disabilities. Both intersections and crosswalk will need to be highly visible by being painted in large, bold striping, and painted in high contrast color. Curb ramps with detectable indicators i.e. plastic bumps to give a physical indicator of the end or the beginning of the crosswalk for those with vision disabilities. Curbs will also need to have curb cutouts, bold outs, or extensions to increase visibility and decrease the travel distance for crosswalks. Eliminating the right turn slip lanes will

also increase safety, as it will force drivers to slow down or stop before making the turn. Having slip lanes allows drivers to make high speed and unsafe turns. All lanes quickly, will need to be clearly marked and narrowing the lanes to help force drivers slow down should be a good consideration. There will also need to be adequate street lighting that can produce enough light to make it easy to see pedestrians crossing at dawn, dusk, or night. Thank you for taking the time to review and consider my comments on the accessibility and safety needs for people with disabilities. These improvements will also make it much safer for the general public as well. I'll be happy to answer any follow up questions or discuss my comments in future detail.
Collin Thoma, Systems Change Advocate, Disability Services & Legal Center (DSLCL) 521 Mendocino Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95401(707)636-3076

Roger Hamlin, I think the Hwy 12/Verano Ave intersection will be dangerous for pedestrians until left turn signals are added for traffic on Verano Avenue. Without left turn lights, drivers turning left from either direction on Verano have to focus on oncoming traffic to know when they can turn safely. Then they often have to hurry before more traffic comes at them. Their attention is not on the crosswalks. This problem is made worse because it's a sharper left than usual, so they have to look a little behind them for pedestrians. That's not possible when they're looking ahead for oncoming cars. Please make a priority to add left turn signals before someone else is killed.

Chair Iturri called for Council Comments

Councilmember Winders, expanded on previous Public Comment re the equity issue. This has been a decades-long equity issue for the community. Cal Trans reps who do not live here might not realize that Hwy 12 is an unofficial divide between two ends of valley w/ great economic disparity between the two; i.e. east side has more financial resources than west side, which is predominantly work force, low income residents, living in multiunit housing w/o yards. Park is only access to play area. Almost all of the crosswalks & intersections within the City limits w/ frequent foot traffic light up. On the west end, almost none of them light up. Maxwell Park received improvements to upgrade facilities before Larson. Larson Park is neighborhood park but doesn't have same facilities as Maxwell. Been told Maxwell Park also belongs to Springs yet most of Springs' residents can't safely access. Historically, what this leads to is the lives of Springs' residents are being held in less value. This is not just an opinion, but a monetary fact, that the dollars are not being invested in safety of Springs' residents in same manner as in City limits. Understands different funding of county & city, w/ different revenue funding base, but sends a disturbing message to low income workforce Springs' community who serve & service the City of Sonoma - that their lives are not held in same value. She was on Springs' Committee for Sidewalks for many years; took over 20 years to complete sidewalks. When project was complete, asked county reps why crosswalks weren't lighting up? Why just restriped as previously done? Told because "they didn't ask for it". We didn't know we had to ask - thought putting in sidewalks as a safety issue those crosswalks would be lit up. Ultimately left w/ same safety issues w/o lit crosswalks. Giving this greater context re needs of community, lack of value placed on community lives compared to lives on other side of Verano/Hwy 12. Recognized that the Cal Trans speakers are not Valley residents, would not know of this issue, but now they do. Need to get things moving faster than two years. Have lost many community members in that

intersection & along w/ other crosswalks on Hwy 12 & in Springs. Please consider the whole area; it is a walking community, sometimes for enjoyment but also a community lacking transportation. Encouraged speakers to take this info back to meetings w/ colleagues.

Councilmember Reyes, noted that this is also a senior community. On Verano Ave, near the intersection, are FAHA, Burbank Housing, plus new Fiesta apartments being built on Hwy 12. And new MidPen which will include seniors. Important because 2 of 3 deaths were seniors; like children, a vulnerable population.

Councilmember Alcaraz, spoke to animosity of topic. Recognized it is controversial. Encouraged Cal Trans' speaker to work w/ community to resolve issue. Hoped Cal Trans team can find a faster solution.

Chair Iturri, thanked speaker. Community is grieving for the lives lost. Acknowledged CalTrans response, but need faster solution.

Ray Willett, Springs' resident, in meetings w/ Cal Trans, understood that certain highway areas designated/treated pedestrian category, others not? Asked for clarification. If not, should be treated as highly pedestrian area.

Wayne Richie, people don't walk on freeways. Different rules for different roads. Where they do walk there are safety measures.

Jeff Weiss, CalTrans has adopted program called "Complete Streets." Idea is to take all modes of transportation into account i.e. walking, biking for each community. Needs vary. Meeting w/ communities to discuss this. Is a developing, serious program.

Chair Iturri & Karina noted there are additional Cal Trans' reps online - Lester Lee & Gez Tizazu. Also Mike Berger from City of Sonoma Dept. of Public Works present.

Chair Iturri, recommended MAC write a letter incorporating ideas. Assign Ad Hoc to write letter, bring draft to next meeting. Chair Iturri called for Motion, offered to do first draft, Councilmember Hardeman will review. Councilmember Winders seconded. Vote. All in favor. Approved.

Aung Maung (@1:37:14) Cal Trans, clarified – re the options of 1. An Immediate Enhancement to be done in a couple months vs 2. The two year option. What was discussed was for pedestrian safety. Now waiting to implement pedestrian safety at this intersection. Clarified community & Cal Trans have to make a difficult decision relating to/due to increased traffic. If choosing the All Pedestrian Exclusive Phase – the safest option - will have to sacrifice mobility.

Utility Boxes as art project and Adopt a Highway (@1:38:20)

Jeff Weiss, CalTrans for Sonoma County, re **Utility Boxes**. Is an Art project, artist not present? Impression that applicant was overwhelmed w/ bureaucracies when submitted. This is actually on purpose to some degree. He reviewed proposal & there is allot to contend with. But Cal Trans & county can help. The idea of Public Art is complicated; not everyone's idea of "art" is the same. E.g., saw a bunny rabbit w/ a skull coming out of its head - might not be fine w/ everyone.

Need to make sure art that goes up is community oriented i.e. talks about community. What is necessary: Artist has to sign over copyright agreement w/ Cal Trans so they can avoid being sued. Also need Maintenance Agreement typically w/ Jurisdiction, i.e. the county. Also, can't distract traffic, or impair structure it's on. These are standard requirements. MAC needs an advocate from county to push through; perhaps Karina. Will need BoS approval.

Steps: Artist draws up plan/s. Submit to county. BoS approves. On from there. Copyrighted. Must be agreement to maintain it, Cal Trans will not.

Adopt a Highway.

Chair Iturri, clarified MAC is considering becoming involved w/ this program. Understanding is they would be agreeing to clean highway w/ community a couple days a year.

Jeff, has information re program, brought QR Codes to distribute. Also provided list of areas not adopted. May be waiting list. Best thing is to talk w/ Michael Jevicky, do a presentation for MAC.

Adopt a Highway program originally developed for citizens to help clean up trash along highways. Cal Trans facilitates w/ nearby trucks to pick up trash, safety cones, etc. As recognition you get a sign, "Adopted Highway by - ." Has expanded into other options – do a planting, etc. Concurrent, State of CA has program "Clean California" - go to that website, find info re clean up dates, other adoptions, can just do one day, don't have to do full "adoption." Can put in touch w/ Clean California coordinator.

Chair Iturri called for Council Comments. None.

Chair Iturri, suggested a new Ad Hoc.

Chair Iturri called for Public Comment

Jim Price, feels like he is "Waiting for Godot." Talking about art projects but also talking about life and death issues i.e. killer intersections. Trying to get his brain around this. If you Adopt *any* Highway, suggested MAC adopt the killer intersection, this would hold ourselves to be accountable for what's happening there. Has no faith in Council or any Municipal Council. Has seen fine work by MAC, writing letters, appealing to powers that be to do something – but those powers to be are doing nothing. Can't wait 2 months or 2 years. Something needs to be done.

Nick Koerner, wanted to provide encouragement re art murals. Recently installed murals at Skatepark. Is a slightly different jurisdiction. Were able to expedite process, accomplished easily. Were concerns about graffiti, vandalism.

Chair Iturri called for Public Comment from Zoom.

Rachel, agrees that crosswalks are killer. And, favorite part driving through the Springs is the artwork; love to see more.

Chair Iturri called for Council Comments

Councilmember Alcaraz, there is public art on Hwy 12 at W Thompson. What are steps for artist to do something like that?

Jeff, going to Karina/County is first step; follow his previous explanation. If talking about just any artist, approach him at Cal Trans, he will direct to the Landscape Dept., or go to webpage, to put art in Cal Trans right of way. Recommended finding an advocate due to lots of paperwork.

Public Comment

Wayne Richie, inquired when doing Adopt a Highway clean-up is it mostly litter from cars, debris from homeless encampments, car crashes? Suggested doing something proactively via a campaign to curb the culture.

Chair Iturri, re pursuing Adopt a Highway project, plus Ad Hoc for Utility Boxes - will work w/ Karina & Cal Trans. Project going on for 2 years, appreciates Jeff/ Cal Trans info.

Chair Iturri called for Resolution. Councilmember Alcaraz, do both i.e. Adopt Highway & Utility Boxes. Councilmember Winders, different, should be separate. Councilmember Winders made Motion to Adopt. Councilmember Hardeman, asked for clarification. Is this putting Utility Boxes on back burner? Discussion. Chair Iturri, Adopt 2 times a year to do clean up. Jeff, depends on what you Adopt; some more littered than others. Suggested wait to talk to contact Michael Jevicky, see what sections available, appropriate. Start w/ conversation w/ Michael J.

Karina, suggested MAC create two separate Ad Hoc's to do research, return w/ proposals.

Councilmember Winders, changed Motion to create two Ad Hoc's, one for Adopt a Highway, one for Utility Boxes. Councilmember Hardeman seconded. Vote, All in favor. Approved.

Ad Hoc's will be: Utility Boxes: Chair Iturri, Councilmember Alcaraz.

Adopt a Highway: Councilmember Reyes, Councilmember Allan.

7. Sonoma County Public Infrastructure (@1:56:24) formerly Sonoma County Transportation Public Works TPW

*Receive an update from the Sonoma County Public Infrastructure department on the Verano/Highway 12 intersection and other areas of interest in the Springs. Receive informational presentation on the County Adopt a Road Program. Council discussion and Ad Hoc creation for **Adopt a Road** project.*

Janice Thompson presenting, Deputy Director Sonoma Public Infrastructure (formerly TPW)

- Re Verano/Highway 12 intersection problems. On County portion, responded 18 months ago in cooperation w/ Cal Trans w/ enhanced crosswalks, striping. Is on Ad Hoc w/ Aung Maung studying intersection. Also coordinating w/ generosity of City of Sonoma. Playing a role, active, is priority.
- Re Adopt a Road county program, on website, generally works same as Cal Trans. Apply to adopt, periodically clean, county provides safety vests, grabbers, garbage bags, schedule pick up & disposal of bags. Reason for application - some roads better than others to recommend. Once approved, a sign is made. Schedule in advance so alerts can be put out, also take safety training.

Chair Iturri suggested combining w/ Adopt a Highway Ad Hoc? Karina, maybe do a 3rd Ad Hoc. Councilmember Reyes, suggested putting them together; same work, more time effective.

Chair Iturri called for Council Questions. None

Chair Iturri called for Public Comment

Wayne Richie, has a spiritual practice of sweeping via his church. On West Spain Street, only

one storm drain from plaza; adopted that section on his own. Sweeps, not just litter, garbage, also dirt. Was a big dirt pile from a gopher. Street sweeper couldn't handle too much; asked for City street sweepers schedule.

Public Comment Closed.

Chair Iturri, need a motion to combine Adopt a Road and Adopt a Highway Ad Hoc.

Councilmember Hardeman made a Motion to combine Ad Hoc. Councilmember Winders seconded. Vote, all in favor. Approved.

8. Sonoma Valley Hospital (@2:02:09) on Zoom

Receive an informational update from SVH Director John Hennelly.



Springs MAC 4-
2022_SVH.pdf

Jessica Winkler, Chief Nursing Officer at Sonoma Valley Hospital

Power Point Presentation “**Working Together for a Healthy Community**”

Health Services: Open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Emergency Dept. care, critical care, general/medical/surgical care, skilled nursing care. Diagnostics Center: bone density tests, mammograms, cardiac & ultrasound tests. Routine & emergency CT scans & x-rays. New MRI will provide state of the art diagnostics. Occupational health services, primary care, wide variety of therapy, speech, infusions, etc.

Tradition of Community Partnering. Workshops in health careers for local schools. Safe community for all. Support events i.e. school supplies, health fairs. Partnered w/ local Health Center for Covid flu vaccine via clinics. Partnered w/ City Fire Dept., Health Center, La Luz, Vintage House. Concerned people use medications safely & effectively; hospital pharmacy offers service where patient can bring medications for review w/ registered pharmacist to local sites; free, bilingual. Partnered w/ Hanna Institute on Sonoma Valley Mental Health Collective. Proud of Annual Women's Health Symposium, at Hanna Center. Top invited speakers. Event: May CEO John Hennelly held series Listening Sessions recently. Invited community input.

Examples of requests from community: A health partner who is trustworthy.

More specialized geriatric services.

Provide for a more diverse population in community.

Want hospital to be financially savvy, sustainable into future.

Bring facilities up to date.

Capitalize on relationship w/ UCSF to bring in more specialists to Valley.

In response, developing a Plan for future:

1. Align hospital services w/ community needs. Capitalize on relationship w/ UCSF to bring in more specialists to Valley. Redesign hospital campus so services are easier to reach for diverse & aging population. Expand core services & add new services.

2. Bringing care outside hospital walls. Ensure equitable access for everyone in District. Explore opportunities to expand services closer to population centers i.e. in Springs. Ensure our financial future. Establish new & strengthen partnerships w/ providers.

3. Make hospital more resilient, especially in disasters. New state building regulations for building safety, re earthquake readiness. Developing long-range seismic plan, funding plans to meet regulations.

Mission: Restore, maintain, improve health of everyone in community; will get there by partnering.

Chair Iturri called for Council Comments

Councilmember Alcaraz, inquired about current status of birthing services; had relatives born there but not lately. Jessica, Labor & Delivery Unit closed 2018; a difficult decision to stop service but could not keep open. May revisit in future; with new leadership team, every option on table. Want to expand services to reach whole community.

Councilmember Winders, re the free Medication Review service events. Requested more in Springs, especially for those w/ transportation challenges. Encouraged community to take advantage of this service; had personal experience w/ getting help re medications, can be dangerous to misunderstand medication schedule. Recommended expansion of this service.

Jessica, on every third Thursday, 9-1 at Vintage House, are holding the Medication Review sessions. Starting in May, first Thursday, 9-noon will also be at La Luz. Will ensure interpretation available. 707 996 0311. Call Vintage House first for apt. to register. Hospital partnering w/ Vintage House.

Councilmember Reyes, inquired re mental health service options. Services formerly provided for someone sent to other hospital - Aurora? Jessica, yes, there has definitely been an increase in behavioral health needs of all ages. So have embarked on some work with Hanna Institute and the Sonoma Valley Mental Health Collective - to get services for people in crisis, streamline transition response. If someone comes into Emergency Dept. get to a crisis unit as quickly as possible. Emergency physicians are there to manage immediate crisis. Also obtaining tele-helps for psychiatric consults. This is a growing issue; rising to occasion to meet it.

Chair Iturri, encouraged & urged return of Labor & Delivery Service as a strong advocate for families. We are a community losing families w/ children, this service important. Bring services closer.

Jessica, will bring these recommendations back to Leadership Team.

Public Comment. Council Comments. None.

Break. Return at 9pm

9. Springs MAC Annual Report (@2:26:57)

Chair Iturri to present 2022-2023 Annual Report Draft for council discussion and approval. The annual report will be agendaized on the Board of Supervisors Calendar before end of fiscal year.



SMAC annual report
2022 v. 4.KG edits.pdf

See attached document.

Chair Iturri led discussion. Editing done live. Clarified June to June for Fiscal Year record. Karina clarified documents were noticed & full Report is available on Springs MAC website. Chair Iturri, acknowledged significant accomplishments. Final Version #6.

Chair Iturri called for motion to approve Report that will go to the BoS.
Councilmember Hardeman made a Motion to approve Version 6 of the Report, Councilmember Winders, Seconded. Vote. All in favor. Approved.

Chair Iturri called for Public Comment

Wayne Richie, good team work.

Zoom. None.

10. Budget Request: Logo Design Competition (@2:43:59)

Discuss plan for Springs MAC logo redesign. Discuss and approve competition details and monetary prize amount for design winner (item continued from March 8, 2023 agenda). In partnership with Art Escape.



Logo
Competition_MAC Bud

Ad Hoc: Councilmembers Hardeman, Winders, Chair Iturri.

Requesting \$400 for potential prize for logo contest.

Chair Iturri described project, led discussion.

Councilmember Reyes, do we have to show the paperwork submitted for the proposal?
(comments inaudible)

Public Comment

Wayne Richie, where are instructions?

Chair Iturri, a flyer available on Social media page, Springs Municipal Council Facebook page.

Want logo to: reflect the Springs, size, clarity, color requirements.

Enter by June 1, 2023. All ages. Karina.garcia@sonoma-county.org

Councilmember Winders, would like to extend deadline - move to July 1st. Councilmember Reyes, would that put the proposal into new budget term of July 1st? Councilmember Hardeman, will go to Art Escape to hold. Suggested staying w/ June 1st deadline, wait and see how many entries come in. Councilmember Winders, question re press release, does it need to be approved by MAC? Karina, yes, need Council approval.

Chair Iturri, made a Motion to use Facebook post w/ prize amount as MAC press release, Councilmember Hardeman seconded. Vote, all in favor. Approved.

Councilmember Reyes, will Facebook post need to use the name of Ad Hoc? Karina, it is the Springs MAC. You can specify that the Springs MAC created the Ad Hoc, and it's the Ad Hoc working, so approved by Springs MAC.

Councilmember Hardeman made a Motion to approve \$400 prize money for logo, Councilmember Reyes, Seconded. Vote, all in favor. Approved.

11. Budget Request: Community Picnic (@2:52:16)

Discuss and approve sponsorship and on-site promotional opportunities for Community Picnic event in partnership with Sonoma Immigrant Services. Event planned for June 2023 at Larson Park in the Springs. Discuss and approve date and time of event. Designate councilmember(s) to work on event (item continued from March 8, 2023 agenda).



Springs Picnic_MAC
Budget Request Form

Chair Iturri described project: seeking funding \$1,000 - garbage cans, recycling, porta potties, a handwashing station.

Councilmember Winders, update/discussion. Talked to Regional Park, sent applications, in process. **June 17th date available.** Confirmed pending approval of application. Fiscal partner Sonoma Immigrant Services (SIS). Encourage all materials packed in be packed out to mitigate garbage. This event is to enjoy community gathering. Suggested timeframe: Noon to 5pm. 11-5 on application to include set up & break down. On flyer say - Noon to Four. Option to show movie later? Discussion: can't reserve due to park closing at dusk. A busy weekend w/ graduation, etc. Will do press releases. Include School District & community partners' networks. Outreach Table for MAC suggested, & invite other organizations (bring own tables).

Public Comment

Wayne Richie, likes informal momentum

Zoom. None.

Karina, reminder that all Ad Hocs need to stay in communication w/ her office.

Councilmember Hardeman made a Motion to approve Budget funding for Community Picnic, Councilmember Alcaraz, Seconded. Vote, all in favor. Approved.

12. Budget Request: Bicycle Rack Art Project (@3:02:20)

Discuss and approve bicycle rack painting and budgetary options for Art Project in partnership with Art Escape.



MAC Budget Request
Bike Racks 3.29.23.pd

Councilmember Hardeman, report. Bike racks are treated so that no paint will adhere, to avoid graffiti. Art Escape experimenting. Suggestions made. An exploratory amount \$100 to 200. Six racks in total, come straight from factory to County, no options to change before. Could be ordered in different colors.

Councilmember Reyes made a Motion to approve funding in Budget, Councilmember Alcaraz, Seconded. Vote, all in favor. Approved.

Public Comment

Wayne Richie, nice conversation

Zoom. None.

13. Budget Request: Fire Emergency Preparedness Event – Springs Sonoma Valley (@3:07:56)

Discuss and approve budget for Fire Emergency Preparedness event in partnership with MYN planned for May 9, 2023 in the Springs. 5-7pm. Event approved at the March 8, 2023 meeting.



FIRE Emer
Prep_MAC Budget Re

Councilmember Reyes, requesting \$500. There is also County funding available but is restricted to promotion not including food, music, sound system. Suggested food e.g. free tacos for first 50 attendees. Encouraged walking in. Discussion of restrooms, garbage services. Invited Springs & all of Sonoma Valley, also volunteers. Showed draft Flyer, meeting again.

Public Comment. Zoom. None.

Councilmember Hardeman made a Motion to approve funding in Budget, Councilmember Alcaraz Seconded. Vote, all in favor. Approved.

14. Ad hoc and Community Projects Updates

Council Reports, Announcements, and updates

- a. *Discuss and create Traffic and Safety Ad Hoc*
- b. *Discuss and create Emergency Preparedness 2.0 Ad Hoc*
- c. *Discuss and create Springs Plaza Public Forum Ad Hoc*

Chair Iturri, asked whether to postpone this process? Just created two other new Ad Hocs.

Discussion/agreement - Each item is important. Focus on & complete current Ad Hocs.

Concern re time sensitivity of items.

Public Comment (@3:18:04)

Josette Brose-Eichar, inquired re [County] money allotted for Springs' Plaza. In discussion w/ County Parks. Unclear to her if funds will be lost? If funds have not been assigned to Larson Park, will the MAC create an Ad Hoc for the Springs' Plaza? Unclear re mention of another group - what group is working on this project outside of MAC? Also, having gotten little response to the Survey she produced, an overview will be published May 15th in Sonoma Sun w/ link to data for details. Very confused re Plaza project. If everyone is waiting for Springs Specific Plan to be released, consider the Donald St residents will be protesting it/tying it up. Wants the Plaza project addressed. Has been waiting to end of meeting for this Item on the Agenda re an Ad Hoc.

David Eichar, re the estimated \$1-2million in Budget but held by BoS for a Springs' Plaza, which could be lost if there's no progress; even if there is some outside group working to hold a meeting, still need the MAC, need Ad Hoc committee. In spite of other attempts, this project belongs to Springs MAC; you are the advisors to Supervisor Gorin.

Chair Iturri called for Council Comments

Councilmember Allan, recalled from recent/previous meeting, the future funding for the Springs' Plaza project is unclear; funds may be non-transferable, but not confirmed. Recommended

research to get reliable information. Don't want the funds to be absorbed back into County General Fund.

Councilmember Reyes, agreed w/ Allan, recommended creating Springs' Plaza Ad Hoc.

Councilmember Winders, suggested for May MAC, Agendize Springs' Plaza, specifically researching the funding question/possible deadline w/ Fiscal Year. Get a confirmation or a Pause, or carry it over. Get answers for community. MAC is only an Advisory Council, doesn't hold the funds – County does.

Councilmember Reyes, made a motion to create an Ad Hoc for the Springs' Plaza to do research, not necessarily for a Public Forum event.

Chair Iturri, recommended an Emergency Prep Ad Hoc - also important. The Safety Traffic also important but may have to wait on that one; but letter being written.

Councilmember Winders, noted there is momentum on the Safety Traffic issue w/ Letter. Suggested consider Ad Hoc next month, when other Ad Hocs are being completed. So public understands MAC is taking action/s.

Councilmember Reyes, suggested doing both?

Councilmember Hardeman, all these agenda items are super important, need to be addressed. Personally, unable to take on more. The MAC recognizes the importance of all the issues, not possible to do everything all at once.

Karina, noted MAC is currently missing two members in needed positions; acknowledged MAC's accomplishments.

Chair Iturri, suggested further conversations w/ County to clarify position on Plaza funding; return w/ update in May. Suggested a motion to create two Ad Hocs.

Chair Iturri called for Public Comment - Zoom

Rachel Hairston, inquired whether community can be involved? Unclear how. Noted MAC's hard work. Offered to join Councilmember Reyes. Chair Iturri, yes. Welcome public support.

Councilmember Reyes, welcomed Rachel's participation.

Karina, reminder that goal for Ad Hocs to do outreach w/ community, let them do the work. Ad Hocs only last for a year. E.g. out of the initial Emergency Prep Ad Hoc the Map Your Neighborhood (MYN) project/group was formed. Encouraged community involvement.

Josette Brose- Eichar, volunteered to help w/ Plaza Ad Hoc. Not aware that MAC wants community members to work w/ them. Chair Iturri, thank you, will be in touch.

Karina, clarification, Iturri is on Ad Hoc. Chair Iturri, yes, Allan, Josette Brose-Eichar, Iturri on Ad Hoc.

Chair Iturri called for a motion to create Springs' Plaza & Emerg Prep Ad Hoc/s.

Councilmember Hardeman, made a Motion for both Ad Hocs, Councilmember Reyes, seconded. Vote. All in favor. Approved.

15. Consideration of Future Agenda Items (3:32:37)

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

Chair Iturri noted meetings taking longer due to long Agendas, will need to pare down.

For MAY Agenda (Emerg Prep Month): COAD, CVLN, Springs' Fire Safe Council, Chief Akre, Sonoma Water

Karina, clarified, Sonoma Water updating their 2018 Local Hazard Mitigation Plan with stakeholders; need to provide update to community, also provide opportunity for Public Input, so can be time sensitive.

Chair Iturri: also need to add Letter for Skatepark; Letter for Cal Trans; Springs' Plaza. Expressed concern about long agenda.

Karina, clarified that the back and forth with Public Comment from the written Public Comments is not done by any other Council or Commission, including the Board of Supervisors. They do not read Public Comment that is written and submitted in advance of a meeting. You can acknowledge the names of the individuals.

Chair Iturri, that wasn't the longest part of this meeting, but it does take a long time. Agreed to bring that down. Goal is to keep the meetings to two or two & a half hours.

Requested permission from the Council to work with Karina to reduce meeting time.

Agreement.

Councilmember Winders, suggested on some items related to the Emergency Preparedness, that those agencies could collaborate as one item, as opposed to separate items.

Agreement.

Karina, reminded Council the other concern is the agendas - they do have time limits on each item but not keeping to the limits.

Chair Iturri, agreed, but Public Comment takes half an hour to 45 minutes on many of them, and that's the whole purpose of this MAC is to allow for Public Comment. That's why chose to read the Public Comments because they're important. This is the only place the voices of this community get heard. It's a struggle. Understands need to shorten the agendas.

Noted the long list of accomplishments in Annual Report; may have to get less accomplished, and that's okay.

Chair Iturri called for Council or Public Comment. None.

16. Chair and Vice Chair nominations and vote (@3:36:37)

Council nominations and vote for 2023-2024 Chair and Vice Chair seats.

Chair Iturri led Discussion & Nominations

Results: Councilmember Reyes nominated Maite Iturri for Chair, Councilmember Joe Hardeman for Vice Chair.

Councilmember Hardeman, accepted. Extremely busy now but better after school year ends.

Councilmember Alcaraz, agreed to Maite as Chair, and happy w/ whoever wants to be Vice Chair

Councilmember Winders seconded Maite Iturri as Chair & Joe Hardeman as Vice Chair.

Maite accepted but wants transition after this next term.

Public Comment. None.

Special Recognition: Karina & all Councilmembers acknowledged excellent contributions of former Vice Chair Perot to the community. Invited/encouraged her to return to the MAC. Wished her all the best.

Chair Iturri dedicated meeting to all those who have been harmed by the recent gun violence in America.

17. Adjourned 10:17pm

Springs MAC You Tube April 12, 2023 meeting

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L9yxvLY_43k

[Springs MAC website](#)

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

Susan Gorin's website for zoom video

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLOdzlO4_wWVEgcBB5907iZTimplqLGhJ

Contact: Karina Garcia, Field Representative to Supervisor Susan Gorin –
Karina.Garcia@sonoma-county.org

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

