



Springs Municipal Advisory Council
Minutes of the hybrid zoom/in-person Meeting
September 13, 2023



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.

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

For Viewing Purposes. Sonoma TV You Tube Springs MAC Meeting for September 13, 2023

English: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o_tUiSgVBY0

Spanish: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S-BW39wZUsc>

1. Call to Order & Roll Call 6:34

Roll Call: Vice Chair Hardeman

Present: Alcaraz, Allan, Winders, Reyes, Iturri

Absent: Lombard

Chair Iturri: noted change of room at SVUSD for tonight's hybrid meeting. Acknowledged MAC's support team. Broadcasting on Facebook & Sonoma TV. Spanish translation available.

Translators present: Monique Dascha Inciarte, Carlos Rodillo

2. Approval of Minutes of August 9, 2023 meeting

Councilmember Allan moved to approve August 9, 2023 Minutes. Vice Chair Hardeman Seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

File: Springs MAC Minutes September 13, 2023 Hybrid draft can be found here:

<https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/springs-mac-meeting-september-13-2023>

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

Lynda Evans, Springs' resident/tax payer, 15 Arroyo Rd, right behind Mattson's development at Food City. Noticed last year all residents had moved out, area fenced up; nothing has been done w/ the houses. Wants to know when they will start building. Concerned about garbage left behind & problem w/ rats, other vermin. Requested help from MAC to find out - what happens when buildings are destroyed; what will happen w/ the rat problem? Also concerned about the construction noise; is retired & concerned re peace & quiet. Also, street is narrow; cars not using it now, but highway will be widened. If traffic light is red at Boyes, going east, want to turn onto Arroyo. Chair Iturri noted that topic is on Agenda tonight; can discuss further then.

Vivienne Hoyt, deeply disturbed w/ amount of traffic, due to bridge replacement/construction. Takes 30 minutes to go from Leveroni to her house, just north of Madrone. No fire evacuation in process, but if there was, there could be tragedy like Lahaina, where people were burned alive in their cars. Understands need for more housing, but who is thinking about how we will get out of this town originally built in horse & buggy era. Two roads in & out, not enough infrastructures. Nor do we want a big highway w/ four lanes. Lived here 32 years, moved here to be in a quiet community, raise children; doesn't want that to change. Not necessarily Springs' related problem but will impact Springs. Re SDC - Board of Supervisors asked community for input, vision for future. She wrote letters, protested, marched, made phone calls, spent hundreds of hours in personal time getting involved. They said – this is what we're doing. Now they have yanked rug out; now all about the money. Developer coming in to build all these homes. Hanna buildout going on. Deeply concerned about expansive growth, lack of thoughtfulness how this will impact everyone who lives here. Hoped to talk to Supervisor Gorin, was at Supervisors' meeting in Santa Rosa for 3 hours. Has been at meetings before, feels hopeless, why bother? They don't listen to community; go off to make their own decision. She is frustrated as voter & tax payer & resident. Votes for these representatives, but they aren't listening. Thought we lived in a democracy where her voice makes a difference; very discouraged. Should she give up & go home & watch TV like most people? How much inner peace & health have to give up to commit to make a change?

Keylla Akima, 5 year resident, concerned there are only a few people at the meeting. Information from meetings not getting noticed adequately to community. Suggested posting at Post Office, and Safeway. She votes, pay taxes, doesn't feel she is being represented. Doesn't feel she has a voice. Need do something more. If MAC is getting paid, need better ways to participate. She is not neglecting her status or political views. MAC needs to spread the news better to residents to better participate & help solve problems.

Greg Larson, Springs' resident. Agreed w/ previous comment re living in a democracy, but our County Supervisors not acting according to a democracy. When you go to meeting & everyone says they are against development of SDC & expansion of Hanna Center, and then Supervisors vote w/ developers, basically carpet baggers who come in persuade people w/ property to change so they can expedite & make money & then leave. Democracy is when majority rules minority, we have the opposite. We need to stand up and stop what is going on. Hopes all Supervisors listening, need support on community side, not on developers' side, or Permit Sonoma's side. They will just collect the revenue, & we don't know where money goes. Taxes being paid that we don't see results. Appreciates Agenda Item tonight w/ presentation on accountability.

Public Comment on Zoom

Kathy King, Executive Director of Sonoma Overnight Support. 20 years providing food, services, housing for homeless. At Grange last 3 years, 7,000 meals. 38% increase in food deprived need. Moving out of Grange to 17400 Hwy 12. Expressed interest in having bike racks that are being installed in Springs; requested two of them. Homeless clients ride bikes to pick up meals. Providing 360 meals a day. Breakfast & lunch, Mon – Fri, grab & go. Plan to move to new facility

by mid-October. Excited about opening, being part of Springs' community. Don't have a utility box for art project but would like bike racks.

Public Comment Closed

4. Chair Iturri Update

- Have 2 vacancies: SVCAC liaison position; requires application to SVCAC also. Plus, Alternate seat for MAC. Will be interviewing soon.
- Spoke at Sunrise Group in Santa Rosa re Springs MAC. Shared info.
- Attended Housing Forum at Grange. Collaboration Sonoma Valley Collaborative, Housing Group, hospital, Board of Trustees, re state of housing in Valley. Most powerful statement by Councilmember Winders – “we will be a community w/o children.” Understands other needs i.e. traffic & housing, but school enrollment is declining.
- What Springs MAC is: liaison between Springs & county. Unpaid, 100% volunteer. Give time, energy & passion to work. Provide info and space for community to attend, share ideas/thought, then shared w/ Supervisor. Not a decision-making body, not elected, no authority.

5. Sonoma County Public Infrastructure (@ 20:14 on you tube)

Receive an informational presentation from Public Infrastructure on the county Pavement Preservation Program, Road Maintenance, funding and expenditure and current balances and upcoming work/schedules. Also updates on the Springs Safety improvements including crosswalks, Verano intersection, Donald Gap and other areas of interests in the Springs. Receive request from Public Infrastructure for a letter of support for the DOT's Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods (RCN) Grant Program for the Donald Gap project—a pedestrian bridge/connection. Council discussion and approval of letter of support. Outreach Bilingual Community Listening Session: SV Regional Service Hub—Thursday September 28 from 6:00pm-8:00pm at the SVUSD Boardroom.

Janice Thompson, Deputy Director of Sonoma County Public Infrastructure. Formerly Transportation & Public Works

Presentation on annual Paving Program. List of Roads.

- **Annual paving program/2 year program** i.e. decisions made year before. E.g. in 2023 approved 2 years that covers 2024-25. Annually \$20 million county-wide. District One roughly 20%, i.e. \$4million annually in District One. County roads inspected every 2 years by paving professionals. Input data into computer program used statewide – the Pavement Management System. She calls it the Black box, put data in, spits out priority list of roads & proper treatments.
- **LIST:** this year 2023 - Cherry Ave, Riverside Drive, Adobe Canyon Rd, Anderson Dr, Green St., Harville Ave, Horn Ave., 7th St East, Treehaven Court, Treehaven Lane. In middle of delivering projects from PGE settlement from 2017 fires. And annual paving program from Board of Supervisors General Fund.
- **Road Maintenance**, done on prioritized system, served county wide. Have application on phones or website - So Co Connect. Encourage reporting there e.g. pot holes, drainage, street light outages, large litter items e.g. mattress in road. Crews assess items, prioritize.

Sometimes slow, especially after storms.

- **Funding and Expenditure**, current balances, upcoming work schedules. No data on hand; will provide. Open to questions
- **Springs Safety improvements**. Verano Ave/Hwy 12 intersection; county responded 1.5 years ago w/ crosswalks' striping. Cal Trans just changed signal timing at intersection, converted to All Pedestrian Phase i.e. when triggered, all vehicular signals go red, pedestrians can cross. Delays at intersection increase a little, but community chose to accept delays in traffic flows for pedestrian safety. Supervisor Gorin beginning work on crosswalk safety enhancements on Hwy 12 at four intersections: Waterman, Sierra, Central, & crosswalk across from Homeless Action at Encinas. Hwy 12 a state Hwy requires Cal Trans coordination, adds time to process. Asked for patience.
- **Donald Gap**, large improvement area Hwy 12/in Encinas Lane & Harley St. Trying to add pedestrian bridges over Aqua Caliente Creek on both sides. Fill in sidewalk gap. Plus bike route along Hwy 12. Large project. \$4 million. Long time to design, work out environmental permitting, coordinate w/ Cal Trans. Scheduled for 2027.
- **Asking for letter of support** from MAC, applying for Federal Grant for Reconnecting Communities & Neighborhoods for Donald Gap project.

Karina Garcia, clarified Chair will read letter, ask MAC for approval as-is.

Chair Iturri called for Council Comments

Councilmember Winders, requested clarity on crosswalk safety enhancements. **Janice**, enhanced striping, e.g. 2 parallel lines, perpendicular bars/ladder style, pedestrian activated lighting device to alert vehicles to their presence. Winders, time frame? Janice, under 2 years.

Chair Iturri, does So Co App inform Black Box? Would be useful if information coming directly from community. **Janice**, no, So Co Connect is in regard to maintenance e.g. unclogging culvert, etc.

Councilmember Alcaraz, at meeting last year Councilmembers Perot & Lombard identified Springs' roads in bad condition. Made visual presentation, showed how money & resources are channeled through road pavement & improvement. Good to have this report to deliver to constituents. Could give a better visualization w/ how county is helping w/ efforts. **Janice**, past & future paving projects on website. Can provide links to groups, see the maps. On website; presented every 2 years before Board. <https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/spi>

Councilmember Allan, re pedestrian improvements for crosswalks, needs to stress that lighting is essential, not just a request. He walks in Springs, nearly hit twice in last 4 weeks. Sometimes waits 10-15 cars to be acknowledged. Need improved visibility; vegetation obstructs signs. Doesn't like bumpy roads, but this higher priority.

Councilmember Winders, agreed re lighting being essential, especially Hwy 12 during rains, need lights on sidewalks but reflects off rain in evening, especially crosswalk at Central/el Molino, and at Sierra near Boyes Food Center. Hard to see pedestrians especially in crosswalk. As a driver always slows down & pauses to be careful, has had close calls herself.

Janice, pointed out options on website – e.g. Current Road Work projects. Can zoom in to Sonoma area for past, present, future. Color coded.

<https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/spi>

Public Comment 3 minute limit

Randy Roberts, El Verano resident, 30 years. Comment: Re crosswalk indicators - should put in lights on street level or similar to stop lights in City of Sonoma. People can't see them especially at night or in rain. Put in flashing lights, button to push to alert drivers. Especially Hwy 12.

Question: SIT published list of roads to be improved, 2024-25. Is there an order of improvement? In particular, in front of Post Office, terrible condition. Question: Does any of national IRA money go to county for road improvements? Seems like they are letting roads go back to gravel. That's what the Act was put in for; the Restructuring Infrastructure Act. For places like us w/o tax revenue, to ask for national money to fix roads, bridges, bike lanes, widenings. This county needs it.

Lynda Evans, 50 year resident of valley. When crossing on light can only get halfway across before walk light changes; seems really fast. Also, what is process for infrastructure for when building begins at Food Center? Called & asked about change of road, when is it going through? Concerned about one-way narrow street. Spoke to Mattson Company, good exchange. Asked for change from 3 to 2 story buildings, so as to not overlook her house. There was an alley way down the back; taken away. They agreed to neighbor concerns. That was when Tim Sloat was in charge. What time can she talk to county re traffic at Arroyo? Can make it wide at bottom to Madrone but can't make it wider from Madrone up to Vallejo.

Greg Larson, inquired how much money comes into county from Gas Tax, SB1, & Measure M. These 3 sources should be on website. If distributed, as stated \$4 million - that's vague. Needs to know exactly where it's going. Now there is a new funding source - Public infrastructure of Sonoma County. How much, source? Also, when a road is patched, where does that money come from? These 3 sources he listed are for paving; but instead using paving money for patching. His road Lucas Ave, 6-7 layers of patched-over places. County Maintenance Director came out, walked the road, told not on agenda. Road hasn't been paved in 40 years. Need to pave not patch. Allocations of funds are not true.

Linda Bryan, will there be a left turn signal at intersection at Verano/Hwy 12? **Chair Iturri**, yes. Also crosswalk from McDonalds across to park; 2 deaths & serious injuries there. Nothing done in 3 years.

Tom Martin, Calle Del Monte Road, in worst condition of any street in Springs. Represents his neighbors' opinion too. What are criteria to determine what streets get on list to fix? Also, re Larson Park. Garbage pails were removed, not replaced. Having a clean-up in a couple weeks, would help to have garbage pails. **Chair Iturri**, will be Ad Hoc update on Larson Park tonight.

Vivienne Hoyt, Re Cal Trans coordinating w/ road work. Current bumper to bumper traffic on

Arnold Drive, in the middle fire season & grape harvest. Who is figuring out when to close a road; possible to do not during fire season?

Public Comment on Zoom

John Thompson, Springs' resident. What is process to request a stop sign? Seen dangerous interactions between Verano & Riverside, especially w/ kids crossing. What is best way to request study, to implement 4 way stop sign there?

Public Comment Closed.

Councilmember Alcaraz, acknowledged all concerns; lives in Springs. Can get issues resolved together faster, but at mercy of red tape. Appreciates everyone participating; he is in agreement.

Janice

How is list of roads that are to be fixed determined? Did a huge Community Outreach via Supervisor Gorin's Office, the MACs. That List from communities. In 2014, Supervisors approved a long term road plan. Has categories, e.g. volume, use, road categories, surrounding areas; a complicated system of picking roads. Community input important in comprising list; Karina has List. Priorities still in process. Considering drainage improvements, permits required, delays.

Funding questions: national funding source; how much \$ from gas Tax; put on website?

Doesn't have figures; can get & provide to MAC.

In general: patching, perhaps not most satisfactory option but advances condition of road, fixes short term problems.

Money from Maintenance is both SB 1 & Gas Tax & Measure M; break-out can be provided.

Paving Program is SB 1, County General Fund aka Discretionary Funding BoS addresses yearly in budget cycle, and variety of smaller funds available in 2 year program. Funding break-out can be provided for that too.

National funds, constantly on lookout for grants that would apply to roads; odd that there is funding for bridges, transit but not so much for roads. Apply on a regular basis. E.g. Donald Gap federal grants applications. Also grant funding for a future roundabout Hwy 121 & 8th St east. And also federal money at Hwy 116 & 121. County qualifies, grant funding very competitive.

Specific Road Concerns:

Arroyo Road too narrow; at Boyes Food Center the timing is too short to cross; McDonald's; Calle Del Monte; and request for Stop Sign.

Janice

Stop Sign request accepted through So Co Connect. Receive request, study & analyze. Traffic Dept. reviews.

Other requests: Email Supervisor, email dept. variety of ways to request items. Can take engineering & traffic studies. Happy to do it & respond.

But if on Hwy 12 it's CalTrans - not county jurisdiction. Can receive request & work w/ Supervisor Gorin's Office to bring to CalTrans.

Final Questions: Timing of projects? Concern during fire season.

Janice

Construction season during good weather, also during harvest & fire season. Competing needs,

but can't pave in winter. Have to do in summer, need temperature to put down hot asphalt. Must share space. Construction messy, causes delays. Not easy to solve. Reassured public that anytime there is an emergency - road work ceases, road opened, evacuations occur. No construction project active in emergency.

Karina Garcia, contact info: Public Infrastructure 707.565.2550, Construction Info 707.565.2533, Road Maintenance 707.565.5100. CA Relay 711. Email spi@sonoma-county.org.

Karina.garcia@sonoma-county.org

Susan.gorin@sonoma-county.org

Chair Iturri (@1:04:06 you tube) read the letter of support public infrastructure to support Donald St Gap issue. Need approval.

Springs Municipal Advisory Council

September 13, 2023

Via email: Re: Sonoma County's application to the Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant Program (RCN Program)

Dear Reviewer,

We are pleased to offer our enthusiastic support for Sonoma County's application to the Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant Program (RCN Program). The purpose of this letter is to convey the numerous benefits that this funding would bring to our area, and our efforts to advance communitycentered transportation connection projects. We fully endorse Sonoma County's efforts to improve walkability, safety, and bicycle access through the City of Sonoma along Highway 12, known locally as the Donald Gap.

The Springs Municipal Advisory Council (MAC) represents the best interests of the entire community while acting as a bridge for communication between the County, local residents, and businesses. As advocates for this community, we have witnessed the challenges that many of our residents face on a daily basis when it comes to transportation and access to essential services. This project has the potential to bring about significant positive changes in the lives of our neighbors and friends.

First and foremost, the proposed project aligns perfectly with our community's values and goals. Enhancing walkability and bicycle access not only promotes physical health but also contributes to a cleaner and more sustainable environment. By creating safer and more accessible routes for pedestrians and cyclists, we will not only reduce traffic congestion but also decrease our carbon footprint, which is a crucial step towards a greener and more sustainable future.

In addition to the tangible benefits, this project will also foster a sense of community cohesion. Safer and more accessible streets encourage residents to engage with one another, promoting social interaction and a sense of belonging. This will help build a stronger and more tightly knit community, where everyone feels valued and supported. Additionally, increased access for non-motorized transportation will allow the most vulnerable in our area better and more reliable access to the economic center of our community, which will have a direct impact on the economic wellbeing of these residents and local businesses.

The potential impacts of this project are significant; we would like to express strong support for this grant proposal. The positive effect it would have on Sonoma County residents, especially members of this vulnerable community, cannot be overstated. Therefore, we earnestly encourage you to give this funding request your full consideration, recognizing the tremendous benefits it would bring to our local government, our residents, and our collective efforts to remove transportation access barriers.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to witnessing the positive transformation this project can bring about.

Sincerely, Maite Iturri

Chairperson Springs MAC

CC: Sonoma County Public Infrastructure, Supervisor Susan Gorin, Caltrans, City of Sonoma

Chair Iturri called for Council Comments

Discussion: (@1:07:25)

Points:

- Need emphasis on safety for pedestrians on road shoulder
- Supports more walkable & bikeable, pedestrians, bicycle traffic BUT community/public asking - What is interest for spending money on a by-pass when no one will use it? Feels purpose of letter is not clearly stated.
- Clarified: the letter is to specifically support work at Donald St Gap; includes pedestrian & bike bridges to connect sidewalk, between Encinas & Harley. There is a detailed grant application, defines all, this letter provides support which assists in getting grant. Is a general letter of support.
- Noted typo in first paragraph. "Endorses" should be "endorse."
- Request for an addition – note that community requesting this safety issue for over 30 years. Children, seniors walking there. *Noted, sentence added - Has been a community need for safety.

Chair Iturri called for a motion.

Vice Chair Hardeman made a Motion to approve Letter, Councilmember Winders seconded.

Vote. All in favor. Unanimous. Approved.

6. Supervisor Susan Gorin Update (@1:15:37)

Outreach Bilingual Community Listening Session: SV Regional Service Hub—Thursday September 28 from 6:00pm-8:00pm at the SVUSD Boardroom

Happy Birthday to Supervisor Gorin from the MAC!



- Meets w/ Janice Thompson & Director plus Regional Parks frequently re bicycle lanes, multi-use paths, for all parks. Zoom meeting today re traffic between Maxwell Park & new/pending hotel project/Verano Apts. Road is dangerous, reviewing pedestrian & bicycle safety, through Verano intersection, looking at routes north & south Hwy 12. This item under review now - welcomes suggestions via email to her now.

District1@sonoma-county.org

- Lighted Crosswalks - 4 cross streets identified for lighted crosswalks for pedestrians. Pricing them out, looking for available funding for fastest installation. In discussion w/ Cal Trans. Goal, early next year.
- Paving. A year-long effort to identify roads for re-paving. Yes, roads are horrible. But funding puts limits on working on a portion of each, following 2 year cycle. Have to plan far ahead. Have identified roads to be paved in 2024-25. Have to depend on pot holing till roads get into next 2-year cycle.
- BoS Report:
 - Expanded Project Labor Agreement Policy.
 - Modified & moved forward w/ Living Wage Ordinance.
 - Approved 2 projects to benefit homeless individuals at County Center & Los Guillicos. Will be taking away pallet shelter homes at Los Guillicos, will rehab two wings of former vacant Juvenile Justice Facility. In discussion w/ Director of Homeless Programs to identify larger percentage of soon-to-be-completed dorms for Sonoma Valley residents.
 - Grateful to county & Homeless Action Sonoma for Quickhaven huts to house 19; need many more substantial permanent housing. Services will be available at Los Guillicos.
 - Taking down tents at County Center Permit Sonoma parking lot, replacing w/ RV's and Tiny homes. Across from Fleet Operations on county campus.
- Hate Groups doing zoom bombing at BoS meeting. Every 3rd call, slurs, racist, bigoted, obscenity. Chair turned off microphones. Since Covid, broad swath of callers targeting elected officials; also at Santa Rosa School Board. Highly offensive. Unfortunately, for next couple of meetings, no zoom. To comment at BoS meeting, must come to meeting or write a letter. Next Tuesday restrictions will be in place. Trying to break cycle of hurtful, racist, abusive messages. Blasphemy happened at MAC once.
- Ag Pass Program. Having a special meeting, 4-9pm; for employers to get into farmland and wineries during hazardous fire conditions; also discussing public art.
- Congested traffic conditions during Hwy 12 bridge re-construction. This was only time CalTrans could get down into creek to do necessary work to build bridge foundations. Aug – Oct. Concern re fire season could not stop it. Worst time, not enough school bus drivers so no buses for older students. Asked PGE to stop their roadwork in Glen Ellen which was adding to gridlock. Project is 30 days to completion. Recommend avoid unnecessary travel. Understands many people live in Santa Rosa & work in Sonoma Valley.

Chair Iturri called for Council Comments

Councilmember Winders, re Los Guillicos and houseless; is it for individuals only or also wings/spaces for families?

Supervisor Gorin, old Juvenile Justice Hall has concrete block walls; unable to expand. Challenge w/ having families at that location is so far away from jobs, schools, services. Will be in discussion w/ resource providers, shared housing, community organizations on how to help

families. Problematic.

Karina Garcia, reminder of Bilingual Community Listening Session.

Supervisor Gorin, acknowledged Karina's help. Will be called the East Sonoma County Service Center. Working on signage. Other services to be added in October. Will be an Open house. Thursday Sept 28th, SVUSD Board Room, on zoom, bilingual. 6-8pm. Welcomes community input. What services & personnel does community want there?

Councilperson Alcaraz, how to send ideas/request for possible resources in to Community Listening Session on Sonoma Valley Regional Services Center?

Karina Garcia, can zoom in or in-person, or reply to her, karina.garcia@sonoma-county.org. Or Supervisor Gorin's Office 707.565.1776; District1@sonoma-county.org

Notice: Supervisor Susan Gorin to host **bilingual Community Listening Session** to gather input on services for the Sonoma Valley Regional Service Hub coming to Sonoma this fall. Simultaneous Spanish interpretation will be available for both in-person and virtual attendees. English and Spanish press release and flyers attached.

Date: Thursday, Sept. 28
Time: 6:00pm to 8:00pm
Location: Sonoma Valley Unified School District Board Room, 17850 Railroad Ave., Sonoma
Zoom: <https://sonomacounty.zoom.us/j/95008886274>
Via phone: 1(669)444-9171
Webinar ID: 950 0888 6274
Passcode: 221151

Attendees are encouraged to consider: What kinds of county services do you currently access? What services would you access if they were more readily accessible in your community, and what are the current barriers to access? What services are lacking? In addition to Supervisor Gorin, county representatives from the Department of Health Services, Human Services Department, Permit Sonoma, and more will be on hand to hear directly from the community.

La Supervisora Susan Gorin organizara una sesión **bilingüe de escucha comunitaria** para recopilar aportaciones sobre servicios para el Centro de Servicios Regional del Valle de Sonoma que abrirá este otoño en Sonoma. Habrá interpretación simultánea en español para los asistentes presenciales y virtuales. Comunicado de Prensa y volante en inglés y español adjuntos.

Fecha: jueves, 28 de septiembre
Hora: 6:00pm a 8:00pm
Locación: Sala de juntas del Distrito Escolar Unificado del Valle de Sonoma, 17850 Railroad Ave., Sonoma
Zoom: <https://sonomacounty.zoom.us/j/95008886274>
Por teléfono: 1 (669) 444-9171
ID de seminario: 950 0888 6274
Contraseña: 221151

Se motiva a los participantes que consideren: ¿Qué tipo de servicios del condado actualmente

accede? ¿Qué tipo de servicios accedería, si fueran más accesibles en su comunidad, y cuáles son los obstáculos actuales que lo impiden? ¿Qué servicios faltan? Además de la Supervisora Gorin, representantes de los Departamento de Servicios de Salud, Servicios Humanos, Departamento de Permisos Sonoma, y más, estarán disponibles para escuchar directamente a la comunidad.

Technical Problems interrupted meeting BREAK

Public Comment (@1:38:32)

Keylla Akima, distressed that there is not much community here. MAC needs to do something better. There are problems in the community; need to make better notices to community. People voting here for solutions that may not be what community wants. Spread the news, at Post Office, Safeway. Who lives here, what do they need? People being paid, but community is neglected. Make sure this is a democracy, to make solutions; don't know where money is going.
Public Comment Closed.

7. Utility box Art Project Ad Hoc (@1:43:35)

Receive informational update from Utility Box Ad hoc. Ad hoc to present received Google Form theme submissions for council discussion and approval. Art Escape to present utility box painting/wrapping options for council discussion and approval. Public Infrastructure to discuss county support for the project.

Update from Art Escape: Kate Ortolano, co-founder of Art Escape in Springs on Hwy 12.

Acknowledged MAC collaborations w/ Art Escape. Help w/ beautifying Springs by painting five utility boxes. Submitted budget, approved.

Kaya Rose, lead teaching artist/Art educator at Art Escape. Utility Box Project, themed around submissions from community. Schedule in October: designing phase, schematics/dimensions, prep work for materials, ideally polytab material/mural fabric, has example, be able to incorporate more local hands on project, hold two - 2 hours workshops, total 4 hours, volunteer teens to do work, on painting & installing.

Kate, re fabric. Utility Boxes will be painted. The thin fabric/decal will go over painting. Will help limit time working on sidewalks. Need to consider liability. Art Escape has insurance for work on site, will work w/ county to keep everyone safe. Then a varathane over entire box to preserve. Will stay bright. Varnish easy to clean.

Kate: Is there a design direction, need an end date, to begin process? Who is point person? Bringing in neighbor kids to help design/work on them will help reduce future graffiti.

Budget available. Kaya's resume. Also has Art Escape info flyers.

Chair Iturri, show list of themes from community on google form.

Karina Garcia, requested Kate send her email version of presentation to share w/ community.

Chair Iturri, ideas for themes: nature, local flowers, landscapes, creek, oak trees. Want representation of working class people, Latinex, families, elders, youths, children. Bright colors, diversity, music, dance, local businesses. No signage so no words. Unity/One community.

Kate, many themes. Only 5 boxes, want to narrow choices down?

Karina Garcia, town of Windsor did similar project. Theme - Discovering Windsor Through Art. Similar themes. Can see examples on Windsor website.

Chair Iturri called for Council Comments

Discussion/Suggestions/Clarifications:

- Combine themes e.g. oaks in creek w/ children playing. Trust Art Escape Springs' community involvement/artistic perspectives & visions. Love color.
- Highlight individual identity of Springs. Cohesion, i.e. how to tie together to give overall feel, to accent.
- Gratitude for youth involvement, thoughtfulness on safety.
- Connect w/ Teen Services, have insurance for small field trips.
- Karina Garcia is point person w/ Ad Hoc Maite, Jesus. Emails to Karina. Working on Encroachment Permit w/ Public Infrastructure, might cover liability, will follow up. Project funded through Supervisor Gorin's Office.
- Are 3 boxes wooden; change dynamic? Also, view of boxes varies depending on how situated, not 360 view. Use some design elements on one side, change other side.
- AE clarified - not wooden, all metal. Yes, 3 sides face highway, 1 side other.
- In the 3 small ones, only two budgeted. Why?
- Karina clarified - not all agencies i.e. ATT, PGE, approved usage. Permission only for 3 Comcast, 2 Cal Trans. Not all boxes identified.

Public Comment

Keylla Akima, concerned that materials used are organic. Is a designer. Kids have to be safe. Must be organic. Wood ok but w/ metal must use glue. Concern about 100% safe glue.

Kate, would not subject kids to any hazardous materials. Will wear masks if needed. Big proponent of organic materials, this project does not call for organic materials. Longevity needed. **Kaya**, materials being used are professional grade acrylic paint, like muralist paint. Safe. Similar to paint put in classrooms. Varnish also safe. Working outside, can use masks & gloves.

Vice Chair Hardeman made Motion to let Art Escape choose themes based on list presented for utility box project. Councilmember Allan seconded. Vote. All in favor. Unanimous. Approved.

8. Norms and Expectations (@2:09:35)

Item bumped from August 9, 2023 meeting. Ad hoc to present second draft document for Council discussion and direction on adopting respectful public comment guidelines. Guidance on council communication and general expectations.

Vice Chair Hardeman, update: added piece to document – *public should address Council not presenter* – this piece being put into use at tonight’s meeting. Also, Council may ask questions but it is not a conversation; e.g. tonight’s Summary of questions by Chair for presenter. Still need a Civility Clause.

Councilmember Winders, clarified reasons for building the Norms & Expectations document. First, to keep a healthy & respectful environment for everyone. Provide space for Public Comment. Also, keep MAC in alignment w/ Brown Act which can be confusing to community. It is a guideline/law in California, need to abide by. This is why there is a section in Agenda just for Public Comment for Items NOT on Agenda. Strive to find a balance; encourage Public Comment.

Re Civility Clause – she will always defend right of public to disagree w/ her or express their dislike/s, however, as noted by Supervisor Gorin earlier, there is concern about people abusing zoom/hybrid formats, also in-person, w/ bigoted hate speech, obscenity. This makes people feel unwelcome & unsafe. Many organizations, e.g. NAACP, dealing w/ this issue currently. Need a Civility Clause; suggested simple terms e.g. no bigoted comments, treat all w/ courtesy & respect, ensure a welcoming environment so everyone can participate.

Councilmember Reyes, highlight *Safety*, having a healthy environment, maintaining safety of participants & councilmembers.

Chair Iturri called for Ad Hoc recommendations.

Vice Chair Hardeman, need to get together one more time; work on a proposed Civility Clause. Will present final draft to MAC, invite feedback.

Karina Garcia, sent Ad Hoc rough draft. No reply.

Chair Iturri called for Council Comments

Public Comment, zoom. None. Closed.

Chair Iturri called for change to Agenda: remove *Goals* for now, postpone to future agenda.

9. Calendar of Events (@2:18:30)

Council discussion and approval on Goals and FY23-24 and FY24-25 Events and Projects.

Discussion and approval of council administrative roles.

Discussion for Calendar Suggestions

- Community Picnic, tentatively for spring . Larson Park construction starting, unknown exactly when/weather dependent. May need to adjust Picnic date.
- Winter Festival, would need a dedicated Ad Hoc to accomplish. Decide at Oct Meeting
- Public can join Ad Hoc committees. Community invited to participate/lead.
- Dia de los Muertos?
- Dia de los Ninos in Spring/May? Amend calendar if needed
- Other organizations holding community events. How can MAC support them? Table? E.g. La Luz holding Dia de los Muertos.

- Dia de los Muertos altar, don't want to overwhelm Art Escape. Who else can partner?
- Winter Holiday decorations on Hwy 12 fence, still have materials.

Karina Garcia, review based on Springs MAC events sponsored in past.

October – two altars for Dia de los Muertos: 22 Boyes location, and Larson Park Community Garden.

Need to partner w/ community organization for funding distribution/fiscal sponsor. MAC supposed to be doing work in partnership w/ community members & organization. If organization only receives funds to purchase materials on behalf of MAC, Council will need to recruit community members and/or do all work.

Sonoma Valley Visitors Bureau offered to bring more lighting to fence site for holiday decorations. Encouraged MAC to continue w/ project. Can find another fiscal sponsor.

Re Dia de los Ninos, etc. - MAC can sponsor & volunteer at other events. Ok to table. If funds involved, need to submit a Budget Request Form; be ready for October MAC meeting.

Discussion cont.

- Ask Art Escape to be fiscal sponsor as curtesy. Consider Sonoma Community Center. Or Creative Sonoma.
- 22 Boyes street altar. Holiday decorations enhance.
- Change Dia de los Ninos from Hanna Center to Larson? Previous event was combined w/ Dance Troupe. Encouraged attendance of children.
- December 16th Saturday? Same day as FISH Distribution Holiday Basket
- December 3rd BEST for Winter Festival
- Spring event, Saturday, June 22nd Community Picnic. Avoid Fathers' Day & Juneteenth
- Dia de los Ninos, April 30/May 1st possible. Talk to Victor re his event/s.

Chair Iturri made a Motion to tentatively approve dates: December 3rd to set up & begin Winter Festival/decorations come down Jan 6th. Altar sets up Oct 28 comes down Nov 6 at 22 Boyes Blvd address. Spring event at Larson Park June 22, 2024. Dia de los Ninos event pending. Vice Chair Hardeman seconded the Motion. Vote. All in favor. Unanimous. Approved.

Public Comment. None. Closed

10. Ad Hoc and Community Project Updates (@2:43:29)

Council Reports, Announcements, and updates

Adopt a Road, Councilmembers Allan & Reyes – From Olive Ave. to Hwy 12/Verano to clean up. Application signed, approved. Choosing date for first pick-up; two pick-ups total per year. Weather concern; may wait for better weather. Look at long term weather forecast, beginning of 2024. Vice Chair Hardeman suggested January 15th, Martin Luther King Day. Boys & Girls Club does day of service that day, could be helpers.

Bicycle Racks, Councilmembers Hardeman & Alcaraz – installed! Tomorrow is ribbon cutting by

Michoacana Ice Cream 6:30pm. Per request from Kathy King - no extra racks, but two near new SOS location. **Councilmember Reyes**, can we ask for more? **Karina Garcia**, good response to bike rack press notice; community asking for more. Did research - will be getting 5 more. MAC tasked w/ decorating w/ or w/o Art Escape, or can involve community. Materials still available; or can be left plain white. Supervisor Gorin wants MAC to continue this project w/ Phase 2, i.e. where to install next 5 racks. So Co Transit requires they be at bus stop, via So Co Transportation. Karina will follow up w/ Sup Gorin & Brian/So Co Transit to ask if ok to install at other useful sites e.g. in front of grocery stores.

PRESS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Date: September 6, 2023 Contact: Karina Garcia, Field Representative to District 1 Supervisor Susan Gorin Karina.Garcia@sonoma-county.org (707) 565-1776

The Springs Municipal Advisory Council is holding a ribbon cutting ceremony for their Bicycle Rack Art Project in the Springs

SONOMA, CA. – The Springs Municipal Advisory Council (Springs MAC) is pleased to announce its Bicycle Rack Art Project in partnership with Art Escape and Sonoma County Transit with support from Supervisor Susan Gorin’s office. The project consists of wrapping Sonoma County Transit bicycle racks with diverse colors and designs and install them at various bus stops in the Springs along the Highway 12 corridor. The wrapped bicycle racks are part of the MAC's artistic vision to beautify the Springs.

“I am delighted to support a project that will represent the diversity of the Springs. The wrapped bicycle racks will bring color and life to our community,” said Supervisor Susan Gorin. “We want people to feel empowered to walk and bike in their community instead of relying on cars, and these bike racks are a step in the right direction.”

The Springs MAC will hold a ribbon cutting ceremony to commemorate the project. Community members are invited to attend

Date: Thursday, September 14 Time: 6:00pm Site: Bus Stop 323, located on HWY 12 and East Thompson. Attendees are encouraged to park at the Park and Ride parking lot across from to La Michoacana

Sonoma County Transit provided the bicycle racks in the standard white color for the Springs MAC to explore with. The Springs MAC partnered with Art Escape who recruited youth for the creative task.

“The Springs MAC is dedicated to improving the quality of life in the Springs. We appreciate the support from Supervisor Gorin and collaboration of Sonoma County Transit and Art Escape with this beautification project.” Springs MAC Chair Maite Iturri.

The Springs community, tourists and passersby will enjoy the colorful racks at the following Sonoma County Transit bus stops:

- Bus Stop 323 HWY 12/East Thompson Landmark: Park and Ride parking lot across from to La Michoacana
- Bus Stop 322 HWY 12/Siesta Way Landmark: Fiesta Plaza, across from the Beacon Gas station
- Bus Stop 320 HWY 12/Verano Landmark: Maxwell Farm Regional Park
- Bus Stop 324 HWY 12/Boyes Blvd Landmark: Across Boyes Hot Springs Post Office
- Bus Stop 324 HWY 12/Boyes Blvd Landmark: Across Boyes Hot Springs Post Office

Vice Chair Joe Hardeman shared that "Beautification of community spaces helps

increase the quality of life for Springs' residents. We hope this art helps show the community that we care about it."

Bicycle racks will be available for public use to park their bicycles. Community members are encouraged to take advantage of the racks and have some fun taking pictures and posting on social media. Don't forget to tag the Springs Municipal Advisory Council on Facebook.

This project is one of two artistic projects taken upon by the Springs MAC with the goal to unite community, represent the beauty and diversity of the Springs, and bring more color to the neighborhoods. The other being Caltrans and Comcast Utility Boxes, both in partnership with Art Escape and with funding from Supervisor Gorin.

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

Meeting Schedule: Second Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the SVUSD Board Room

Ad Hoc Update cont.

Creek Cleanup, Councilmembers Alcaraz & Allan, Creek & Larson Park clean up Sept 23rd, 9-noon partnered w/ Sonoma Ecology Center. Seth Dolinsky donating compost through Zero Waste Sonoma. Also plant starters. A 30 yard trash bin, Sept 22nd – 25 for anyone in community to dispose of unwanted items. Also 4 yard recycle bin.

Councilmember Allan, compost from Zero Waste Sonoma/partners. MAC will be there to assist.

Emergency Prep – Councilmembers Reyes, Lombard, Winders. Need permission from School District to access pod/Covix at Altamira at time when there are no kids; pending. Also, setting up meeting appointment w/ new Superintendent to go over MLU. Will attend Monday 18th, CA LISTOS, Office of State Emerg Services hosting State Summit in Santa Rosa; part of statewide program to reach out to community re emergency prep. Will be suggesting events in May, Fire Emergency Prep month, but September is official Emerg Prep Month. Suggest community/public follow websites, e.g. LISTOS CA, Get Ready national, So Co Emerg locally, plus Springs Map Your Neighborhood Program.

Councilmember Winders, offered to send email to Superintendent for appointment/zoom meeting.

Logo competition – Chair Iturri, received another entry; now have four submissions. Closes Sept 30 or may extend. Request for latest to be re-sent. Will need to decide at next meeting/Ad Hoc can reconvene.

Karina Garcia, show what you have so far now? Chair Iturri, wait for closing date.

Vice Chair Hardeman, noted that of four, only one meets criteria. MAC selecting finalist; best to wait.

Social Media & Outreach, Councilmember Winders, on Facebook. Reminder to "like" the FB Page not the Group. Share w/ friends.

Councilmember Reyes, based on tonight's Public Comments, need to brainstorm how to do better Outreach to reach more people.

Karina Garcia, noted that MAC members have expressed concern re Outreach, for Valley & County. How to better communicate info re MAC Meetings? She personally posts flyer/s regularly at Post Office; keeps info current/relevant. Suggested contacting Sup Gorin's Office for additional assistance.

Chair Iturri, encouraged additional volunteers/members to Ad Hoc. **Councilmember Allan** volunteered. **Councilmember Reyes**, inquired of Karina where Outreach should happen. Karina, not specific; concerns noted.

Public Comment. None. Closed.

11. SVCAC Update (@2:59:38)

Receive SVCAC informational update by 1st District staff.

August 23rd Sonoma Valley Citizens Advisory Commission Meeting: Overview of Joint Powers Authority between City & County of Sonoma. Presenters: District Director Arielle Kubu-Jones, Supervisor Susan Gorin, Cecily Condon/Permit Sonoma, City Mgr./David Guhin, Jennifer Gates/City Community Development Dir. Commission discussing increasing review of city projects; Commission underutilized by city. Working towards a general Community Listening Session/Forum, including comprehensive planning efforts, General Plan. Changed Nov meeting date to November 29th due to holiday conflicts.

Council Comment.

Public Comment. None. Closed.

12 Consideration of Future Agenda Items (@3:01:01)

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

Chair Iturri:

October 11: Mental Health update; Positive Image; LGBTQ Connect; Ad Hoc updates

November 8: Zero Waste Sonoma; Sonoma County Library, Ad Hoc updates

Karina Garcia, adding *Norms & Expectation* to October. *Goals* - November.

Public Comment. None. Closed.

Chair Iturri acknowledged all staff, participants, community, Sonoma TV.

Councilmember Reyes dedicated meeting to September/Suicide Prevention Month.

Local events: September 18th Sonoma Community Center 4:30-6pm. And September 21st at Hanna Center 5-7pm

12. Adjourned 9:35

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

For Viewing Purposes. Sonoma TV You Tube Springs MAC Meeting for September 13, 2023

English: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o_tUiSgVBY0

Spanish: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S-BW39wZUsc>

File: Springs MAC Minutes September 13, 2023 Hybrid draft can be found here:

<https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/springs-mac-meeting-september-13-2023>

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-A1, 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: <https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/> select Boards and Commission

For accessibility assistance with this document, please contact the Board of Supervisors at (707) 565-2241, Fax at (707) 565-3778, TDD at (707) 565-2241 or through the California Relay Service (by dialing 711). Para obtener ayuda con la accesibilidad de este documento, por favor, póngase en contacto con la Junta de Supervisores al (707) 565-2241, Fax al (707) 565-3778, TDD al (707) 565-2241 o a través del Servicio de Retransmisión de California (marcando al 711).