

Springs Municipal Advisory Council

# 04/09/2025 Meeting

# 09/04/2025 Junta





#### WELCOME **BIENVENIDA**

• Call to order and roll call

• Approval of March 12, 2025 Minutes

- 2025
- Public Comment on matters no listed on the agenda







#### • Llamada al orden y pase de lista

• Aprobacion del acta del 12 de marzo del

 Comentario publico sobre asusntos no incluidos en la agenda

Alternate Text and Sources/texto alterno y recurso



#### Mission

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. El Consejo A representa a Valle de Son ante los rep compromet miembros d significativa y el bienesta





#### Misión

El Consejo Asesor Municipal de Springs

representa a los habitantes de Springs, en el

Valle de Sonoma, como la voz de la comunidad ante los representantes electos. El SMAC se

. compromete a colaborar con todos los

miembros de la comunidad de manera

significativa e inclusiva para promover la salud y el bienestar de Springs.

#### **Role of the SMAC**

Working with the 1<sup>st</sup> District Supervisor, the MAC is able to communicate on issues impacting the Springs to the Board of Supervisors SMAC Responsibilities:

- Identify Challenges and opportunities in the communities,
- Research potential solutions/opportunities, and with the Supervisor, advocate for grants for planning, funding, improvements in the community.

Examples may include:

- Plan community-wide events and festivals
- Plan community -wide improvement and projects recruiting volunteers and businesses

Al trabajar con el Supervisor del 1.er Distrito, el MAC puede comunicarse con la Junta de Supervisores sobre temas que afectan a Springs. Responsabilidades del SMAC:

- comunidades,
- - comunidad.
- - comunidad



#### Papel del SMAC

• Identificar desafíos y oportunidades en las

• Investigar posibles soluciones/oportunidades y,

junto con el supervisor, abogar por subvenciones para la planificación, financiación y mejoras en la

Los ejemplos pueden incluir:

• Planificar eventos y festivales para toda la

• Planificar mejoras a nivel comunitario y proyectos que recluten voluntarios y empresas.

#### **SCOPE OF THE SMAC**

- Recommend health and human safety-net services
- Prioritization of transportation, transit, cycling ad pedestrian improvements
- Promote Economic Development- supporting local businesses and promoting new business development assisted by the Economic Development Board, Sonoma Valley Chamber of Commerce and Sonoma Valley **Visitors Bureau** 
  - Identify projects important to our communitiespublic art, placemaking, trash and graffiti cleanup efforts in the communities and along the creeks
  - Review Proposed developments and planning efforts that may be referred by or in conjunction with the SVCAC; and
  - Address additional topics and special projects as requested by the First District Supervisor

#### **ÁMBITO DE APLICACIÓN DEL SMAC**

- ciclismo y peatones



• Recomendar servicios de salud y de protección humana • Priorización de mejoras en el transporte, tránsito,

• Promover el desarrollo económico: apoyar a las empresas locales y promover el desarrollo de nuevos negocios con la ayuda de la Junta de Desarrollo Económico, la Cámara de Comercio del Valle de Sonoma y la Oficina de Visitantes del Valle de Sonoma. • Identificar proyectos importantes para nuestras comunidades: arte público, creación de lugares, esfuerzos de limpieza de basura y grafitis en las comunidades y a lo largo de los arroyos.

• Revisar los desarrollos propuestos y los esfuerzos de planificación que puedan ser remitidos por o en conjunto con el SVCAC; y

• Abordar temas adicionales y proyectos especiales según lo solicitado por el Supervisor del Primer Distrito

#### SMAC MEMBER'S DUTIES

- Attend and participate in meetings of the Council
- Study and analyze appropriate material submitted to the Council
- Participate in Discussions and research and prepare necessary reports
- Serve on subcommittees as the Council designates
- Aid the public in understanding and participating in local planning issues and government processes
- Learn the priorities, challenges, and opportunities in all the communities included in the SMAC: Agua Caliente, Boys Hot Springs, Fetters Hot Springs, and El Verano
- Learn the functions of the County, including resources and service challenges; and
- Facilitate the flow of information between the Springs communities and the County

#### **DEBERES DE LOS MIEMBROS DEL SMAC**

- Consejo.
- Participar en debates e investigaciones y preparar los informes necesarios
- Participar en los subcomités que designe el Consejo.
- Ayudar al público a comprender y participar en cuestiones de planificación local y procesos gubernamentales.
- Caliente, Boys Hot Springs, Fetters Hot Springs y El Verano • Conozca las funciones del Condado, incluidos los recursos y los desafíos del servicio; y
- Facilitar el flujo de información entre las comunidades de Springs y el condado.



**Board of Supervisors**—First Supervisorial District

• Asistir y participar en las reuniones del Consejo • Estudiar y analizar el material apropiado presentado al

- Conozca las prioridades, desafíos y oportunidades en
  - todas las comunidades incluidas en el SMAC: Agua

### **Supervisor Hermosillo's Update** Actualizacion de la Supervisora Hermosillo

- Gateway Roundabout Art Project
- General Plan
- CERT Trainings
- April 17 Emergency Preparedness Fair
- May 3<sup>rd-</sup> from 7:30am-10am- Evacuation Drill
  - Siesta way to Waterman Ave.
  - Opt in to participate
  - Those not participating please keep this day and time in mind as there will be heavy activity.

- Proyecto de arte de la rotonda Gateway Plan General
- Capacitaciones CERT
- 17 de abril Feria de preparación para
  - emergencias
- 3 de mayo- de 7:30 a.m. a 10 a.m.-Simulacro de evacuación
- Siesta camino a Waterman Ave.
- Opte por participar
- Quienes no participen, por favor tengan en cuenta este día y hora ya que habrá mucha actividad.



**Board of Supervisors**—First Supervisorial District

# Brown Act Presentation Petra Pruggisser Deputy County Coucil IV, Sonoma County Council

# Presentación de la Ley Brown Petra Pruggisser Concejala Adjunta IV del Condado, Concejo del Condado de Sonoma





Alternate Text and Sources/texto alterno y recurso



# **Open Meeting** Law –

# The Ralph M. **Brown Act**

#### Office of the Sonoma County Counsel

#### The Brown Act – Transparency and **Public Input**

• All meetings of a legislative body of a local agency shall be open and public. • All persons shall be permitted to attend and participate in the meetings.

### What is a Legislative Body?



legislative body.

• A commission, committee, board, or other body of a local agency whether permanent or temporary, decision making or advisory, created by charter, ordinance, resolution or formal action of the

# Standing Committee vs. Ad Hoc Committee

#### **Standing Committee**

- Ongoing or indefinite
  term
- Continuing subject matter jurisdiction
- Subject to Brown Act requirements (even if less than quorum)



Ad Hoc Committee - not a legislative body if:

- Temporary
- Single / limited purpose
- Dissolved when done
- Comprised of less than a quorum of members (no member of the public)
- Not subject to Brown Act

## What is a Meeting?

Congregation of a member majority at the same time and place to hear, discuss, deliberate, or take action on any item that is within the subject matter jurisdiction

(see details below for teleconference meetings)



# **NO Serial Meetings**

A majority of the members of a legislative body shall not, outside a meeting authorized by this chapter, use a <u>series of communications</u> of any kind, directly or through intermediaries, to discuss, deliberate, or take action







- Majority of members may not use the social media platform to discuss among themselves business within the subject matter jurisdiction
- Members may not make, post, "like" or share communications on social media platforms between members, including comments or use of digital icons that express reactions to communications made by other members



### **OK - Separate Information Sharing**

• A member may communicate separately on social media to answer questions, provide information to the public, or to solicit information from the public, but <u>only if the member does not</u> discuss business with other members



# Private vs. Official Social Media Page

• Public officials have First Amendment right to maintain clearly-demarcated non-governmental, personal accounts and posts; however,

If the "personal" page is used for official public business, the public official's right to delete comments and block users is limited.

Okay to share links or re-posts official information on a personal social media page if that information is already publicly available on an official agency page – BUT: it might open the post up for public comments on the personal page that be blocked or deleted. *Lindke v Freed*, 601 U.S. (2024) cannot

Best practice: keep personal posts in a clearly designated personal account; and include official pronouncements, commentary and communications with the public regarding an official's public duties in a separate official social media account from which members of the public may not be blocked

County's social media policy for posting official business: <u>https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/administrative-support-and-fiscal-</u> services/human-resources/employee-resources/administrative-policy-manual/9-1-official-use-of-social-media-sites-policy



## Not a Serial Meeting



- information.
- positions of other members.

 Individual contacts between members and staff, counsel or others, e.g. staff meeting with a member to answer questions or provide

• But: staff should not ask and member should not answer questions about concerns or

### Not a Meeting



- Attendance at social or ceremonial events where no business of the Board is discussed.
- Community forums and meetings of other government bodies
- Attendance at public conferences if Board Members do not discuss among themselves the business of their jurisdiction

### Notice & Posting Agendas



- Agenda must be posted 72 hours in advance (if a special meeting is called, 24 hour notice must be given)
- When material is distributed to members less than 72 hours before the meeting, the material must be made available for public inspection at the time it is distributed to the members
- Brief description of items of business Agendas must be publicly accessible and distributed in advance to those who request copies

### Items <u>Not</u> on Agenda



- the posted agenda
- Members or staff may briefly respond to questions posed by the public.
- Members may ask staff a question, make a brief announcement or make a brief report on his or her own activities. Members may ask staff to report back to the body at a subsequent meeting, or take action to direct staff to place a
- matter on a future agenda.

No discussion or decision on items not on

## Public Comment



- of it.
- as 1 minute per speaker).
- speakers receive the same opportunity.

• Every agenda for a regular meeting must allow members of the public to speak on any item of interest, so long as the item is within the subject area of the legislative body. • Public must be allowed to speak on a specific item of business before or during the legislative body's consideration

• May adopt a policy to limit public comment on a topic (such

• Whenever the time for public comment is limited, at least twice the allotted time must be provided to a member of the public who utilizes a translator to ensure that non-English

# **Orderly Conduct**

If the orderly conduct of a meeting is disrupted,

- a recess may be called and the meeting reconvened when order has been restored
- individuals who are willfully interrupting the meeting may be warned that their behavior is disrupting the meeting and that their failure to cease the disruptive behavior may result in their removal,
- the meeting room may be ordered to cleared and continue in session for matters on the agenda
- Members of the media shall be allowed to remain

Example: Sonoma County Board of Supervisor Rule 48

https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/administrative-support-and-fiscal-services/board-ofsupervisors/about-the-board/board-rules-of-procedures/xi-participation-of-the-public

### **Teleconference Rules**





### **Teleconference** Options

<u>or</u>

• Unless there is a proclaimed state of emergency (during which other specific Brown Act laws may apply, Gov't Code § 54953(e)), the ability of any member to participate remotely will require either (1) full compliance with the Brown Act's traditional rigid teleconferencing requirements in Gov't Code § 54953(b) — including posting all members' remote locations on agendas and making all of those locations publicly accessible;

(2) following new complex teleconferencing provisions added to Gov't Code § 54953(f) (which will sunset by January 1, 2026).



## **Option 1**

#### <u>Traditional Brown Act Teleconference Requirements (Gov't Code § 54953(b))</u>:

- allow a board or commission to use any type of teleconferencing in connection with any meeting.
- defines teleconference as a meeting of individuals in different locations, connected by electronic means, through either audio or video, or both.
- Brown Act requires the following:
  - At least a <u>quorum</u> of the commission or board members <u>must</u> County.
  - Each teleconference location must be identified in the notice and agenda of the meeting.
  - the standard posting location.
  - Each location must be accessible to the public.
  - legislative body directly at each teleconference location.
  - All votes must be by roll call.

To conduct a meeting with a member participating by teleconferencing, the

participate from locations within the jurisdictional boundaries of the

• Agendas must be posted at each teleconference location in addition to

• The agenda must provide the opportunity for the public to address the



## Option 2

#### Other (Temporary) Option Requirements:

- Brown Act effective January 1, 2023 (they sunset on January 1, 2026).
- specific circumstances:

  - "emergency circumstances" approved by the legislative body.
  - The public must be able to participate remotely.

  - All votes must be by roll call. cause

• On September 13, 2022, alternative teleconferencing provisions were added to the

• Gov't Code § 54953(f) provides complex alternative teleconference procedures to allow a <u>minority</u> of members to participate remotely without having to post agendas at all teleconference locations, identify all teleconference locations in the meeting agendas, or make each teleconference location open to the public under very

• At least a <u>quorum</u> of the members of the legislative body <u>must participate in</u> person from one physical location identified on the agenda, which location must be open to the public and within the boundaries of the local agency. • A member may only teleconference for publicly disclosed "just cause" or in

• A member may only teleconference for a limited number of meetings.

Starting January 1, 2026, Assembly Bill 557 (2023) eliminates the ability of members to use teleconferencing due to emergency circumstances or just

# )ption 2

#### "Just Cause"

#### Timing and Procedure

The member notifies the legislative body at the earliest opportunity possible (can be as late as the start of a regular meeting) of their need to participate remotely for "just cause," including a general description of the circumstances justifying their need to appear remotely.

#### Qualifying Reason

"Just cause" means any of the following:

- A childcare or caregiving need of a child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, spouse, or domestic partner that requires them to participate remotely
- A contagious illness that prevents a member from attending in person
- A need related to a physical or mental disability not otherwise accommodated for
- Travel while on official business of the legislative body or another state or local agency

Note: A member is limited to two virtual attendances based on "just cause" per calendar year.

<u>and</u>

Note: The member must make a separate request for each meeting in which they seek to participate remotely.

#### "Emergency Circumstances"

#### Timing and Procedure

The member <u>requests</u> the legislative body as soon as possible to allow them to participate in the meeting remotely due to "emergency circumstances" and provides a general description of the circumstances justifying their need to appear remotely.

The legislative body takes action to approve the request. If the request does not allow sufficient time to place proposed action on such a request on the posted agenda for the meeting for which the request is made, the legislative body may take action at the beginning of the meeting in accordance with existing Brown Act provisions to add an item to the agenda.

#### Qualifying Reason

"Emergency circumstances" means a physical or family medical emergency that prevents a member from attending in person (does not require disclosure of any medical diagnosis or disability, or any personal medical information that is already exempt under existing law).

# ption 2

#### **Other Requirements**

Under either "just cause" or "emergency circumstances":

- The member must publicly disclose at the meeting, before any action is taken, whether any other individuals 18 years of age or older are present in the room at the remote location with the member, and the general nature of the member's relationship with any such individual(s).
- The member must participate through *both* audio and visual technology (cannot turn off <u>camera</u>).
- Teleconferencing by a member may not be for a period of
  - more than two meetings if the legislative body regularly meets once per month or less
  - more than five meetings if the legislative body regularly meets twice per month
  - more than seven meetings if the legislative body regularly meets three or more times per month
- The public must be able to participate remotely through either:
  - A two-way audiovisual platform (defined to mean an online platform that provides participants with the ability to participate in a meeting via both an interactive video conference and a two-way telephonic function); and/or
  - A two-way telephonic service and a live webcasting of the meeting (defined to mean a way audiovisual platform, and allows participants to dial a telephone number to listen and verbally participate.
- All votes must be by roll call.

telephone service that does not require internet access, is not provided as part of a two-



#### **Remote Public Participation May Continue**

- State law continues to allow (and Gov't Code § 54953(f)'s alternative procedures <u>require</u>) remote public participation.
- If there are sufficient staff resources to allow this option, boards and commissions may choose to hold a hybrid meeting with all board members present (or teleconferenced using applicable Brown Act rules) plus a call in and/or a Zoom-type option for members of the public to participate remotely.

### **Open and Accessible** Requirements

- Social media platforms used to communicate on matters within the legislative body's jurisdiction should be open and accessible to
  - the public, free of charge, and do not require approval for participation from the social media site or a third party.

  - Nextdoor is not open and accessible because it requires approval to join. • Private groups on Facebook that require approval of a moderator to join are not open and accessible.



# **Brown Act Violations**

<u>Civil Actions</u>:

- Any individual or the District Attorney may file a civil lawsuit for injunctive relief or to void action taken in violation of the Brown Act.
- Attorneys' fees are available to prevailing plaintiffs

**Criminal Penalties:** 

• Each member of a legislative body who attends a meeting of that legislative body where action is taken in violation of the Brown Act and where the member intends to deprive the public of information to which the member knows or has reason to know the public is entitled to, is guilty of a misdemeanor.



### Resources



- The Ralph M. Brown Act Government Code Sec. 54950-54963 https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes\_displayText.xhtml? lawCode=GOV&division=2.&title=5.&part=1.&chapter=9.&article=
- Assembly Bill 361 (Open meetings: state and local agencies: teleconferences) https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml? bill id=202120220AB361
- Assembly Bill 2449 (Open Meetings: Local Agencies: Teleconferences) https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml? bill id=202120220AB2449
- Assembly Bill 992 (Open Meetings and Social Media) https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml? bill id=201920200AB992
- Assembly Bill 557 (Open Meetings: local agencies: teleconferences) https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml? bill id=202320240AB557







# **SMART Goals are:**



### achieveable

### relevant

A

### time-bound

### **Top Goal Priorities/ Metas de Prioridad**




### SVCAC Update

## Receive informational update from SVCAC Recibir actualización informativa del chair regarding recent SVCAC meeting presidente del SVCAC sobre la reciente reunión del SVCAC







#### Actualización de SVCAC

Alternate Text and Sources/texto alterno y recurso



# Adhoc funding request process:Proceso de solicitud de financiación adDiscussion and Possible Approvalhoc: Discusión y posible aprobación

# Bring back for Council discussion and Volver a possible approval of adjustments to the Consejo y process







Volver a presentar para discusión en el Consejo y posible aprobación de ajustes al proceso.

Alternate Text and Sources/texto alterno y recurso

#### Sonoma County District 1 Springs Municipal Advisory Council (SMAC) **Event Funding Request**

The SMAC encourages community events or projects that benefit the Springs Community, with a focus on community connections. The council sets aside a limited budget to provide non-profit community organizations with funding for community events. Financial assistance is generally only a portion of the event expense. Ideally other organizational or private support is solicited.

Timeline: July to December and January to June.

 Application submission is required three to four months in advance of the event. Ex—a July event needs to be applied for in April, a January event in October.

Funding Amount: The SMAC will consider funding requests up to \$1,000.

Application Process: Please complete the request form and submit it to District 1 for SMAC approval.

Approval Requirement: All expenditures require approval from District 1 Supervisor, Rebecca Hermosillo.

Required Documentation: Attach supporting documentation, including estimates, cost of materials, and any other relevant details.

Expectations:

- SMAC sponsorship should be recognized at the event to promote the SMAC and emphasize District 1 support.
- · The issue should be important and relevant to the community. For example: public health and/or safety, fostering community spirit and cohesion, transportation or transit. Submit a final report to the SMAC within one month of the event

Resources: Encourage event organizers are encouraged to source from Springs and Sonoma Valley small businesses.

Fiscal Sponsor:			
Contact:			
Event Date:			
Project Title:			
Description:			





Projected Cost:

Board of Supervisors—First Supervisorial District



ext and Sources/texto alterno y recurso





SMAC Topic Area (please check applicable box or fill in for other):

- Celebration Event
- Community Projects
- Preparedness (Ad Hoc)
- Health and Human/Safety Net
- □ Transportation/Transit
- Other (please specify)

Describe the anticipated positive impact on the community, including engagement, safety, cultural enrichment, or other benefits:

Amount Request: \_\_\_\_\_

Partnering Organization(s), if any: \_\_\_\_\_

Tax ID Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Chair Signature

Date

District 1 Supervisor Signature

Date

Return to Betzy.Chavez@sonoma-county.org or contact at 707-565-1776 with questions.





d Sources/texto alterno y recurso













alterno y recurso





M.A.C.











# Utility Box Art Project applicationEstado de la solicitud del Proyecto destatusArte de Cajas de Servicio

## Update by Samuel Jimenez, Engineering Actualización Technician, Sonoma County Public Ingeniería Infrastructure (







Actualización de Samuel Jiménez, Técnico de Ingeniería, Infraestructura Pública del Condado de Sonoma





## **Dissolution of Adhocs:**

Discussion and possible action to dissolve:

- Bike Rack 2.0 • Portabicicletas 2.0
- Springs Farmers Market
- Emergency Preparedness 2.0

- Discusión y posible acción para disolver:
  - Mercado de agricultores de Springs
  - Preparación para emergencias 2.0









## **Disolución de los Ad hocs:**



## **Approval of New Adhocs**

Discussion and possible action to dissolve:

- Bike Rack 3.0
- Springs Farmers Market 2.0
- Emergency Preparedness 3.0

- Discusión y posible acción para disolver:
- Portabicicletas 3.0
- Mercado de agricultores de Springs 2.0 • Preparación para emergencias 3.0



**Board of Supervisors**—First Supervisorial District



### Aprobación de nuevos ad hocs



#### **ACTUALIZACIÓN DE PROYECTOS AD HOC** AD HOC AND COMMUNITY PROJECTS **UPDATE Y COMUNITARIOS**

#### **Council Reports and announcements** Informes y anuncios del consejo













- Funding Request for Community **Projects**
- Emergency preparedness 3.0
- Springs Farmers Market 2.0
- Housing
- Bike Rack 3.0
- Utility Boxes
- Springs Community Plaza
- Adopt a Road

- Solicitud de financiación para proyectos comunitarios
- Preparación para emergencias 3.0
- Mercado de agricultores de Springs 2.0
- Vivienda
- Bicicletero 3.0
- Cajas de servicio públicos
- Plaza Comunitaria de Springs
- Adopta una carretera













CPR & AED Info sobre Entrenamiento CERT Conozca Su Zona de Evacuación Cómo desconectar el agua & gas

Y más...

































GRICULTURE

ALIFORN

#### **AGENDA ITEM 14**





SPRINGS M.A.C.







































Alternate Text and Sources/texto alterno y recurso





#### **Vice Chair Nomination** Nominación de Vicepresidente

#### Discussion and possible vote on vice chair Discusión y posible votación sobre el/los candidate(s) candidato(s) a vicepresidente













#### **Consideration of Future Agenda Consideración de temas futuros** Items de la agenda













LIFOR

