



**Springs Municipal Advisory Council  
Minutes of Hybrid Meeting In person/Zoom  
July 9, 2025**



*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/Contacto:** Betzy P. Chávez, Representante de Campo de la Supervisora Rebecca Hermosillo. **First District Bilingual Field Representative, County of Sonoma**  
[Betzy.Chavez@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Betzy.Chavez@sonoma-county.org)

**Springs MAC Meeting 07-09-25 - Sonoma TV You Tube**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xGsaSpPYU1s&t=4s>

**1. Call to Order & Roll Call 6:31pm**

Roll Call: Vice Chair Lombard

Present: Dong, Henderson, Reyes, Fernandez

Absent: Iturri, Norman

**Staff Present:**

**Betzy Chavez, First District Bilingual Field Representative, County of Sonoma**  
[Betzy.Chavez@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Betzy.Chavez@sonoma-county.org)

**Jessica Barajas, Board Aide, [Jessica.Barajas@Sonoma-County.org](mailto:Jessica.Barajas@Sonoma-County.org)**

**Lin Marie deVincent, Minute Taker**

**Chair Reyes:**

SMAC is broadcasting hybrid meeting on Facebook & Sonoma TV. Agenda Items have been allocated specific times; additional time is allowed for discussion following. Spanish translation available online; headphones available in room. Reminder that the Springs MAC is an Advisory Council, all Councilmembers serve in a volunteer capacity.

**Translators online:** can be heard on zoom broadcast - **Lorna Silva and Anabella Tidona.**

**2. Approval of Minutes for May 14, 2025.**

Councilmember Dong moved to approve May 14, 2025 Meeting Minutes, Councilmember Fernandez, seconded. All in favor. Unanimous. Motion passed.

**Admin Chavez noted due to cancellation of June 2025 Meeting, there were no June Minutes to approve.**

**File: Springs MAC Minutes July 9, 2025 Hybrid can be found here:**  
<https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/springs-mac-meeting-July-09-2025>

### **3. Public Comment Items not on Agenda. (@0:59)**

**Madolyn Agrimonti, on behalf of SOS/Sonoma Overnight Support** organization support. Make and serve 80,000 meals a year, plus provide other services. Transitioning to a new organization, 501c3 i.e. Sonoma Family Meals out of Petaluma. A great idea. Goal to ensure our community is fed w/ the same services, i.e. meals served 9-1, to 300-400 people a day. Also the services to help w/ housing, e.g. Home First, counseling, other organizations, CA SB1383, recycling food, bring extra food from Marin, which goes into community kitchen. Also assist people w/ bus passes to attend court dates & doctors' appointments in Santa Rosa, free phone distribution, Bon Marche thrift store gift cards, & referrals to Sonoma Valley Community Health Ctr. Emphasized there must be a clear path to ensure that Sonoma Valley people are fed. There is no promise to that yet. Will be speaking out more about this concern. Clarity on these issues will alleviate community concerns & help us understand how these essential services will continue to support most vulnerable neighbors. Offered an info handout to assist w/ questions. No answers yet about next steps.

**Marcos Suarez, Program Mgr. for Economic Development Sonoma County.** Provide resources & services to local community who want to start businesses. 8 week workshops available. August Capital Summit. If interested go to website [sonomaedc.org](http://sonomaedc.org), call 707-565-6402. Currently working w/ community partners on Business Survey for Sonoma County. Also on website. Encourage business owners to fill out Survey, help inform how to best serve. Info confidential. (in Spanish) Fill out the Survey – a \$10 gift card first 1,000 to fill out.

**Nathan Solomon, Community Advisory Committee (CAC), works w/ IOLERO.** Independent oversight of Sonoma County Sheriff's Office. Began after Andy Lopez killed 11 years ago. CAC is a liaison w/ community & IOLERO Dept. Monthly meetings, outreach, Ad hoc committees to investigate things, e.g. canine use against citizens, set up Policies in Sheriff's dept. Work closely w/ them, but independent. Welcomed the community. Monthly meetings & events for outreach. Annual report by IOLERO; go through investigations on Sheriff's Office, from complaints filed & investigated.

**Chair Reyes,** acknowledged comments & organizations' work, in Valley & County. Special thanks to SOS & Kathy King for her leadership work over past 10 years. And to IOLERO, & Econ Dev Dept. for info to community.

Public Comment closed.

4. **Chair Reyes Update,** announced Councilmember Norman on temporary leave of absence for a few months. Acknowledged her time on MAC; will return. In the meantime, her position not counted as quorum, next meeting 4 would be required.

Invited community to join the MAC. Two vacancies. For application, contact Admin Chavez.

## **5. Community Event Announcements**

**Back to School Health Fair**, Saturday, August 9<sup>th</sup>, Altimira Middle School. Supporting local families & students to prepare for school year w/ backpacks. Info on Sup Hermosillo Newsletter, Facebook page. Volunteers needed.

**Admin Chavez**, request to move Supervisor Hermosillo's Update to end of today's presentations.

**Chair Reyes**, agreed.

## **6. Permit Sonoma General Plan Update a. Haleigh Frye and Ross Markey, Sonoma County PRMD**

**Haleigh Frye**, Project Mgr. General Plan Update (GPU) and **Ross Markey**, Comprehensive Planning Mgr.

Phase 1. Report from past few months from Community Outreach events. What matters, challenges they face, & hopes for future. Shaping for next phase of Policy Development which will span many years & more opportunities for input.

### **Power Point (See supplemental files for full document of Power Point)**

**Slide: What is General Plan, Why Does it Matter? (@16:37)** GP is a long term policy document that typically looks about twenty years into the future, and it lays out a vision for Sonoma County's Unincorporated Areas. It guides decision on land use, growth, infrastructure, and environmental protection to make sure they align with county priorities.

GP includes a Land Use Map that designates how land can be used i.e. housing, business, agriculture, or open space. These designations impact where homes and businesses are built, how neighborhoods develop, and what kind of services are nearby. It also affects our daily life in practical ways, e.g. shaping job opportunities, the character of our communities, our transportation system, access to parks, disaster preparedness, and the protection of our natural & cultural resources. So this update is important because it gives you the chance to develop and help shape how Sonoma County grows & changes over the next few decades based on what matters most to you & your community.

**Slide: Evolution and Achievements (@17:22)** First GP adopted in 1978 - emphasized protection of agricultural lands, open spaces and community character with policies intended to focus development in those areas. It also introduced the concept of Community Separators i.e. Open Space areas that separate cities and other communities which helps to contain urban development and support individual identities in those cities & communities. The Community

Separators were later adopted by Sonoma County voters in 1996, and then reaffirmed through voter approval in 2016.

The first Update to GP happened in 1989 when the county added new Elements that State Law required the GP to address. That same Update also furthered the county's preservation policies for agricultural and resource lands, including some additional protections for streams & scenic resources.

The last Update happened in 2008, and prepared the current GP i.e. called GP 2020, and added policy guidance to support affordable housing, resource protections, and water resource policies. It also provided some localized policy guidance for specific areas in the county.

**Slide: General Plan Sonoma (@18:41)** County's current GP 2020 has been in place since 2008. The GP is being updated to reflect the evolving conditions of the region over the past 16 years, as well as bring it into compliance with current State Law requirements. This update is known as GP Sonoma.

Currently in Phase One of the Update – called the Community Vision Phase, which focuses on establishing a shared vision for the county's future.

Work so far has included a preliminary audit of the existing GP, development and implementation of our Community Engagement Plan; will conclude with a report to the Board of Supervisors in August 2025 outlining what we heard from the community, and recommendations on how to move forward into Phase 2. And after that we'll proceed with our next Policy Development Phase, a multi-year Phase.

**Slide: Phase 1 timeline (@19:14)** This slide provides an overview of the schedule for the 1st phase of the GP Update. Work kicked off last summer with some background work, in January and February we began implementing our community engagement plan, beginning with a set of community workshops and launching online community visioning survey. Then, beginning in March, we launched the second phase of workshops, focused on understanding the key opportunities and challenges in individual communities across the county.

Now we're wrapping up our Outreach for this phase of the update and meeting with community and Municipal Advisory Councils to hear their perspectives & recommendations.

**GP Vision and Guiding Principles (@19:47)** This slide provides an overview of the schedule for the 1st phase of the GP Update. Work kicked off last summer with some background work, in January and February we began implementing our community engagement plan, beginning with a set of community workshops and launching online community visioning survey. Then,

beginning in March, we launched the second phase of workshops, focused on understanding the key opportunities and challenges in individual communities across the county.

**Slide: Outreach (@20:23)** Now we're wrapping up our Outreach for this phase of the update and meeting with community and Municipal Advisory Councils to hear their perspectives & recommendations.

**Community Engagement Process (@20:28)** Community input is obviously an essential part of this process. So this slide includes [data] how we're gathering feedback and getting the word out during this 1st phase. Sent out over 50,000 postcards at the beginning of this effort to notify residents about the Update.

We created a dedicated GP Update webpage that includes things like background information, or upcoming events, and other ways to engage with us during this process. Also been using social media, sending out newsletters and coordinating with District Staff.

Done 2 rounds of community workshops, online surveys, focus group meetings with underserved communities, participated in local events like Farmers Markets and cultural celebrations, and our meetings with advisory councils & commissions.

In the next few slides will include some more specifics about our engagement efforts. It will be a part of the community engagement dashboard that we're developing, to be up on website soon.

**Community Visioning Workshops (@21:22)** First round of workshops were community visioning workshops. Held a total of 6 of these workshops, 2 virtual and 4 centrally located in person, one in Sonoma Valley, one in Penngrove, one in Healdsburg, and one in Forestville. Altogether about 271 people participated in this workshop series. They were about 2 hours long and included a presentation and some breakout groups facilitated by staff, and then a report-out by each group at the end.

The workshops focused on broad topics. A few examples of these topics are growth management and development, accessibility and circulation, protection of natural resources, agriculture and food. Key themes that we heard from these workshops were a need to diversify agriculture and protect small farms, focus growth in and around cities where these services are already existing and provide housing options for all residents, including seniors and young families, and expand open space, and recreation opportunities.

**Slide: Sonoma Valley High School Workshop 1/29/25 (@21:57)** 37 participants, 223 comments  
Held one of our community vision workshops in Sonoma Valley, at Sonoma Valley High School at end of January, 37 participants and received over 200 comments. Some common themes

that came up were a need for farm worker and affordable housing, impacts from climate change, support for local agriculture, support for alternative modes of transit e.g. bike infrastructure & other forms of public transport, the need to balance the impacts from tourism, and celebrating local history & cultures.

**Slide: Local Community Workshops (@22:24)** 11 workshops, 214 participants, 590 comments  
Next series of workshops hosted were local community workshops that were set up more like open houses. Held 9 in person and 2 virtual, and spoke with 214 participants.

These meetings were aimed at gathering more specific feedback from the various communities where each workshop was held. These were organized as open houses w/ maps within the general area where each workshop is held, and attendees were encouraged to speak with staff and tell us what they value about their communities, and challenges that they face in their area.

**Slide: Flower Elementary School Workshop (@22:51)** One of these open houses at Flowery Elementary School back in March focused on Sonoma Valley area. We had 22 attendees and received 36 comments.

**Slide: (@23:07)) Comments**

Some of the comments received - need for more parks and trees. Another road exit for emergencies. Need for shades at bus stops. Insurance & rents too expensive in area.

**Slide: Community Pop up Events (@23:21)** 11 events. 482 people. Multiple images of events. Included Butter & Eggs Days, the Apple Blossom Festival, and Roseland Cinco de Mayo Festival. Planning to be at the Santa Rosa Pride Festival later this weekend on Saturday.

These pop-up events allow us to engage with people who may not be familiar with the planning process, or might not have time to attend a formal meeting, along with neighborhood chats and community organization meetings. They help us reach a broader & more diverse group of residents.

**Slide: Sonoma Valley Farmers Market, 4/18/25 (@23:48)** Attended Sonoma Valley Farmers Market, held just across the street from this building. There back in April and spoke to about 25 participants about GP.

**Slide: Next Steps (@24:01)** Next we'll be wrapping up our Phase One engagement activities, including Advisory Council & Commission meetings. Then use the feedbacks gathered to draft a vision statement & set of guiding principles for GP. Prepare a Scope Report that summarizes what was heard from the community and outlines recommendations for how to move forward into that phase based on that feedback. That report will be presented to the Board of Supervisors in August 2025.

**Slide: We want to hear from you! (@24:35)**

Invite reflections and input. Priorities/concerns. Future of community.

We want to hear from you about what makes your community special to you, what your priorities or concerns are, what you'd like to see future of community look like. Also want to ask how you'd like to stay involved w/ GP Update.

Want to make it easy for people to stay connected and up to date with the project - the QR code that's on the next slide will directly link into our website. You can subscribe to our email update list and check out what we've done so far.

[GeneralPlan@sonoma-county.org](mailto:GeneralPlan@sonoma-county.org)

**Chair Reyes called for Council questions. (@25:07)**

**Councilmember Dong**, diversity of population makes community special. A mixture of various backgrounds, languages, sense of community. Priorities/concerns: public safety, following recent fires. Safety Element of GP. Also concern for earthquakes. Flooding. Planning for creeks. Housing concerns, not enough affordable or for work force. Challenges re access and egress, suggested looking at number of vacant lots to develop, encourage owners to develop. Re business - loss of tourism, have effort coordinated w/ business community & wine industry, others that support local govt. funding. In future – maintain a certain level of stable economic development, too expensive to stay here & losing families, impacting school closures, need to get involved w/ elected officials. Wants to stay involved w/ GP Update, suggests advertise web page, how to reach goals? 20 year plan, when is community notified of goal accomplishments/benchmarks i.e. frequent updates annually or 5 year update to local commissions?

**Vice Chair Lombard**, the community is special, has local businesses, few corporate chains in Springs. Would like to see more places to meet, green spaces/finding places, even small pockets which can be expensive. Priorities: supports businesses & encourages plans that support their growth, finding affordable spaces, on Hwy 12. Parking a problem. Noted plus of increased walkers, pedestrian traffic. Future: ways to make spaces more affordable. Also, developing housing for families & smaller units for seniors.

**Chair Reyes**, agrees w/ comments. Priorities: Good infrastructure, e.g. lighting, road conditions, affordable housing, so families & businesses can thrive. Improve but not displace.

**Councilmember Fernandez**, agrees w/ comments. Priorities: Engage w/ more arts and culture, diversity in schools, overall community involvement. Fostering & strengthening community bonds, cultural diversity.

**Councilmember Henderson**, agrees w/ comments. Special community aspects: diversity, and Programs like Mentoring Alliance, la Luz, SOS, Pets Lifeline. A huge community wants to give back, how to bring it together more, not competing for funding. Priorities: address infrastructure of roads, Hwy 12 two lane, important for tourism. SDC issue might be creating more traffic. How to enjoy Sonoma Valley? Better parking, parks, etc.

**Chair Reyes** encouraged additional comments be sent to presenter.

**Vice Chair Lombard**, question re one year time limit on plans submitted but had no progress. Would that apply to someone who cleared a lot and left sitting? These problems in Springs.

**Markey**, properties w/ permits submitted that have expired? **Lombard**, unsure, re a nearby lot cleared & left for five years. **Markey**, send him info, will respond. **Lombard**, will send photos.

**Sup Hermosillo**, Board of Zoning Adjustment, will get info letter. **Markey**, yes, BoZ changing regulations, in-house policies changing. BoZ Ord adopted by Bo Supervisors, into effect later this year, additional info soon. Yes, limitations on how long a permit can be left w/ no action taken.

[GeneralPlan@sonoma-county.org](mailto:GeneralPlan@sonoma-county.org)

**Public Comment, zoom, None**

## **7. Independent Office of Law Enforcement Review & Outreach (IOLERO)(@40:53)**

**Lizett Camacho, Bilingual Community Engagement Manager**, started in 2022

### **IOLERO Power Point**

#### **Slide: Background (@41:23)**

IOLERO was established after a 13 yr. old boy, Andy Lopez, was killed in October 2013 by a Sheriff Deputy. I just added their ordinances: Ordinance 6174 law enforcement oversight for Sonoma County, approved in 2016. Ordinance 6333 (Measure P) approved by Sonoma County resident in November 2020. That really just states the powers of IOLERO and the CAC. Basically, it was measure P that voters were able to vote to bring a law enforcement oversight agency to Sonoma County specifically for the Sheriff's Office.

#### **Slide: IOLERO was authorized to:**

1. Provide independent review and audit of complaints against the Sheriff's Office, any Sheriff, deputy on patrol, and correctional officers inside the jail.
2. We receive and review those complaints from citizens and those are forwarded to the Sheriff's office.
3. We propose policy and training recommendations to the Sheriff. Mostly the Community Advisory Council is the one that does the policy recommendations, but as well as our auditors that do the reviews and the audits in the office.

4. We advise if the investigation appeared incomplete, or whatever, if it was deficient if it needed further review.
5. The goal here is to provide transparency with the Sonoma County Sheriff's Office operations and the community that they serve, which is Sonoma County.
6. We also conduct Outreach. The goal there is to inform the community what we do, i.e. we take complaints and follow up, and we can either find that the officer violated policy or not.
7. We also produce an Annual Report where we share different cases that we've done, and obviously they don't go into detail as to what officer or who the complainant was, but it tells you exactly the details as to what happened. What did we find, whether the officer violated policy or not, any recommendations to their policy. And that Annual Report usually comes out August or September. It's available on our website as well in Spanish and English.

**Slide: Measure P (@44:22)**

- Was passed by nearly 65% vote in November of 2020
- Gives access to the Sheriff's records, including body-worn camera videos
- It authorizes IOLERO to post the body-worn camera to its website publicly
- Gives IOLERO subpoena and investigatory powers
- Can make discipline recommendations to the Sheriff's Office as well.
- And authorized to act as a receiving and investigative agency to whisk for whistleblower complaints as well. We have a whistleblower portal, where people can file a complaint

**Slide: Sheriff Vs Police Chief (County vs City)**

- The sheriff is elected by the people of Sonoma County; can only be removed by recall or election of the new Sheriff.
- Sheriffs cannot be removed or disciplined by the Board of Supervisors
- Police Chief is hired by City Manager or the City Council, and it's responsible to their mandates, and they can be fired by the City Manager or City Council.

**Slide: Civilian Oversight: Sheriffs vs Police**

- 82% of oversight agencies are responsible for overseeing municipal police departments
- Only 15% of oversight agencies oversee county sheriffs.

I think those numbers are growing, especially for the Sheriffs nationwide. There is an agency that provides training and they have an annual conference that we attend, where we get to meet other people that are doing law enforcement oversight.

**Slide: IOLERO, a civilian oversight agency**

It's the National Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement. This is the agency that provides education, community support to those agencies that are trying to do this kind of work, and their conference is usually in the winter. We like to take all of our staff, and some of our community Advisory Council members as well, so they can get educated and learn more about the work. Priorities are advocacy for civilian oversight, training of oversight professionals, and defining and defending oversight with research and data.

### Slide: IOLERO's Four Operational Branches

- The Community Advisory Council (CAC) Volunteers, and they are appointed by each Supervisor District, Supervisor Board of Supervisors. 2 are appointed by each supervisor. Supervisor Hermosillo has 2 people that are appointed to our CAC. It's total of 10 plus one that is appointed by our director, so total of 11. Right now we have a vacancy in District 2 which is on the map.
- Audits. We do audits of their cases for the Sheriff's Office.
- Community Outreach. My position is to do Community Outreach. I do a lot of community events. E.g. in Sonoma for Cinco de Mayo. I try to make it out here as much possible. I'm also the Administrative support person for the Community Advisory Council (CAC), so I help them with their meetings. Their meetings are second Wednesday of the month. July was canceled. We are trying to spread the word as to the work that we do. A lot of community members are still coming up to our booth and saying - *Oh, I didn't know of IOLERO*. So we're trying to reach out to more community and let them know exactly what we do and the services that we provide.
- Proactive Work - to truly create a change in culture, increase transparency and improve the relationship between the Sheriff's Office and the community, IOLERO must proactively "relationship build" w/ both the community and the Sheriff's Office.

### Questions?

We have a newsletter on our website that you can sign up if you want to get monthly newsletters about the work that we're doing, or you can send an email as well.

I have the website link on there if you want to see the Annual Report; new one coming in August.

<https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/IOLERO/Annual-Reports/>

Email is [IOLERO@sonoma-cocounty.org](mailto:IOLERO@sonoma-cocounty.org). For questions or concerns or anything you want to share.

Brochures available in Spanish and English.

**Chair Reyes**, thanked presenter. Important to educate community on IOLERO. Newsletter valuable. Invited Council for questions.

**Councilmember Fernandez**, how does program address community w/ mental health issues?

**Lizett**, yes, we are receiving complaints that involve behavioral health. **Fernandez**, important because many youth in trouble carry mental illness. Not being served adequately. Deputies need better education, training how to handle these cases. Unfortunately mental health issues can become aggressive behavior. **Nathan**, worked w/ Sheriff's office on mental health a few years ago. Directed them to a program in Portland, & one in central CA, & they did implement changes. There is a separate group, of medical professionals, can respond in non-violent situations. Have seen improvement in last few years. **Lizett**, yes, is Mobile Support Team, but caller needs to state that it is mental health related. **Fernandez**, had bad experience in past w/ close relative w/ mental health issues, ended up getting arrested. Glad to hear of change & improvement w/ new team.

**Councilmember Dong**, is there separate staff who investigates complaints, &, then CAC does policy recommendations? **Lizett**, Auditors do work. Attorneys reviewing complaints, looking up state law or policy for Sheriff's Dept., plus Community Advisory Council volunteers appointed by each Sup District, 2 for each district, plus 1 vacancy, total 11 positions. **Dong**, how many staff? **Lizett**, eight. **Dong**, looked at Report, good policy recommendations being provided to Sheriff's office. Suggested to measure change & data, since 2013 to 2020, how many complaints received, how many resolved, how many founded, unfounded? E.g. *we received 10 complaints on professional courtesy vs 5 complaints of excessive force*. Changes year to year? Is there improvement? Can make recommendations to policy change; identify training. Wants to see data on year to year basis; recommends this be done. R: Advisory Commission, are they trained for law enforcement tactics? To laws, whether mental health or criminal? **Lizett**, use NACO webinars offered. County provides basic training, e.g. sexual harassment, ethics, Brown Act. Sheriff's office also provides. **Dong**, a mini academy for scope of their work? **Markey**, more like a simulator engagement w/ problem. Same training as officers. Learn about their perspective. **Dong**, City of Sonoma contracted w/ Sheriff's Office. IOLERO have jurisdiction here? **Lizett**, yes, Sonoma and Windsor.

**Public Comment, zoom, none**

#### **8. Supervisor Hermosillo update. (@ 1:00:55) Slide w/ details (@1:02:52)**

- BoS Meeting Tuesday - moved forward w/ revised MOU for SDC. Re-engaged previous consultant who did first EIR that was rejected; subcontractors will now do more thorough job. Will move forward w/ Revised EIR. Notice of Preparation (NOP) out August 15. Meeting today (7.9.25) w/ developer to begin 5 public meetings part of Builders Remedy process. NoP opportunity for community to provide input on project. SDC project complicated, state owned land, county in rare opportunity to help guide through EIR process & CEQA. VOTMA Traffic Study included in record to be considered. Encouraged input & feedback. Through [PermitSonoma-SDC@sonoma-county.org](mailto:PermitSonoma-SDC@sonoma-county.org)
- Springs Plaza looking great, dead trees removed. Thanks to Councilmember Wellander, Josette Eichar & other volunteers for maintaining, cleaning.
- Farmers Market, every Sunday 10-2pm, various vendors. Great turnout.
- Grant cycle for CIFs & TIFs for 2024-2025 finished in June. More funds available to community & nonprofits. New cycle opens in July 2025-2026
- Funds saved for Homeless Action Sonoma, needed bridge funding \$84,000. Helped allocate some funding. Catholic Charities nonprofit now managing; can help expand services. Community collaborations, including SOS, Sonoma Overnight Services, serving most vulnerable community members.

- Budget - passed a “skinny budget” to assess impacts due to uncertainty w/ state & federal budgets.
- County policy to not back fill. E.g. a federal grant for \$331 million pulled back by Feds. Feds demanding restrictions from So Co and other counties that they will not do any Climate work, or DEI work, &, must collaborate w/ ICE - a clear violation to state law. So Co has joined 2 lawsuits to get stay re Federal funds.
- Funding will be challenging w/ limited resources. DHS increased funding for ICE, will be worse impact. Sonoma County, Valley nonprofits & community rallying to help provide reassurances & support to those who are vulnerable.
- County newsletter comes out frequently. Her newsletter will be quarterly only in District 1. Sonoma Valley to Santa Rosa, sign up to receive.

**Slide (@1:08:59)**

- Larson Park under construction, through November/Dec. hopefully finish before winter. Working w/ Director Whitaker to install an AED, needs maintenance (one in Maxwell Park).
- Vacation Rentals, summer busy. Issues? 24/7 hotline Call 707-565-1212 to report concerns.
- Construction on Verano Ave, 70 units. Closed crosswalk from FAHA to Maxwell Park, on Verano Ave. Not safe. Engaged w/ Mid Pen; got it reopened. Scheduled for closing July 18<sup>th</sup> for ten days; can confirm dates.
- Charla Comunitaria, County Communications, Karina Garcia, watch on Facebook or zoom, see county social media to sign up

**Chair Reyes**, So Co Emergency event at hub/East County Service Center, Thur. Aug 7th, 6-7pm. By So Co Dept. of Emergency Management.

**Chair called for Council questions.**

**Vice Chair Lombard**, what is “CIF & TIF”? **Hermosillo**, Community Investment Funds, Tourism Impact Funds; a projection. Presenter Miller to be at next MAC to further explain for next budget cycle. Each Supervisor gets part of tourism fund; a calculation. Sup Hopkins gets most, then Hermosillo, then Gore, Rabbit, etc. In discussion w/ Supervisors to share more equitably throughout county.

**Hermosillo, one additional Update item.** Every 8 years there is a big infrastructure project. Met w/ SCTA for list for valley. She is putting forward 8<sup>th</sup> street improvements for bikes & pedestrians. 2 sections of 8<sup>th</sup> Street, usually pick one a year. Suggested to do both at same time; pending. Cong Thompson, earmark for roundabout on southern end, by Mulas Dairy, bike & pedestrian to connect to Sonoma Best, eventually to Lovall Valley, etc. Application being submitted Aug 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Councilmember Dong**, always hear of atrocious road conditions. What is difference between repaving, or, basic maintenance like striping crosswalks? Put in several requests to Permit Sonoma to repaint faded Stop Sign on streets. Is that all considered “maintenance”? Has reported on Verano Ave, in Springs, new work covered over stripes. **Hermosillo**, will get clarification on striping; there is a difference between fixing potholes vs road repair. Road repair on a 2 year cycle. District gets portion funds given # of miles in District. Here 5 roads every 2 years. Sup Hopkins, has most rural, biggest 3 of miles, gets 13. Generally costs one million dollars a mile depending on treatment. Valley has 1,400 miles. Trending upwards in road repair. Send her list of roads that need striping/painting. Will elevate w/ Director Hoevertsz.

**Councilmember Henderson**, requested clarification on how road repair funds are budgeted. **Hermosillo**, it is number of unincorporated roads in each District. **Henderson**, but Springs has dense population, roads need work, rural roads have less traffic. Suggested in consolidation w/ other Supervisors to portion funds better, taking into account the number of vehicles on the roads. **Hermosillo**, funding differs. Road repair funds set aside is Gas Tax SB1, different pot of money. TIF and CIF funds different - based on TOT funds collected, where Districts vary. Dollars divided amongst census. Each District has approx. 100,000 pop in district. Yes, density makes impact on roads, that’s how they get elevated. E.g. south end of Arnold has high volume of traffic. Hoevertsz uses markers to prioritize repair. Process: a road is flagged, driven, assessed, most pressing ones elevated. **Henderson**, not referring to main arteries like Arnold, Verano or Hwy 12, rather the residential roads, like Mountain Ave. How do they differ from main roads? **Hermosillo**, depends on severity of road repair. One road off Riverside is gravel. A road in Santa Rosa w/ a sinkhole that the school buses driver over.

**Vice Chair Lombard**, clarified that Lovall Valley & Nuns Canyon roads got repaired by money from PGE post-fire funding.

**Public Comment, zoom. None.**

**BREAK**

**9. Dissolution of Ad Hoc a. Discussion and possible action to dissolve: Emergency Preparedness 3.0 (@1:32:34) to be integrated into District One Office**

**Chair Reyes called for Councilmembers’ questions.**

**Public Comment, zoom, none.**

**Sup Hermosillo**, recommended MAC identify important priorities, for her clarification w/ process. Always new items, e.g. Sheriff & DM looking at new software.

**Chair Reyes**, yes, one priority is looking at inventory to assess current status. Confirm that is vetted through Red Cross again. Also, reconnect w/ School District to re-confirm Altimira as

approved location. Also, invite community to be prepared, to attend classes, e.g. training CERT e.g. preparation, hybrid class starting tonight, so District 1 is ready.

**Councilmember Dong**, priority - disaster equipment trailer at Altimira, water expiring, so, yes inventory. Who is doing inventory? DEM? And if dissolve Ad hoc, who will continue? Is there a list of equipment? Also, are there possible grants for radios, GMRS or HAM radio operators? Also, Grand Jury Report, RE: evacuation & disaster prep - is there an appetite for community or BoS to pass Bond Measure to support needed infrastructure? E.g. software, computers, suggested an Alert Warning siren system, or w/ voice, to do bilingual like in Mexico. City of Berkeley got new sirens system w/ voice amplification. In every disaster report there is concern about communications w/ underserved people – those w/o computers, radios, cell phones, or bilingual skills. Given the tight economic times, public may not have appetite for a Bond Measure, but is more affordable way to fund County needs in all Districts, especially in limited egress & access areas.

**Chair Reyes**, RE: Conex trailer w/ supplies, referred to as “disaster container”. That container specifically for D1 to have access here, in case DM could not get here, which happened in 2017 fire. It took longer for them, & Congressman advocated for it. And this is in coordination w/ partners, the Supervisor. MAC & community committed to Emerg Prep & will still volunteer w/ or w/o Ad hoc.

**Sup Hermosillo**, update on Conex Box. In discussion w/ DEM, verified DEM will do an inventory, but informed her MOU never fully executed. **Reyes**, correct, just a Letter to D1 to permit MOU w/ School District. **Hermosillo**, recommendation is to wait for new Superintendent. Director DuVall has another box in another part of District. Congressman Thompson helped get box here w/ Red Cross; was a one-time allocation for food supplies. Then MAC or community to replenish. Remind MAC about county’s “skinny” budget. Will report back in couple months on where limited funds can be available. **Reyes**, yes, DEM clear in recent report that FEMA funds being cut, budget limited. **Hermosillo**, yes. Once new Superintendent in will revisit; perhaps more shelf life in food packs? **Reyes**, yes, need to realign w/ MAC & community. Also looking to work w/ potential donors. What is recommendation re Ad hoc? **Hermosillo**, yes, dissolve. D1 will take over where MAC left off. Thanked for work; laid foundation. **Reyes**, next month propose Ad hoc initiative where there is funding for trainings, & items e.g. radios. Requested Future Agenda Item of Presentation from DM for USC Initiative.

**Councilmember Dong made a Motion to dissolve Emergency Preparedness Ad hoc 3.0. Vice Chair Lombard second. Vote, all in favor. Unanimous. Passed.**

**10. Council Goal Setting Follow-Up a. Review and discuss top priority goals proposed by Council; possible selection and approval of top 3 for 2025 (@1:43:40)**

**SLIDE: List of priorities**

**DISCUSSION**

**Chair Reyes**, begin w/ working w/ local businesses, a Business District, how to consolidate? Invite to MAC, highlight, via newsletter, Springs MAC Facebook. Also, noted need for basic services.

**Councilmember Dong**, clarification on top priorities, schedule for future, how to meet goals?

**Reyes**, e.g. important topic of Emerg Prep, had Ad hocs since 2021, up to 3.0 versions. What community projects are priorities? What actions to take? Events, new Ad hoc?

**Slide (@1:47:30) Top Goal Priorities List, bilingual**

**Dong**, noted top 3 are business centric. BID, Business Improvement District, lots of work. Requires a vote. Owners within district agree to tax themselves to do goals e.g. advertising, cleaning streets. In Springs Plaza, may need garbage service, how is it paid for? Safety & security funded by BIDs. Long goal, unsure of achievability in Ad hoc period. MAC can make recommendation, Supervisor consider support, go to county for attention.

**Noted Other: “Explore support services for low income residents.”** Possible, developing a Resource List.

**Noted Other: “Host business forum to engage local biz owners”**. Good idea. W/ Marcos help. Recently attended first Asian business owners event in So Co. Recommended staying focused on business piece. Time limited for too many projects. Approach business owner volunteers.

**Reyes**, yes, noted business engagement/highlight, good evaluation. Common & realistic themes? E.g. hold a business Forum, invite So Co Econ Dev, e.g. learn how to do cottage business license/food from home.

**Sup Hermosillo**, good ideas, some tangible. But not good to tax food industry now, hard to make ends meet. Also Permit Sonoma new program, “Pasos”, collaboration within county e.g. food cart, fast food. Recommended invite them to present to MAC, materials bilingual. Work w/ Marcos, Tim Zahner, Chamber to do business friendly event in Springs to support community. Also, did public Safety Forum recently, important to business community too. Yes. Focus on uplifting Springs’ businesses. Help breakdown communication silos.

**Noted “Housing”**. Met w/ Caitlin Cornwall of Sonoma Valley Collaborative, good ideas re housing, possible for county to support, recommended MAC do same. So, focus on those two – Housing & Business components.

**Vice Chair Lombard**, clarification, other on list – “Permit Sonoma Rental Registry Housing”?

**Hermosillo**, can’t support that now, need to keep community members’ info safe.

**Lombard**, who suggested BID? Unaware of costs? **Dong**, he suggested, has experience w/ it.

**Reyes**, also suggestion for housing, a list of available low income. **Dong**, that was number one on the list. It's "to explore support services for the low income residents, shelter, food, mental health, jobs, transportation". It could even have a housing element to it about whatever resources we have on housing. **Reyes**, so basic services/needs together.

**Dong**, about supporting most vulnerable, low income & businesses. Top of list. Take those two goals & make individual tasks to meet goals.

**Reyes**, suggested consolidating into one or two realistic ideas. **Dong**, MAC can do anything. Who is leading? **Reyes**, how to move forward? Brainstorm in an organized manner, ask what needs do we see out in the community that we can do, whether it's a small one-time event, a resource list, create Ad hocs to do it. And Ad hocs can be a 1 person or up to 3. How to make direct impact?

**Henderson**, in May meeting at school w/ 10 organizations. Have so many different groups. Pull it all together or focus on one goal e.g. low income housing or business. Noted two venues that identify the Springs - Larson Park re-opening, SOS for low income, also Farmers Market has room for more vendors or booths, suggested donating space to business or other organization.

**Hermosillo**, reminded MAC the Springs Plaza Farmers Market needs contract. To continue needs to be a value-add to community directly related to county. Suggested asking Behavioral Mental Health to table. MAC can table. To support free contract.

**Henderson**, RE: recent community MAC discussion on closing of Flowery School, were 10 businesses here talking about impact on them of school closing. Talk to them, nurture, support. Make it fun & accessible for community.

**Hermosillo**, downtown in discussion on a theme e.g. "Stay out Late past 8" pm theme. Create ideas to bolster businesses.

**Reyes**, clarified this goal list is raw draft, consider consolidation. Social services at top. How to do events, produce video for Springs' businesses, engage. Be realistic, limited time.

**Lombard**, proposed choose 2 subjects from list – 1. support local businesses. 2. low income residents' social support services. Put others aside. Bring item back again.

**Reyes**, agreed. Next time, August agenda, take top 2 - Local business support & Social support services.

**Admin Chavez**, continue conversation to next meeting, August. Postpone Resolution, Vote. Reyes, consolidate top priorities.

**Henderson**, also what are ways to utilize Springs Farmers Market, Larson Park main venues?

**Reyes**, yes, good ideas, but first move forward w/ selections. Yes, look at Schools, green spaces, other locations in Springs.

**Dong**, e.g. Hacienda good outdoor space for a large meeting. Welcome other ideas.

Reyes, Springs is el Verano, Fetters, Boyes, Agua Caliente.

**Henderson**, for advertising, get word out at venues, e.g. booth at Farmers Market. **Reyes**, can distribute info & flyers on any topic.

**Councilmember Fernandez**, made a Motion to select the two priorities – support local businesses, and, social services & resources. **Councilmember Dong**, second. **Vote. All In favor. Unanimous. Passed.**

**Public Comment, zoom. None.**

**10. SVCAC Update a. Receive informational update from the Sonoma Valley Citizens Advisory Commission (SVCAC) Chair (@2:09:40)**

**Admin Chavez**, 2 presentations: #1. Sonoma Botanical Garden, Glen Ellen, CAC reviewed a Site Use Permit application 17,000 sq. ft. new visitor center, expanding parking, bike, ADA, &, up to 36 community events annually. Museum Model to grow public programming, access, and long term sustainability. #2. For affordable housing, City of Sonoma, 50 unit mixed income housing project, w/ 13 affordable units, includes parking, open space, retention of heritage oak tree, draft EIR closed for Public Comment today.

Great meeting, presentations, participation.

**Vice Chair Lombard**, inquired who will sub for Councilmember Norman in her absence?

**Chair Reyes**, invited volunteers. None. **Admin Chavez**, will provide updates. Staff attending will be Jessica Barajas & Anna Tamayo. Wednesday July 23<sup>rd</sup> next meeting.

**Public Comment, zoom. None.**

**11. Ad Hoc and Community Projects Updates Councilmembers provide brief updates on current projects and Ad hoc activities. (@2:12:05)**

**Chair Reyes called for updates**

- **Funding Requests for Community Projects, Vice Chair Lombard**, new Request Form has been completed. Will dissolve Ad hoc at next meeting
- **Emergency Preparedness 3.0**, completed
- **Springs Farmers Market, Admin Chavez**, need more vendors. Encourage new applications. Going smoothly, good attendance. Dissolve Ad hoc at next meeting. **Henderson**, signed up for 2 hours a month. Met w/ vendors, only 3-4. **Reyes**, MAC do outreach.
- **Housing, Councilmember Dong**, reported in March, had ideas, need further discussion whether it's practical to do a Rental Unit Registry. Considering number of vacant lots, determine available options for housing, as an incentive. Data not readily available. SDC

project pending. Or for an ADU registry, goal to get an accurate count in Springs. These projects would take staff, funding - not now w/ funding limits, County staff positions being eliminated. Recommended to wait. Then dissolve Ad hoc till next time.

**Admin Chavez**, reminder translators off at 9pm

- **Bike Racks, Councilmember Henderson & Norman**, recommended dissolve Ad hoc. 6 bike racks left, let Cal Trans decide locations. Unless a video is produced for website.
- **Utility Boxes, Admin Chavez**, working w/ Samuel Jimenez & Will B from Cal trans Legislative Affairs to expedite steps, moving forward slowly.
- **Springs Community Plaza**, no update
- **Adopt-a-Road**, Chair **Reyes**, Sonoma Springs Rotary approached MAC to collaborate. Will meet w/ them.

**Public Comment, Zoom. None**

**12. Consideration of Future Agenda Items a. Council to review ongoing list and propose additional agenda topics. (@2:20:39)**

**Chair Reyes**, Budget for new MAC fiscal year

**Public Comment, zoom. None**

**13. Adjourned: 8:58pm**

**Contact: Betzy Chavez, First District Bilingual Field Representative, County of Sonoma**  
**[Betzy.Chavez@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Betzy.Chavez@sonoma-county.org)**

**Springs MAC Meeting 07-09-25 - Sonoma TV You Tube**  
**<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xGsaSpPYU1s&t=4s>**

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:

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)