

SANTA ROSA VALLEY MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES
July 15, 2021

The Santa Rosa Valley MAC held a Meeting on Thursday, July 15, 2021
at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom Online/Teleconference

1. Call to Order

Chair Rosemary Allison called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm. MAC members **Mark Burley**, **Amy Elliott**, **Michael Adams** and **Kevin Cannon** were present.

2. Pledge of Allegiance was led by **Andy Spryka**.

3. Approval of Minutes of May 20, 2021

Mark Burley made a motion to accept the minutes as submitted. **Kevin Cannon** seconded the motion, and it was approved 5/0.

4. Agenda Review

There were no changes to the agenda.

5. Public Safety Report

Ventura County Sheriff Deputy Jason Fuller said there have not been any major incidents or crime trends in Santa Rosa Valley (SRV). He said there has been an uptick in catalytic converter thefts in Camarillo and Thousand Oaks. He said if residents hear grinding or cutting sounds, especially late at night, to call the Sheriff's Office immediately.

Lt. Jeremy Key, Moorpark CHP, reported two collisions in the area, one was a non-injury rear-end collision involving speed, and the other was an unsafe turn in front of another vehicle resulting in a minor injury. He said a new Commander has been selected for the Conejo Scales and he will introduce her at a future MAC meeting. He said she can address any commercial violations. **Kevin Cannon** asked if the SR 118 scales are defunct. **Lt. Key** said they use portable scales, and they may be trying to get more permanent scales but that will take time and funding. **Mr. Cannon** also said he would send information on a safety awareness zone. **Amy Elliot** asked if she should call to report when a truck bypasses the scale. **Lt. Key** explained some of the reasons for trucks bypassing the scales and said emergency lines are better used for reckless drivers and drivers under the influence. **Michael Adams** asked if there have been any incidents of follow-home robberies. **Deputy Fuller** said there have not been any of these types of incidents in years. He said if you feel you're being followed to call 9-1-1 or the Sheriff's dispatch and they will direct you to safety.

6. Comments of Ventura County Supervisor Linda Parks

Supervisor Parks reported that the Board of Supervisors will possibly be back to in-person meetings by September and the same would be for the MACs. In a follow up regarding Safe Routes to Schools, she said Transportation is looking at the construction of a side path with a guard rail on the south side of Santa Rosa Road from Vista Grande to Andalusia Drive and have applied for grant funding. She said she understands there is a better way to install rumble strips that will not disturb cyclists since they are in with the paint. She said SCE reported they are installing insulated wires and replacing poles in the Yucca Drive circuit area and they believe these measures should limit the need for PSPS and remove the need to move Yucca Drive residents to a different circuit. She announced a Fire Safety Town Hall on July 22nd in Oak Park that will include the Ventura County Fire Chief, Office of Emergency Services Director, and Fire Safe Council and CERT representatives. She said at a future MAC meeting she will be putting together a panel to discuss fire insurance issue with invitations to the Regional Fire Safe Council, California Department of Insurance, and County Fire Chief Lorenzen. She said there will be an upcoming election for her seat in the June Primary, for which Thousand Oaks Mayor Claudia Bill de la Peña has announced she will be running, and a race for Sheriff and Supervisor Huber's seat as well. She announced a virtual workshop by 3CREN on fire resiliency on July 18th. She

discussed the agreement with the City of Camarillo and Airport Authority to limit the size of airplanes at the airport and said that the Department of Airports Director pushing to change the agreement is no longer with the County. She said efforts towards the updated master plan there have halted and when there is a new effort to gather public input the MAC can weigh-in at that time.

7. Information Items

a. Update on the Bridlewood Debris Basin Removal Project and Equestrian Trail

Mark Burley reported that the County created a plan for the revised equestrian trail to make it safer with a less steep access. He said the plan was sent to the Bridlewood HOA and they now must have the plan redrawn with a surveyor and work with their lawyer. The HOA is overbudget on this matter and will reach out to the County to understand the best way to move forward. He said part of the issue is getting an easement changed with the homeowners.

8. Action Items

a. MAC Approval, Letter of Support for the Proposed Habitat Assessments and Restoration for Monarchs Overstory and Nectar Enhancement and Expansion Project

Andy Spryka, Ventura County Resource Conservation District (VCRSD), provided information and showed a map with proposed locations for strategic overwintering sites and breeding and migratory habitat locations for the Monarch Butterfly in Ventura County. The VCRCD is working to bring more habitat for Monarchs because they are nearing extinction, in part due to loss of habitat. He said there are also community engagement locations proposed for education events. He said the projects have support from the Board of Supervisors, many municipalities, and local organizations and land trusts. He said three projects are underway, six or seven more are proposed in mostly west Ventura County, and if awarded grant funding they can expand to the rest of the County. On the map he pointed out disadvantaged/low-income communities and the Regional Wildlife Passage Corridors in the County. He said the locations will follow the regional corridors as the projects gain future funding, and they do plan to partner with Resource Conservation Districts to the north in Santa Barbara and Carpinteria. **Supervisor Parks** added that the County's Wildlife Corridor Overlay was based on the Regional Corridor, which does touch the Hidden Meadows area of Santa Rosa Valley. **Mr Spryka** added that he hopes future funding will assist landowner conversions to create an environmental benefit and habitat "way stations" for the butterflies, which could also be in Santa Rosa Valley. He said restoration areas include native, drought resistant flowering plants, and using drip irrigation for only the first year to establish the plants. He said they are working park districts and municipalities in the County.

Kevin Cannon made a motion to send the proposed letter supporting the RCD's grant application, and **Mark Burley** seconded the motion. It was approved 5/0.

b. MAC Approval, Santa Rosa Valley MAC Protocols

The MAC discussed clarification on Item 2a regarding social media use and political endorsements, and Items 1b and 3d regarding proper communications, keeping the Supervisor's office in the loop when communication with County or other agencies if representing the MAC, and protocol for requesting agenda items.

Mark Burley made a motion to amend Item 3b to remove the word "in" and replace it with "affecting" to read "The MAC makes recommendations on matters affecting the Santa Rosa Valley area..." The motion was seconded by **Amy Elliot**, and it was approved 5/0.

c. Special MAC meeting at Santa Rosa Park

The MAC opted to table a meeting at the Santa Rosa Park at this time. **Vanise Terry** said the Park Department is willing to work with the MAC if they do want to schedule it.

9. Council Comments on Issues Not on the Agenda

Rosemary Allison showed a GIS map of the fire severity zone in Santa Rosa Valley. She brought to the MAC's attention how the new legislation AB 38 can affect the SRV community.

She also mentioned requirements for defensible space and home hardening in the fire severity zones.

Kevin Cannon discussed three possible traffic safety signs suggested by the Transportation Department that could be installed at both ends Santa Rosa Road facing each direction. In particular, he said the “Safety Awareness Zone” sign needs a Task Force approval to qualify. He would like to have the MAC discuss further to see if they can move forward with trying to qualify for the Safety Awareness Zone.

10. Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda

Mark Roddy provided an update on his communication with Camrosa Water saying they have been very responsive and it’s an ongoing effort to improve the water quality in his area. He said a technician came to flush the public lines in his neighborhood and inspected the filter at his home and will measure them monthly for residue. He said they have also done a chemical analysis, which showed a silt build up from the wells, and that Camrosa will perform another analysis of his filter in six months. **Kevin Cannon** said small amounts of DDT can be carried in silt and suggested they should look for that in their analysis.

11. Written Communications

There were no written communications.

12. Future Agenda Items

- a. Fire Information Panel including insurance, home hardening, and AB 38
- b. Traffic Safety Signs on Santa Rosa Road
- c. Dark Sky Overlay Zone

13. Adjournment at 7:55 pm to Thursday, September 16, 2021.



Santa Rosa Valley Municipal Advisory Council
Rosemary Allison, Mark Burley, Kevin Cannon, Amy Elliott, Michael Adams

July 15, 2021

Chair Bonham and Board Members
California Wildlife Conservation Board

Subject: Support for VCRCD's Habitat Assessments and Restoration for Monarchs Overstory and Nectar Enhancement and Expansion Project.

Dear Chair Bonham and Board:

With the Western Monarch Butterfly population nearing extinction, I am writing on behalf of the Santa Rosa Valley Municipal Advisory Council (MAC) to enthusiastically support the Habitat Assessments and Restoration for Monarchs - Overstory and Nectar Enhancement and Expansion Project (HARMONEE) proposed by the Ventura County Resource Conservation District (VCRCD). HARMONEE facilitates a robust community-wide public-private collaborative approach to preserving, protecting, and restoring the populations of the Western Monarch and other native pollinators on the verge of extinction.

HARMONEE will help Monarchs and pollinators become more resilient to a changing climate and habitat degradation. The Project will help pollinators who face various threats such as loss of breeding and overwintering habitat, increased pesticides, parasites, disease, and predation and work to remedy these challenges so future generations of Monarchs continue to thrive.

HARMONEE is a landscape-level Monarch Butterfly and pollinator recovery initiative that will employ a distinct group of experts to ensure essential habitat needs for Monarchs and native pollinators are met. The Project will utilize a diverse palette of milkweed and nectar resources that bloom throughout the year, providing the essential habitat Monarchs need. In addition, HARMONEE will spearhead the creation of a unique "Monarch Alert system" that provides intermediate community-driven soft protection until State or Federal Agencies enact more protective laws. Finally, restoring landscapes is a vital step, but so is ensuring that the community is engaged and understands the sensitive issues at hand. Therefore, the Santa Rosa Valley MAC supports the extensive community engagement campaign designed to not only educate the public but excite and encourage them to become a part of the solution.

This project involves enhancing areas within Ventura County to support the migratory monarch's life cycle by reducing flying distances between foraging and breeding sites, by increasing and diversifying the necessary floral resources at those breeding and migratory habitat sites, and by enhancing overwintering sites through strategic planting and canopy management. Project sites will be distributed across Ventura County throughout neighboring cities and unincorporated communities, ensuring that monarchs and pollinators have abundant sources of seasonally suitable habitat when traveling through the County. This project will bolster milkweed and nectar resources distributed across the landscape to support monarch migration, breeding, connectivity, and maximize reproduction capacity. This regional inter-agency collaboration on Monarch habitat and public education is one of the strengths and building-blocks of this important project. The Santa Rosa Valley MAC respectfully encourages your support of funding for HARMONEE.

Cordially,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rosemary Allison". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent loop at the end of the last name.

Rosemary Allison, Chair
Santa Rosa Valley Municipal Advisory Council



COUNTY of VENTURA

Office of Supervisor Linda Parks
Supervisor, District 2
625 W. Hillcrest Drive, Thousand Oaks
(805) 214-2510

DATE: July 15, 2021

TO: Santa Rosa Valley Municipal Advisory Council (MAC)

SUBJECT: Suggested Protocols for the Santa Rosa Valley MAC

The below set of suggested protocols is brought to your MAC for consideration. The purpose is to establish an agreed-upon process for MAC communications and responsibility to enable more efficient, transparent, and clear conducting of MAC business.

1. Brown Act Compliance

The MAC is required under state law to comply with the Ralph M. Brown Act. Below are two major components of the Act that must be adhered to and are called out here to assist the MAC in their communications between themselves and the public:

- a. MAC members are to follow the Brown Act requirements that prohibits communication among a majority (3 or more) of MAC members (including serially or through an intermediary) about MAC agenda items or potential future agenda items, including communication in person, in writing, electronically, telephonically, or otherwise.
- b. Comments and questions from individual MAC members about items on a current or future MAC agenda should not be shared with a majority of MAC members prior to the item's discussion during the MAC meeting, including communication in person, in writing, electronically, telephonically, or otherwise.

2. MAC Representation

- a. MAC members should make it explicit that they are acting as private citizens if they express their own opinions in letters, e-mails, interviews, or during meetings of other agencies, or on social media. MAC members should explicitly state that their personal opinions do not represent the agency's position and should not allow the inference that they do. MAC members could state: "All opinions expressed herein are the opinions of the author [or presenter] and do not represent the views or opinions of the Santa Rosa Valley Municipal Advisory Council."

3. Coordination with District 2 Supervisor's Office

- a. An important role of the MAC is to keep the Board of Supervisors informed about its activities through the District 2 Supervisor.
- b. The MAC jurisdiction includes the community of Santa Rosa Valley with boundaries specified in the attached map. The MAC makes recommendations on matters affecting the Santa Rosa Valley area related to planning, public works, public health, safety, and welfare which are heard by the Planning Commission, Board of Supervisors, and Local Agency Formation Commission.

- c. The Supervisor's office will coordinate follow up requests from MAC meetings and MAC members unless arranged differently in advance.
- d. Communications sent directly to County departments by MAC members should be copied to the District 2 Supervisor's office to ensure efficiency.