



# HOPLAND

## MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Hopland Municipal Advisory Council

Minutes

**Regular Meeting – Hybrid**

January 17, 2024 at 5:30 pm

Hopland Fire Protection District Community Room

21 Feliz Creek Road, Hopland, California

*The Hopland Municipal Advisory Council (HMAC) meetings are held in-person and virtually via Zoom Video Communications. Meeting access information is available on the Agenda for this meeting.*

Members: Julie Golden, Amy Frost, Hannah Bird, Jane Cupples, Dale Andrew

Alternate: Bernadette Byrne

Administrative Support: Rebecca Dalske, Melissa Frausto - LACO Associates

**1. Call to order & roll call**

The meeting was called to order at 5:36 pm. All members were present except for Hannah Bird and Dale Andrew. No members attended virtually.

**2. Public comment & announcements on non-agenda items**

No discussion/ comment

**3. Consent Calendar**

*The following consent items are expected to be routine and non-controversial, and will be acted on by the HMAC in a single action without discussion, unless a request is made by a Council Member or a member of the public for discussion or separate action.*

- a. Approval of the December 20, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes

Bernadette motioned to approve the consent calendar, with a second from Julie. All council members present voted in favor.

**4. Discussion and possible action on community updates and issues**

- a. Mendocino County Sheriff's Office: *General updates from Sheriff Kendall*

Sheriff Kendall shared that the construction of the new jail will be managed by a project management company, and that construction is anticipated to begin in February or March. Regarding calls for service, Sheriff Kendall shared that there has been an increase in thefts and a decrease in violence-related calls and overdoses over the past four (4) years. However, he is concerned overdoses may be underreported due to the increased use of Narcan, as those administered Narcan may not also seek needed medical attention.

- b. Hopland Fire Protection District: *General updates from Chief Franklin*

No update/discussion.

- c. Board of Supervisors (BOS): *General updates from Supervisor Glenn McGourty*

No update/discussion.

For HMAC information, visit Hopland Municipal Advisory Council-HMAC on Facebook, at

[www.hoplandmac.com](http://www.hoplandmac.com), or email [info@hoplandmac.com](mailto:info@hoplandmac.com)



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- d. Mendocino Council of Governments (MCOG): *General updates from Nephele Barrett*  
No update/discussion.
- e. Hopland Public Utility District (HPUD): *General updates*  
No update/discussion.
- f. Hopland Cemetery District: *General updates from Katharine Cole*  
No update/discussion.
- g. Shanél Valley Academy: *General updates from Amy Frost*  
No update/discussion.
- h. Hopland Research and Extension Center: *General updates from Hannah Bird*  
No update/discussion.
- i. Hopland Veterans Memorial Building: *General updates*  
No update/discussion.

### 5. Discussion and possible action on Mendocino County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) Twenty-Year Corrective Maintenance Plan

Howard Dashiell (*Director, MCDOT*) presented on the Mendocino County Twenty-Year Corrective Maintenance Plan (Plan). Howard shared that the County is currently on Year 6 of the Plan. The purpose of the Plan is to apply preventative and corrective maintenance measures to County roadway with the intention of avoiding more costly repairs in the future. Howard shared that there are three (3) ways to perform maintenance to the roads. Before 2000, using Asphalt Concrete overlay was the most common because it has a 20-year life span and takes less than an hour until the surface is able to be driven on; however, Asphalt Concrete costs approximately \$300,000 to 500,000 per mile. The second kind of preventative maintenance is a recycle-in-place approach consisting of asphalt mix and emulsion, which involves mixing concrete in with ground pavement. The asphalt mix is spread onto the old road surface and aggregate base rock. The third kind of maintenance is called "Micro Seal – Cape Seal," which is a single or multi-layer application of emulsion mixed with aggregate. The first layer is a slurry seal of emulsion and sand to fill large cracks. The middle layer consists of rubberized chip (crushed rock coated in oil and melted rubber) or "seal layer". The last layer is a fog seal of thick black emulsion. This process is hoped to last approximately 15 years, is slower to dry, requires only one lane to close, and costs approximately \$100,000 per mile depending on the number of layers.

Howard also shared that most of the roads in the County are chip sealed, not asphalt pavement and that according to a study completed by Save California Streets, Mendocino County roads are near the bottom of the list for road quality. For additional information visit: Save California Streets: [www.Savecaliforniastreet.org](http://www.Savecaliforniastreet.org) and the MCDOT Web Page: [www.mendocinocounty.org/government/transportation](http://www.mendocinocounty.org/government/transportation).



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Amy asked how the County plans to address failing infrastructure such as Mountain House Road. According to Howard, Mountain House Road has a geologic issue due to soil movement beneath the surface that is contributing to the surface conditions. Amy followed up by asking if agricultural trucks have a significant impact on the County roads and if the County is able to implement a tax on them. Howard stated that sales taxes go to the State, which allocates funds to the County based on the population and number of vehicles registered in the County. The County's population is generally stagnant, and industrial and agricultural companies can be headquartered elsewhere, so the County does not receive a high percentage of tax dollars for road improvements.

Jane asked about the need for large crews that work on filling potholes. She observed several people seemingly inactive while filling potholes in the Hopland area. Howard clarified that safety regulations require the presence of flaggers at each end of the designated work area even during periods when they are not actively directing traffic, in addition to other individuals to complete the work.

Madeline (*Public Comment*): Madeline asked if the County is proactively seeking funds for road repairs and when the County is expecting to do this year's road maintenance. Howard shared that the grants that are typically available are for complete street or electric vehicle projects, rather than road maintenance and preventative care. Howard explained that projects in the Hopland area are anticipated to occur in summer 2025. During construction, the County will make daily announcements on the DOT webpage regarding construction location and timing.

### **6. Discussion and possible action on Caltrans Hopland Highway 101 ADA Project**

Julie introduced Anna Macken, MBA (*County of Mendocino Economic Development Division, Administrative Analyst II*), who helps to search and apply for grant funding for projects in the County. Julie hopes that Anna can help look for grant funding to help the Hopland Public Utility District (HPUD) relocate its utilities before the Caltrans Hopland Highway 101 ADA Project can be implemented. Anna will be meeting with Marie Brady (*Caltrans, Hopland ADA Project Manager*) to begin the discussion of this project.

Julie asked Howard to explain the difference between the State's and the County's jurisdiction when dealing with utilities for road construction projects. Howard shared that the utilities are typically the responsibility of the utility district due to the Highway Safety Code.

Amy asked if anyone knew when the community meeting that Caltrans plans to host is to be scheduled. Rebecca stated Caltrans has not yet set a date. Julie proposed suggesting to Caltrans that their community meeting be combined with an HMAC meeting to maximize participation.

### **7. Discussion and possible action on Hopland Rest Stop Project and GRTA Master Plan**

Julie shared that Mikayla Adams received approval from the Great Redwood Trail Agency (GRTA) Board of Directors to host the Farmers Market in the GRTA right-of-way, beginning in May.



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Julie shared that there are numerous potholes in the area planned for the Farmer's Market and asked Howard if the community is allowed to fix them. Howard responded that, for segments on County roads, this type of work would be considered a betterment to the community and the MCDOT would issue a no-fee encroachment permit, subject to certain conditions such as safety for volunteers. He suggested that anyone interested in this should consider obtaining insurance coverage, and recommended reaching out to North Coast Opportunities (NCO), which sponsors insurance coverage for certain volunteer work.

Ron (*Public Comment*): Ron shared that the Farmers Market plans to host an informational meeting on Jan 23<sup>rd</sup>. Ron asked what infrastructure is planned to be used for the Farmers Market to happen in May and how often the Farmers Market will happen. Julie shared that Visit Mendocino is willing to pay for a restroom located at the old building on the GRTA land on Center Street and Hopland Vision has volunteered to schedule volunteers for clean-up. Julie is not sure how often the Farmers Market will happen. Amy would like to see a mural painted on the outside of the future public restroom. Bernadette shared that the Arts Council of Mendocino (Art Council) accepts art submittals and may be interested in a project like this.

### **8. Discussion and possible action on Hopland Community Plan**

No update/discussion.

### **9. Discussion and possible action on Downtown Hopland Pedestrian Lighting**

Julie asked Howard for input in pedestrian lighting in downtown Hopland. Howard, as head of the Hopland Lighting District, shared that additional lights could be added into the Hopland Lighting District. However, he favors standard PG&E lighting, which can be maintenance by PG&E, but Caltrans advocates for solar-powered lights. Howard is concerned about the long-term maintenance costs with lighting that are not standard PG&E lighting because of the unknown maintenance expenses that the Hopland Lighting District would incur. Howard shared that he has discussed this project with Caltrans before and would be happy to discuss it further, if put in contact with Marie Brady (*Caltrans, Hopland ADA Project Manager*).

### **10. Council Members' and staff reports regarding assigned tasks, committee meetings, and other items of general interest**

#### **a. Water Committee Updates**

No update/discussion.

### **11. Discussion on agenda items for February 21, 2024 HMAc meeting**

No update/discussion.

### **12. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 7:29pm.