



HOPLAND

MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Hopland Municipal Advisory Council Minutes

Regular Meeting – Hybrid

June 18, 2025 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, Dale Andrew, Chelsea Arnold, *Vacant*

Alternate: *Vacant*

Administrative Support: Melissa Frausto - LACO Associates

1. Call to order & roll call

All members were present expect Dale Andrew. Amy Frost attended the meeting virtually and as required by Government Code Section 54953(f)(2)(B) of the Brown Act, publicly disclosed that her father was present in the room at her remote location.

2. Public comment & announcements on non-agenda items

An urgent item regarding a request for an updated Assembly Bill (AB) 1014 Support Letter came to the HMAC's attention on June 18th and required immediate action after the agenda was posted. Discussion and action are permitted by a two-thirds vote of the members present, in accordance with Government Code Section 54954.2(b)(2) of the Brown Act.

Julie moved to discuss the urgent item regarding the updated AB 1014 Support Letter. Chelsea seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken, and all members present voted in favor.

On June 18th, the HMAC received an urgent request from a Legislative Aide for Assemblymember Chris Rogers for an updated AB 1014 Support Letter. AB 1014 aims to improve road safety, particularly in high-traffic and vulnerable areas, by providing more flexibility in setting speed limits and addressing local safety issues. An updated letter was needed by end of day June 18th in order for it to be included in the analysis for the Senate Transportation Committee who will meet to discuss the bill on June 24th. The first draft letter signed by the HMAC on April 17, 2025 was directed to the Assembly Transportation Committee and mentions a 10 miles per hour reduction. The updated letter on which the HMAC signature is requested is addressed to the Senate Transportation Committee and mentions a 5 miles per hour speed limit reduction option. No changes have been made to the bill itself; the reason for the update is simply to ensure the community's support is noted in the Senate's review.

Julie inquired why the support letter's proposed speed limit reduction changed from 10 to 5 miles per hour. Sheriff Kendall suggested this change was likely necessary for the bill's advancement from the Assembly to the Senate. Recognizing that the new changes were not substantial and that the previous revisions were still acceptable, Julie made a motion to approve to submit the

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updated support letter. Chelsea seconded the motion, and the motion was approved by all members present.

There was no public comments.

3. Consent Calendar

- a. Approval of the May 21, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes

Chelsea moved to approve the consent calendar, Julie seconded. All 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 gave the following updates:

- Construction of the jail is going well.
- The Mendocino County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) recently graduated two (2) individuals from the academy who will start field training this week.
- Sheriff Kendall advised the public to watch out for wildlife on the roadways.
- The MCSO is working on solving two (2) recent homicides: one (1) in Round Valley and the other in the Bell Springs area. An arrest has been made for one (1) of the homicides; information is still being gathered for the other.
- Due to the County's financial difficulties, the MCSO will have a significant budget cut this fiscal year.
- Congressman Huffman is pursuing appropriations for cannabis, and the MCSO is relying on this funding for solving cannabis-related homicides. Working on a homicide case roughly costs the MCSO \$400,000, and this figure does not include expenses for labs and legal fees.
- The MCSO recently purchased department vehicles from PG&E settlement funds. No additional vehicles are anticipated to be needed in the near term.
- Sheriff Kendall hopes to deploy additional patrol vehicles to Hopland and Round Valley.

Julie asked for Sheriff Kendall's perspective on the proposed annexation. Sheriff Kendall believes that the City of Ukiah should annex land, but it should be done incrementally, and he voiced concerns regarding specific operational procedures and staffing decisions, such as officer deployment, within the Ukiah Police Department (UPD). He also noted that the UPD has limited experience with homicide investigations.

- b. Hopland Fire Protection District: *General updates*

A Hopland Firefighter shared that yesterday, June 17, the Hopland Fire Protection District (HFPD) performed a controlled burn on River Road and responded to two (2) lawn fires. He advised that fire season is now active.

- c. Board of Supervisors: *General updates from Supervisor Madeline Cline*

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Madeline Cline, via a written comment, shared the following information on road closures for Hopland. This will be updated on the Mendocino County Department of Transportation (MDOT) website at: <https://www.mendocinocounty.gov/departments/transportation/road-closures-and-delays>.

Road Delays

- Construction of the North State Street Bridge Replacement over Ackerman Creek has begun. Construction is anticipated to be completed by November 30, 2025. Mostly, there will be two lanes of traffic open during construction, however, during certain activities, there may be one-lane controlled traffic or a temporary road closure. Check the website for updates.
- Construction of the Lambert Lane Bridge Replacement over Robinson Creek begins June 2, 2025. Construction is anticipated to be completed by November 30, 2025. Mostly, there will be two lanes of traffic open during construction, however, during certain activities, there may be one-lane controlled traffic or a temporary road closure. Check the website for updates.
- Construction of the 2025 Corrective/Preventative Maintenance Project on various roads in the Hopland area began May 29th, 2025. Traffic during construction hours during the Full Depth Reclamation (FDR) may have extended delays due to the size and limited mobility of the equipment. Construction will begin each morning at 7:00 am and stop between 12:00 pm to 12:30 pm to allow traffic through quickly. Construction will cease at 5:30 pm each day, however work may be required on the weekend and after 6:00 pm. Emergency vehicles will be allowed to pass. Approximately 1-mile segments of the roads will have extended delays each day for the FDR work. State Highway 175 and State Highway 101 will not be impacted.

Update 6/18/25:

6/19/25: Chip seal work will begin on Old Hopland-Yorkville Rd/CR 110. One-lane controlled traffic.

6/19/25: Feliz Creek Rd - FDR from approximately MP 2.90 to approximately MP 2.40. Traffic during construction hours during the Full Depth Reclamation (FDR) may have extended delays due to the size and limited mobility of the equipment and the narrowness of the road. Construction will begin each morning at 7:00 am and stop between 12:00 pm to 12:30 pm to allow traffic through quickly. Construction will cease at 5:30 pm each day.

Current Schedule for Full Depth Reclamation (FDR) - updated 6/17/25 - Expect extended delays. Construction will begin each morning at 7:00 am and stop between 12:00 pm to 12:30 pm to allow traffic through quickly. Construction will cease at 5:30 pm each day. Use alternate routes if possible.:

- 6/18 - 6/23/25: Feliz Creek Rd MP 3.43 (end of road) to MP 0.00 (fire station)
- 6/24 - 6/25/25: residential roads in Old Hopland
- 6/26 - 6/30/25: Old Toll Rd MP 0.00 (intersection with 175) to MP 2.60 (bridge & cattleguard)

Current Schedule for Chip seal work - updated 6/17/25 - Expect one-lane controlled traffic with up to 20-minute delays.:

- 6/18/25: Mt. House Rd, La Franchi, and Rancheria Rd
- 6/19 - 6/20/25: Old Hopland-Yorkville Rd/CR 110 MP 0.00 (fork with Feliz Creek Rd) to MP 3.60
- 6/25 - 6/26/25: Feliz Creek Rd MP 0.00 (fire station) to MP 3.43
- 6/27/25: residential roads in Old Hopland *No street parking 7 AM - 5 PM. Signs will be posted.
- 7/1 - 7/2/25: Old Toll Rd MP 0.00 (intersection with 175) to MP 2.60 (bridge & cattleguard)

Please check the website regularly for further updates. The website will be updated regularly with specific locations/mileposts of the following days' construction limits when possible.

Definitions:

1. FDR stands for Full Depth Reclamation, which involves grinding of about the top 4 inches of road, adding cement & emulsion, re-laying the surface, then applying a sealant (which can take some time to dry.) Contractor will attempt to sand wet sealant at driveways, but traffic that drives through before will get it on their car.
2. Chip Seal is an oil emulsion with small rocks (chips) done twice (double) over all the FDR areas some days later and over some road segments in better shape that are not FDR'd.

**Disclaimer:*

Many factors affect road work schedules that are out of the Contractor's control, such as equipment breakdowns, material supplier interruptions, and unforeseen field delays such as waiting for utilities to assure proper separation from activities (particularly on area roads with high pressure gas).

Therefore, the schedule should be confirmed by area residents watching contractor activity when they are near one's home or business and even speaking to a flagger about traffic interruptions on any given road for the next day.

Amy stated that the website is not updated frequently, and the MDOT is not maintaining strong communication with the community. She noted that there have been complete road closures that were not anticipated and that there are days when the published



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schedule is incorrect, forcing individuals to go around Mountain House Road to reach the Shanél Valley Academy (SVA).

d. Shanél Valley Academy: *General updates from Amy Frost*

Amy shared that the SVA will be starting its summer program on Friday, June 20th, for incoming Transitional Kindergarten students. The SVA is also currently enrolling pre-kindergarten students as young as 2-years-old, with continuous enrollment available throughout the year. Additionally, the SVA will host a Town Hall meeting on June 23rd for the Farm to School Program, for which they will need volunteers in the fall. Lastly, the SVA is seeking to hire a full-time principal and a special education teacher in either full-time or part-time roles. Amy noted that while ideally, the SVA would find candidates from the local community, she understands this can be challenging.

e. Hopland Research and Extension Center: *General updates*

No update/ discussion

f. Hopland Farmers Market: *General updates*

No update/ discussion

g. Hopland Public Utility District: *General updates*

Joan Norry [*Hopland Public Utility District (HPUD) President*] shared that the HPUD recently mailed letters to inform individuals of the rate increase and rate study. The HPUD is looking to schedule a public meeting, possibly August 16th, before the proposed rate increase takes effect in October. Joan noted that the public is always welcome to attend the HPUD's regular meetings, but they can also attend the specific public meeting in August to discuss the rate increase.

h. Hopland Cemetery District: *General updates*

Joan Norry [*Hopland Cemetery District (District) Board member*] shared that Sonoma State University completed the Find-a-Grave mapping for the Hopland Cemetery. This mapping provides information on where individuals are buried. Joan also reported that the District had requested tree cutting services from CAL FIRE at the Hopland Cemetery, but instead, a group of volunteers completed the work. Lastly, the Boy Scouts of America has plans to remodel a shed at the cemetery.

5. Discussion and possible action on County of Mendocino 2024-25 Civil Grand Jury Report - Planning & Building Services Structural Issues: Exposing the Cracks

Planning & Building Services Structural Issues: Exposing the Cracks:
https://www.mendocinocounty.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/71866/638852267775074_764

No update/ discussion

6. Discussion and possible action on Rehabilitation of the Highway 101 Northbound Hopland Sign

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Julie stated that Dale would like to see the Highway 101 northbound Hopland sign repaired and mentioned that volunteers would be needed to repair it. Joan Norry (*Public Comment*): Joan advised that permission would be needed from the property owners before work is completed. Julie believes Bob Gibson is the property owner and will confirm this with Tiffany Gibson. Julie suggested someone take a picture of the sign to assess the necessary work. Chelsea stated that the sign involves cement pillars, and Amy confirmed that one of the pillars has collapsed. Chelsea offered to take a photo.

7. Discussion and possible action on St. Francis Church

No update/ discussion

8. Discussion and possible action on Caltrans Hopland Highway 101 ADA Project

Jen Buck (*Caltrans, Office Chief of Project Management*) stated that Caltrans is submitting its final engineering plan set to the California Transportation Commission for approval in August. She offered to continue attending HMAC meetings if anyone has questions. Julie thanked her for attending.

Julie reiterated that the MDOT hasn't been communicating with community members regarding road construction updates and asked if Caltrans could be proactive communicating when the construction begins. Jen mentioned that conversations often occur with individual business owners once construction begins but that oftentimes, updates aren't always shared with others. She agreed to be as transparent as possible once construction begins to minimize disruptions to commuters. Julie agreed that better communication would be helpful.

9. Discussion and possible action on Downtown Hopland Pedestrian Lighting

No update/ discussion

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

a. HMAC Vacancies

Julie stated that the HMAC is seeking another member and an alternate member. Amy mentioned that she has a potential candidate in mind and will contact them.

11. Discussion on agenda items for July 16, 2025 HMAC meeting

No discussion

12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:37pm.