



HOPLAND

MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Hopland Municipal Advisory Council

Minutes

Regular Meeting – Hybrid

February 18, 2026, 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

The meeting was called to order at 5:47pm. All members were present except Amy Frost. No member attended virtually.

2. Public Comment & Announcements on Non-agenda Items

No comment/discussion.

3. Consent Calendar

- a. Approval of the January 18, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes.

Dale moved to approve the consent calendar with a second from Chelsea. All members voted in favor.

4. Discussion and Possible Action on Community Updates and Issues

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

No update/ discussion.

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

Chief Franklin reported on the Hopland Fire Protection District's (District) winter weather response, noting that a task force was sent to Lake County for prepositioning. He warned of continued snow through tomorrow and heavy rain next week. Residents are urged to drive safely, specifically on Highway 101, to avoid hydroplaning in areas where water collects on the roadway.

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

Supervisor Madeline Cline announced that this is an election year for a State Senator and Districts 3 and 5 of the Board of Supervisors (BOS) (4-year terms). Dale asked about the benefits associated with the BOS, and Madeline noted that their pensions are vested after five years. She highlighted that the County's independent pension system—which is separate from CALPERS—is currently unsustainable due to its reliance on the pension bonds. While the County needs strong benefits to recruit talent, Cline emphasized the urgent need for a more sustainable system.

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

www.hoplandmac.com, or email info@hoplandmac.com



HOPLAND

MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Julie inquired about the County's recruitment process for a new Chief Executive Officer (CEO). Madeline reported that the County has hired a recruiting firm to begin the search. This firm has already surveyed constituents to identify the specific qualities and values desired in a candidate. Additionally, Madeline noted that the BOS is consulting with other counties and retired CEOs to explore filling the role with an interim position in the meantime. Madeline added that while the recruitment is moving forward, the County does not expect to fill the role immediately.

Lastly, Madeline stated that she will be hosting another Constituent Coffee Conversation on March 6th at McNab Winery from 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM.

- d. Shanél Valley Academy: *General updates from Amy Frost*
No update/ discussion.
- e. California Department of Transportation: *General updates from Jen Buck*
Jen Buck announced that there has been a change in construction staff for the Caltrans Hopland Highway 101 ADA Project (ADA Project). The Area Construction Engineer is now Rooz Hadipour, and the Resident Engineer is now Dan Kraft.

Dan Kraft provided an overview of the ADA Project improvements and the four-phase construction plan. He noted that the concrete base requires a three-day curing period before equipment can be placed on top. At least one lane will remain open during the day, and some full lane closures will be scheduled at night from 9:00 PM to 6:00 AM. Dan added that traffic will be diverted to the side or center of the highway. Street parking will be restricted depending on the active work zone. Caltrans is meeting with PG&E on February 18th with utility work starting in March. Temporary systems will be used to ensure utility services like gas lines are not interrupted. PG&E must also comply with Caltrans encroachment permit regulations.

Regarding communication, Dan stated that 72-hour notice is required before closures. Jen added that updates will be posted on the project website and shared monthly at HMAC meetings, with informational flyers to follow. Dan cautioned that dates may shift due to weather or utility delays. To minimize business impacts, Caltrans will work on one block at a time and provide temporary pedestrian access and temporary driveways. Julie expressed concern regarding the impact the loss of street parking will have on businesses. Jen noted that businesses may seek compensation for lost wages through the Caltrans Claims Department and will follow-up to provide more details.

Finally, Chelsea requested clear nighttime signage. Dan confirmed that lane changes will be marked with striping and cones, speeds will be reduced to 25 miles per hour, and California Highway Patrol (CHP) will provide enforcement. Contingency plans will be in place for emergency vehicles. Construction equipment will be stored at a long turnout north of Hopland.



HOPLAND

MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Monica Barragan (Public Comment): Monica (*Office of Assemblymember Chris Rogers, Field Representative*) offered to help coordinate between Caltrans and the HMAAC as needed. She encouraged the HMAAC to maintain regular communication with the Assemblymember's office, noting that Assemblymember Rogers occasionally prefers to reach out personally to discuss local matters.

f. Hopland Public Utility District: *General updates*
No update/ discussion.

g. Hopland Cemetery District: *General updates*
No update/ discussion.

5. Discussion and Possible Action on Rehabilitation of the Highway 101 Northbound Hopland Sign
Dale stated that he has met with 'Concrete Pete' and has a plan to move forward with improving the Hopland Sign. Next, Dale plans to discuss the plan with the property owner to get his approval.

6. Discussion and Possible Action on Downtown Hopland Pedestrian Lighting

Dale inquired whether the County had coordinated with Caltrans regarding the installation of conduits. Dan stated that conduits are not currently part of the ADA Project. Julie noted that as PG&E removes old lines, the community hopes to install conduits for future use. Jen referenced a previous response from Howard, explaining that such a project requires detailed plans and coordination with PG&E regarding lighting specifications. She emphasized that Caltrans does not have jurisdiction over this and cannot act as the lead agency; instead, the Hopland Lighting District and PG&E must lead the effort. Jen affirmed that while adding conduits remains a goal, the Lighting District must take the first step by submitting a request via PG&E's "Your Projects" portal.

7. Discussion and Possible Action on Great Redwood Trail Agency Agreement with Pacific Gas & Electric for Temporary Laydown Yard and Removal of Pole Barn
No update/ discussion.

8. Council Members' and Staff Reports Regarding Assigned Tasks, Committee Meetings, and Other Items of General Interest

a. HMAAC Vacancies
No update/ discussion.

b. Water Rights Update

Julie raised concerns regarding the Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) between the County, City of Ukiah, and various water districts and its possible impact on Russian River water rights. Julie stated that because the JPA members are legally bound to its terms, the BOS is prevented from fully representing constituent interests regarding the decommissioning of the Potter Valley Dam.

Madeline Cline clarified that these constraints are tied to the Water Diversion Agreement. She noted that while there have been efforts to pass resolutions favoring water storage,



HOPLAND

MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

there has been opposition within the BOS. Madeline expressed that the County is currently not being fully compensated under existing terms and the many jurisdictional layers that keep the public unaware. Julie suggested that the HMAc provide public talking points at the March HMAc meeting to improve community education.

9. Discussion on Agenda Items for March 18, 2026 HMAc meeting

No update/ discussion.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.