



HOPLAND

MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Hopland Municipal Advisory Council

Minutes

Regular Meeting – Hybrid

July 15, 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, Kip Folkerts

Alternate: *Vacant*

Administrative Support: Melissa Frausto - LACO Associates

1. Call to Order & Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 5:31pm. 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 June 17, 2026 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*

Lieutenant Jason Chapman introduced himself as the new Lieutenant hired to work at the new jail.

A member of the public brought up recent safety concerns, property disturbance issues, and custody release policies. Lieutenant Chapman clarified the distinction between Zero Bail and release on bond. He explained the role of Behavioral Health services and encouraged community members to report incidents to help build a formal track record for the District Attorney's office. Lieutenant Chapman added that public cooperation in pressing charges is vital, and reiterated that officers are available to assist and respond. He also noted a new online email system is available for the public to upload incident information and evidence.

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

Chief Franklin shared that the Hopland Fire Protection District (HPFD) is busy with fire season.

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

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

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



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Supervisor Madeline Cline reported on ongoing efforts regarding community safety, stating she has spoken with Sheriff Kendall and the District Attorney and believes the County is moving in a positive direction concerning local problem individuals. She offered to act as a point of contact for residents needing assistance with local issues and noted that she is currently collecting community impact letters to present to a local judge, so that the court understands how residents have been impacted by recurring public nuisances, property disturbances, and/or safety issues. Additionally, Supervisor Cline presented an update on a proposed 1.0% transportation transactions (sales) and use special tax for the unincorporated areas of Mendocino County. She explained that all funds raised would be solely dedicated to county road pavement preservation, maintenance, and road staffing. Implementing a local road tax would also make the County eligible for State-matching funds, effectively doubling available resources for road projects. The Board of Supervisors will revisit this item at its July 21st meeting to consider placing the measure on an upcoming election ballot for voter approval.

- d. Shanél Valley Academy: *General updates from Amy Frost*
No update/ discussion.

- e. Caltrans – Highway 101 ADA Project: *General updates*
Matt Solano (*Caltrans, Senior Transportation Engineer*) gave an overview of the Caltrans Hopland Highway 101 ADA Project (ADA Project). Matt shared that Phase 1 work has started and they expect to be working in the center of the road from July 12th to July 28th. Phase 2 includes work in the southbound lane from July 29th to August 10th. Phase 3 includes work in the northbound lane from August 11th to August 25th. Phase 4 includes work in the intersections from August 26th to September 6th. Sidewalk and driveway work will conclude in October, with final striping scheduled to end mid-November. Matt also announced that Philip Platt is the OC Jones field representative available to answer questions and address community concerns. Philip can be reached at (415) 601-3119.

A member of the public asked if Caltrans completed a drainage study within the project area. Jen Buck (*Caltrans, Office Chief of Project Management*) stated that State law requires Caltrans to conduct a drainage review for every project and explained that drainage improvements were moved to Project B of the ADA Project due to conflicts with existing Hopland Public Utility District (HPUD) utilities and HPUD's current funding constraints regarding utility relocation. Project B is currently scheduled toward the tail end of Caltrans' 10-Year Plan. Additional Project B details are expected in the fall. The member of the public then specifically inquired about a drainage pipe beneath Highway 175. Jen confirmed that no modifications are planned for this pipe under the current project scope, but it will be evaluated during Project B. The public member stated that at one time a truck vacuumed cleared it out and asked if could be done again. Jen recommended submitting a formal maintenance request through Caltrans online customer service portal.



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A member of the public asked why pedestrian crosswalk lights were not included in the current project scope. Jen clarified that Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFBs) were initially proposed as part of the ADA Project, but underground utility conflicts required deferring the RRFBs installation to Project B. Jen emphasized that Project A proactively includes laying longitudinal conduit under the proposed sidewalk, behind the curb, and along all areas where sidewalk will be replaced so that the RRFBs could be installed at future at a later time during Project B.

Supervisor Cline confirmed that the Great Redwood Trail Agency (GRTA) lot is open for public parking with up to 105 spaces, funded in part by the County. Matt stated that electronic message boards and static signs have been deployed to direct traffic to alternate parking areas and remind drivers that local businesses remain open. He shared that a parking flyer that shows available parking areas has been prepared and is scheduled to be placed on the project website. Matt stated that Caltrans is seeking public input and feedback on outreach materials and encouraged community members to submit comments directly to him via email at solano@dot.ca.gov.

Matt asked for options to improve the parking signage near the sidewalk barricades. Julie Golden expressed concern regarding broad "No Parking" signs and pointed out that PG&E had previously deployed the signs only when work was actively occurring. She noted that permanent signage creates confusion for travelers. Renan (*OC Jones, Project Manager and Public Liaison*) clarified that strict parking restrictions are necessary to protect active work zones, as a single illegally parked vehicle would shut down all construction and would result in the vehicle being towed. Renan agreed to ask the crew to space out signs when work is not taking place directly in front of specific properties, though complete sign removal is not feasible. Julie offered to post specific parking hours on the Hopland Forum to keep messaging simple and prevent residents from getting towed.

Julie raised a safety concern regarding the high volume of residents parking along Highway 101 and having to walk to their homes at night. Renan responded that temporary lighting will be active during nighttime construction and stated that additional lighting can be added for increased visibility.

Dale asked how waste and recycling collection will be handled during construction. Matt stated that he will bring it up in a weekly project meeting and that Philip Platt can coordinate directly with affected residents.

A member of the public asked if Caltrans could place signs to slow down traffic. Chelsea inquired about partnering with the California Highway Patrol (CHP) for morning speed enforcement. Matt confirmed that Caltrans has funds to request CHP monitoring. Regarding speed limits, Jen Buck explained that Caltrans would have to do a speed study. She noted that Assembly Bill 1040 allows Caltrans the discretion to lower speed limits by 5 mph, though Caltrans leadership is actively refining implementation procedures for the law. Chelsea added that a speed study might inadvertently justify higher speed limits.



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depending on the findings of the study. Jen confirmed this is a possibility. Jen agreed to research reducing the speed limit without triggering a speed study.

f. Hopland Public Utility District: *General updates*

Joan Norry [*Hopland Public Utility District (HPUD), President*] announced that the July 20th HPUD regular meeting is cancelled.

Julie asked if the HPUD has received any billing complaints from community members. Joan stated that public feedback has been positive, noting that residents appreciate the convenience of the online billing system.

g. Hopland Cemetery District: *General updates*

Joan Norry [*Hopland Cemetery District, Board Member*] shared that the next cemetery cleanup day is July 25th starting at 10am.

5. Discussion and Possible Action on Rehabilitation of the Highway 101 Northbound Hopland Sign

Dale shared that he will coordinate with "Concrete Pete" to do repairs to the sign.

6. Discussion and Possible Action on Downtown Hopland Pedestrian Lighting

Julie requested volunteers to join the Lighting Committee to help create a formal lighting plan for the project area. Julie noted that funding for the lights may be able to come from the Community Foundation of Mendocino County, which holds approximately \$100,000 in community-raised funds specifically designed for use in Hopland (from the St. Francis Guild).

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

a. Water Resources Update

No update/ discussion.

8. Discussion on Agenda Items for August 19, 2026 HMAC meeting

Julie suggested potential discussion on Firewise communities and Ukiah's gigabit fiber project.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:58pm.