



HOPLAND

MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Hopland Municipal Advisory Council

Minutes

Regular Meeting – Hybrid

August 19, 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 5:46pm. All members were present except Amy Frost and Dale Andrew. No member attended virtually.

2. Public Comment & Announcements on Non-agenda Items

No comment/ discussion.

3. Consent Calendar

- a. Approval of the July 15, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Chelsea moved to approve the consent calendar with a second from Kip. 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 reported that the Sheriff's Office recently hired six deputies from outside jurisdictions and two recruits are currently in the academy. He detailed recent enforcement operations across six sites that resulted in the recovery of approximately 13,000 marijuana plants and five pounds of processed cannabis, as well as resources provided to human trafficking victims. Lieutenant Chapman also discussed bail release procedures and urged the community to report issues when they occur.

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

Tom Fletcher [*Hopland Fire Protection District (HFPD), Engineer*] reported that Chief Franklin is currently assisting at the Timber Fire in Monterey County, which is winding down. On the recent Feliz Fire in Hopland, Tom noted that the incident spanned over 10 acres upon initial arrival. At the time of this meeting, the incident had reached at 80 percent containment. Under mutual aid coordination led by CAL FIRE and supported by the HFPD and Cloverdale Fire Protection District, 705 total emergency personnel responded—including 14 Hopland volunteer firefighters, three engines, a water tender, and a dozer. Tom stated that crews used nearly 1 million gallons of water and 350 pounds of retardant, with staff coordinating ground hose lines and working past 1:00 AM to

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



HOPLAND

MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

successfully defend all homes in the area. The origin and cause of the fire remain under active investigation.

- c. Board of Supervisors: *General updates from Supervisor Madeline Cline*
No update/ discussion

- d. Shanél Valley Academy: *General updates from Amy Frost*
Chelsea shared that the school year starts on August 24th, and that the Shanél Valley Academy is seeking a 4th to 6th grade teacher.

- e. Caltrans – Highway 101 ADA Project: *General updates*
Matt Solano (*Caltrans, Senior Transportation Engineer*) introduced two OC Jones (project Contractor) field representatives and presented the construction update for the Hopland Highway 101 ADA Project (ADA Project). Matt reviewed the current schedule, stating that Phase 4a roadway work will run from August 23rd to August 28th, Phase 4b will run from August 30th to September 4th, and overall roadway operations are estimated to be complete by September 4th. Following Labor Day, sidewalk, driveway, and ramp work will begin on September 8th and continue through October 30th, over three phases. Construction will be staggered so that no two consecutive blocks will be under construction simultaneously in either direction, and the shoulder opposite active work zones will remain open for public parking. Driveway impacts will include short closures of 6 to 8 hours during demolition and aggregate base preparation, with longer closures required to form, pour, and cure concrete; access will be maintained between demolition and concrete placement. Final paving work is expected to wrap up around mid-November.

Julie asked if representatives would be going door-to-door to notify residents. Matt confirmed that informational flyers will be distributed directly to properties along the corridor.

Kip inquired how large trucks will manage right-hand turns at the Highway 175 intersection. Matt explained that 24-hour flaggers will temporarily hold opposing traffic to allow trucks to pass through safely with only minor delays. Julie inquired about access for large delivery trucks and Post Office vehicles, specifically regarding 18-wheeler delivery trucks to her restaurant. OC Jones staff advised Julie to coordinate with them on the delivery windows to ensure access for the delivery truck.

Chelsea raised concerns about morning school commute congestion and asked if traffic will be stopped. OC Jones staff confirmed they will update electronic message boards to advise drivers to expect delays, while Matt noted traffic will only be stopped when strictly necessary.

Kip followed up on a prior public inquiry regarding storm sewer maintenance along Highway 175. Jen Buck (*Caltrans, Office Chief of Project Management*) displayed a



HOPLAND

MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

drainage map, explaining that the Caltrans Maintenance team asked for more details, and Julie clarified the location; Jen reported that the culvert clean-out request was submitted.

- 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**
No update/ discussion
- 6. **Discussion and Possible Action on Downtown Hopland Pedestrian Lighting**
No update/ discussion
- 7. **Council Members' and Staff Reports Regarding Assigned Tasks, Committee Meetings, and Other Items of General Interest**
 - a. Water Resources Updates
No update/ discussion
 - b. Ukiah Gigabit Fiber Project
Julie reported that the City of Ukiah and the City of Fort Bragg are installing infrastructure to support high-speed internet service. Julie inquired whether any members would be interested in collaborating on this effort. Hopland requires a telecommunications and fiber optic provider to establish network coverage. She requested recommendations for a third-party provider capable of delivering fiber optic network access to local residences and businesses to bring fiber to Hopland.
 - c. Firewise Communities
Julie inquired about recent Firewise Communities coordination. Tom reported that a meeting was held the previous night with McNab and other Firewise communities, noting that the groups are collaborating well, and currently working on emergency exit signage.

Chelsea noted that no structures were lost in the Feliz Creek area. Tom emphasized that the community's proactive Firewise efforts have paid off. Julie suggested creating a public service announcement featuring neighbor testimonials as an example of fire safety and defensive space success.
- 8. **Discussion on Agenda Items for September 16, 2026 HMAC meeting**
Julie would like to continue the discussion for the Downtown Hopland Pedestrian Lighting, specifically the need to identify utility locations to properly determine light pole placements.



HOPLAND

MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Kip would like to discuss the impacts of Phase B of the ADA Project, and hear an update regarding Caltrans' 10-Year Plan. Kip would also like a technical explanation regarding the relocation of utilities near curbs for Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFBs).

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:59pm.