



Sonoma Valley, California

The Springs Municipal Advisory Council represents the people of the Springs in Sonoma Valley as the voice of the community to elected representatives. SMAC is committed to engage with all community members in meaningful and inclusive ways to promote the health and wellbeing of the Springs.

Members

- Maité Iturri, Chair
- Joe Hardeman, Vice Chair (resigned as of December 2023 meeting)
- Jack Allan, Vice Chair as of January 2024
- Jesus Yeuri Alcaraz
- Iris Lombard
- Maricarmen Reyes
- Celeste Winders
- Staff: Karina Garcia

March 13, 2024

Susan Gorin, Supervisor First District
County of Sonoma
575 Administration Drive
Room 100 A
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Dear Supervisor Gorin,

The Springs Municipal Advisory Council (Springs MAC) would like to summarize our activities and accomplishments over the calendar year of 2023 and provide cumulative updates for you and other members of the Board of Supervisors. Our summary is drawn from the complete record of activities extracted from our meeting minutes.

The council focused on pedestrian safety this year and the team continues to advocate for improvements along the Highway 12 corridor. The City of Sonoma continues to outpace the Springs in safety improvements for their residents. This is a continuing equity issue for the Springs residents.

Monthly Meetings- The Springs MAC generally convenes on the second Wednesday of every month at 6:30pm. Meetings were held on Zoom until March 2023 when meetings began in person at the Sonoma Valley Unified School District Offices. We offer a hybrid option for community members from this location.

Organizational year- The Springs MAC has been operational for five years. Since 2019 was the initial

year following MAC formation, it was generally felt necessary by council members, staff, and the chair to request key county department heads or designates to appear before the Council to introduce themselves and provide an overview of their departments' organization, mission, and key objectives for Councilmembers.

New Council Members:

Gil Dong appointment begins February 2024

Lindsay Norman appointment begins February 2024

Ad Hoc Committees

Bike Racks – Place bike racks on Highway 12. We placed five racks along Highway 12 in collaboration with Art Escape and Sonoma County Transit. Five more are scheduled for placement in 2024.

Utility Box Art – Caltrans and Comcast Boxes identified Utility Boxes available for decoration along the Highway 12 corridor from Agua Caliente Road to El Verano Avenue. Project proceeding in collaboration with Caltrans, Sonoma County Public Infrastructure, Art Escape and Sonoma County District One.

Social Media – increase social media presence. This continues to be a barrier for us as sharing accounts is not an easily accessible option.

Logo – The new logo contest spanned 2022-2023. This is still a work in progress, as the artwork selected is from an artist outside of Sonoma Valley.

Adopt a road- Confirmed adoption of Verano Avenue from Olive to Highway 12, one of the main points of entry to the Springs.

Plaza Ad Hoc - We met and realized that we're at a stage where it is too early to bring a group together. Have postponed ad-hoc until we have further information of progress on the Plaza situation.

Emergency Preparedness 2.0 – Team is working on affirming the MOU with Sonoma Valley Unified School District

Accomplishments 2023

- April 23 Dia de los Niños / Children's Day - In collaboration with Sonoma Immigrant Services, the Springs MAC sponsored Ballet Folklorico Quetzalen "*Asi Danzan Los Niños*" showcase concert. In honor of Dia de Los Niños, the Springs MAC gifted a variety of toys, games to 100 children and youth attending and participating in the concert.
- May 9th Springs Emergency Preparedness Event
- In August, we organized a park and creek clean-up event at Larson Park. We created a press release and a flier in English and Spanish to advertise the event. Applications for Recology Sonoma-Marin and Sonoma Regional Parks were submitted for all permits and in-kind donations. Springs MAC partnered with Sonoma Ecology Center.
- September 23, during Coastal Clean Up Day, a ten cubic yard dumpster was filled with debris from the creek, park, and the Springs Garden and community submitted debris. Roughly calculated, around 2,000~2,500 lbs. of garbage were diverted away from our creeks and oceans that day.
- October, in collaboration with the Sonoma Grange Hall, the Springs MAC set up a Day of the Dead altar in Larson Park.
- Winter Celebration Partnering with Fairmont Sonoma Mission Inn, Sonoma Immigration Services, Sonoma Valley Fire Department, 300 children participated and received gifts.
- Holiday Decorations: Springs Fence Winter temporary decorations and lighting for the Winter Celebration were installed.
- Two letters advocating for traffic improvements on Highway 12

- Five Bike Racks for Bus Stops placed in fall of 2023, project in partnership with ArtEscape and Sonoma County Transit where racks were wrapped in colorful patterns through the Springs corridor. A second ad hoc will work on 5 additional racks.
- Utility Box Design - A Google form was created that helped us identify themes for the utility boxes. Themes were identified, and a list was given to ArtEscape that will help us decorate the Utility Boxes—the project is in process.
- Summer at Larson Park Picnic, June 17th.

Communications

Social Media – Facebook

KSVY broadcasting

Community Outreach – Winter Celebration, Emergency Preparedness Event and Springs Picnic

Meetings are interpreted and some material is translated into Spanish

Presentations and Actions- During the 2023 calendar year the MAC received presentations from the following departments and community members in Sonoma County and Sonoma Valley:

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS and SAFETY

Sonoma Fire - Chief Steve Akre provides quarterly updates, on the fire district and fire season.

Emergency Preparedness from Community Organizations Active in Disasters (COAD), Center for Volunteers and Non-Profit Leadership (CVNL) and Map Your Neighborhood (MYN)

HEALTH and WELLNESS

Sonoma Valley Hospital Executive Director - John Hennelly

Mental Health- Parents and Youth - Leslie Nicholson, RISK

Sonoma Valley Mental Health Collective- Cindy Sutton, Substance Abuse Program Manager, Hanna Center

Sonoma County Health Services: Mobile Support Group - Group Wendy Tappan, Health Program Manager

PARKS

Larson Park Master Plan - County Regional Parks Director Bert Whitaker and Parks Planning Manager Steve Ehret

Regional Parks: Measure M - Bert Whitaker, Director of Regional Parks and Melanie Parker, Deputy Director Regional Parks

TRANSPORTATION AND ROADS

Transportation and Public Works- Janice Thompson, Deputy Sonoma County Public Infrastructure

Caltrans Update - Jeff Weiss, Caltrans PIO

Response to MAC's letter requesting Traffic and Safety improvements.

Arnold Drive: Bike Lanes - Cindy Rader, Sonoma County Public Infrastructure, and Jeremy Schmal, GHD

Sonoma County Transit - Bryan Albee, Transit Systems Manager, Sonoma County Transit

CONSTRUCTION, PROJECTS, AND SUSTAINABILITY

810 West Agua Caliente Road, Sonoma: Potential Development presentation - Hanna Center on current activities

Receive update from the Springs Community Plaza Ad Hoc

Sonoma Water – Hazard Mitigation Plan
Zero Waste Sonoma

FINANCE

Small Business Economic Growth -
Sonoma Valley Chamber of Commerce- Mark Bodenhamer
Enhanced Infrastructure Financing District Policy- Christel Querijero and Kristin Horrell

OTHER

Community Childcare Council of Sonoma County
Springs MAC Annual Report
Sonoma County Library

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the Springs Community. The presentations the Council receives focus on the quality and safety of life in the Springs. The Council's interests remain high in emergency preparedness, mental health, and road safety. We have seen little progress in these areas, and we continue to advocate for improvements. We appreciate the partnership with Sonoma County and look forward to addressing the needs in the Springs.

Sincerely,

Maite Iturri, Chair
Springs Municipal Advisory Council

Attachments-photos of various events

CC: Council Members, Arielle Kubu-Jones, Karina Garcia

Winter Celebration



Emergency Preparedness Fair

The Springs - Sonoma Valley Emergency Preparedness Fair

May 9, 5-7 pm
22 Boyes Blvd (Parking Lot next to Post Office)

Presentado por:

**FREE SUPPLIES FOR
EMERGENCY GO KITS**

GET INFORMED ABOUT:

- Disaster Planning and Kits
- Pet Preparedness
- Defensible Space
- How to be an Emergency Volunteer
- How to Turn Utilities Off
- Fire Extinguisher Training
- Family Event & Activities
- Food and Music
- And more!

For more information:
springsmyn@gmail.com
nancy.a.brown@sonoma-county.org

Los Springs - Valle de Sonoma Feria de Preparación de Emergencia

9 de mayo, 5-7 pm
22 Boyes Blvd (Estacionamiento junto al Correo)

Presentado por:

**SUMINISTROS GRATUITOS
PARA KITS DE EMERGENCIA**

INFORMESE SOBRE:

- Planeación de Desastre y Kits
- Preparación para Mascotas
- Espacio Defendible
- Cómo Convertirse en Voluntario Durante de una Emergencia
- Cómo Apagar Suministro de Servicios
- Entrenamiento de Extinguidor
- Evento Familiar & Actividades
- Comida y Música
- ¡Y más!

Para más información:
springsmyn@gmail.com
nancy.a.brown@sonoma-county.org

Asi Danzan los Niños



BIKE RACKS



DIA de LOS MUERTOS ALTAR BOYES BLVD and DIA de LOS MUERTOS LARSEN PARK

