



Lower Russian River Municipal Advisory Council

## **AGENDA**

**Regular Meeting**

**November 14, 2024 05:30 PM**

**Hybrid**

**Guerneville School Community Room, 14630 Armstrong Woods Road Guerneville, CA 95466**

<https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/lrrmac>

<https://sonomacounty.zoom.us/j/91744351763?pwd=nu2lIOCAEPkhQmhmd99qG8xHuSdYKB.1>

Chair & Rio Nido Representative: Pip Marquez de la Plata • Vice Chair & Cazadero / Duncan Mills Representative: Mike Nicholls • Guerneville Representative: Joe Rogoff • Guerneville Representative: Spencer R. Scott • Guerneville South / Pocket Canyon Representative: Betsy Van Dyke • Monte Rio / Villa Grande Representative: Cynthia Strecker • Hacienda Representative: Vicki Clewes • Forestville Representative: Lonnie Lazar • Forestville Representative: Thai Hilton

### **REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS**

The Lower Russian River Municipal Advisory Council will make reasonable accommodations for persons having special needs due to disabilities. Please contact the Fifth District Field Representative at 707-565-1219 during regular business hours at least 48 hours prior to the meeting to ensure necessary accommodations are made.

#### **1. Call to Order**

- A. Announcement from Spanish Interpreter
- B. Pledge of Allegiance
- C. Roll Call

#### **2. Approval of Agenda**

**Discussion**    **Possible Action**

This approval process ensures that the agenda accurately reflects the items to be discussed and decided upon. Members may request adjustments to the agenda, including reordering or deletion of items at this time. Any changes must comply with the Brown Act requirements for public notice and agenda setting. The agenda must be finalized before the Council proceeds with other meeting items.

#### **3. Statement of Conflict of Interest**

**Discussion**

This is the time for the Chair, Vice Chair and Council Members to indicate any statements of conflict of interest for any item listed on this agenda. The River MAC bylaws state that members will not involve themselves in official River MAC activities that could materially benefit them personally, their business interests, or the interests of organizations that they represent. In a conflict of interest, the member will abstain from voting, and the abstention will be recorded in the minutes.

**4. Consent Agenda**

Discussion  Possible Action

These items are expected to be routine and non-controversial. The Lower Russian River MAC will act upon them at one time without discussion. Any Representatives, staff member or interested party may request that an item be removed from the consent agenda for discussion.

A. October 10, 2024 regular meeting minutes

**5. Councilmember comment on matters not listed on the agenda**

Discussion

Comments are restricted to matters within the Board’s jurisdiction. Please be brief and limit spoken comments to one minute. Due to Brown Act regulations, this is not a time for discussion of any item, however a brief dialogue about considering an item for a future agenda is permitted during this time.

**6. Public Comments**

On Matters not listed on the agenda: Comments are restricted to matters within the Lower Russian River MAC’s jurisdiction. Please be brief and limit spoken comments to two minutes.

**7. County Updates**

Discussion

A. Supervisor Hopkins

B. Staff

**8. Discussion regarding Board of Supervisors Calendar of Significant Items**

Discussion

Marcie Woychik, Chief Deputy Clerk of the Board, will provide an overview of the Board of Supervisor's development process for their "Calendar of Items of Significant Public Interest", equipping MAC members and the community with insights into the prioritization process that will take place at the January public input forum. This calendar often influences the timing of agenda items being brought forward to the MAC for discussion and public input.

**9. Committee & Community Project Reports**

Discussion

Written reports may be included for review. Committee chair or delegate may briefly highlight parts of the update, respond to councilmember questions, and receive public comment.

**10. Adjournment**



Lower Russian River Municipal Advisory Council  
Minutes

Regular Meeting

October 10, 2024 05:30 PM

Guerneville School Community Room, 14630 Armstrong Woods Road Guerneville, CA 95466

<https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/lrrmac>

**1. Announcement from the Spanish Interpreter**

**2. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at by Chair & Rio Nido Representative: Pip Marquez de la Plata.

A. Pledge of Allegiance

Led by Chair & Rio Nido Representative: Pip Marquez de la Plata

B. Roll Call

Present: Vice Chair & Cazadero / Duncan Mills Representative: Mike Nicholls, Guerneville Representative: Spencer R. Scott, Guerneville South / Pocket Canyon Representative: Betsy Van Dyke, Monte Rio / Villa Grande Representative: Cynthia Strecker, Hacienda Representative: Vicki Clewes, Forestville Representative: Lonnie Lazar, Forestville Alternate Lisa Nahmanson, Guerneville Alternate Kathy Dahl

Absent: Chair & Rio Nido Representative: Pip Marquez de la Plata, Guerneville Representative: Joe Rogoff, Forestville Representative: Thai Hilton

Staff Present: Debbie Ramirez, District 5 Field Rep / MAC Clerk; Lupe Catalan, District 5 Field Rep; Tracy Lyons, District 5 Chief of Staff (remote); Matt Lilligren, County Counsel

**3. Approval of Agenda** Forestville Alternate Lisa Nahmanson motioned to approve. A second was made by Guerneville Representative: Spencer R. Scott.

The motion passed with the following vote:

8 In Favor   0 Opposed  
   Abstained      Absent      Recused

**4. Statement of Conflict of Interest**

Although not a conflict of interest, for full transparency Representative Spencer Scott noted that his business is located on one of the streets being discussed in the parking restrictions item.

**5. Consent Agenda**

A. September 12, 2024 regular meeting minutes

B. September 25, 2024 special meeting minutes

The 9/12 minutes were approved with minor changes and the 9/25 minutes were approved with no changes. Alternate Lisa Nahmanson abstained because she did not attend these meetings. motioned to approve. A second was made by .

The motion passed with the following vote:

7 **In Favor**       **Opposed**  
1 **Abstained**       **Absent**       **Recused**

#### **6. Councilmember comment on matters not listed on the agenda**

Councilmember Betsy Van Dyke noted a correction from the previous meeting, acknowledging that in addition to thanking Save the Redwoods League for the purchase of Silver Estates, the GV Forest Coalition and Forest Unlimited were instrumental in initiating the effort.

Councilmember Vicki Clewes highlighted recent accessibility challenges at Mother's Beach, specifically that steep sand steps pose difficulties for individuals with mobility issues, and advocated for improved accessibility measures.

Councilmember Cynthia Strecker announced an upcoming Citizens Advisory Group meeting on October 24 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Monte Rio Community Center. This meeting will discuss the wastewater plan for Monte Rio and Villa Grande and provide a platform for community input.

Alternate Councilmember Lisa Nahmanson announced it would be her last meeting, expressing gratitude for the opportunity to serve and their intention to stay engaged with the community. Vice Chair Nicholls extended appreciation for her years of service.

#### **7. Public Comments**

Jill participated in public comment via Zoom and shared an update from Save the Redwoods League, announcing that 36 acres had been added to Armstrong State Redwoods.

#### **8. County Update from Supervisor Lynda Hopkins / Staff**

Supervisor Lynda Hopkins provided updates on several key county initiatives:

Enhanced Infrastructure Financing District (EIFD) Meeting: Hopkins thanked community members for their constructive feedback at the EIFD meeting, noting positive comments from consultants about the proactive approach.

General Plan Workshop: A general plan workshop will take place at the Board of Supervisors meeting on Tuesday, October 15, at 1:45 p.m. This session will focus on engaging the community in planning efforts.

Black Cod Week: From October 18–27, Black Cod Week will support local fishermen, with several area restaurants participating.

Countywide MAC Best Practices Meeting: A countywide MAC meeting on October 29 will gather chairs and vice-chairs to share best practices, including contributions from the Lower Russian River MAC.

Septic System Mapping Study: Hopkins announced a study presented to the Board to map septic clusters, especially in the Russian River Watershed. An interactive map is available at [GIS-DWTS.sonomacounty.ca.gov](http://GIS-DWTS.sonomacounty.ca.gov).

Guerneville Plaza Project: Funding for the Guerneville Plaza design phase has been approved,

moving the project forward.

**Guerneville Sidewalk Project:** The Caltrans project is underway, estimated at 220 workdays, and will feature new bike racks, flagpole sleeves, and tree wells upon completion.

**Ayers Property Acquisition:** Save the Redwoods League has acquired the Ayers property, formerly a site for trail rides, adding to local conserved land that will eventually open to the public.

Hopkins also answered questions regarding upcoming countywide technical corrections to align with CEQA guidelines and clarified that the Electro Vector site is under both county zoning and state oversight. She encouraged newer MAC members to attend the October 29 MAC meeting to bring fresh perspectives.

## 9. Discussion regarding parking restrictions in the Lower Russian River

Deputy County Counsel Matt Lilligren provided an overview of upcoming countywide parking restrictions, with a report and recommendations set to be presented to the Board of Supervisors in March or April 2025. Lilligren highlighted the goal of making all parking ordinances accessible online for transparency.

Lilligren detailed five focus areas under review in the Lower Russian River region:

**Downtown Guerneville:** Parking restrictions are planned for side streets only, as Highway 116 (Main Street) falls under Caltrans' jurisdiction.

**Armstrong Woods Road:** The stretch from the fire station to the school is under review for pedestrian and bike safety improvements.

**Downtown Monte Rio:** Areas near the market are being considered for consistent parking restrictions.

**River Road near Steelhead Beach:** Potential expansion of existing parking restrictions to improve safety.

**River Drive near Mother's Beach:** Restrictions are under consideration due to parking lot overflow.

Feedback from law enforcement, residents, and county departments is being incorporated, with a focus on safety, emergency vehicle access, and balancing community needs.

**Council and Public Comments:**

Council members raised concerns about specific areas, including Armstrong Woods Road, suggesting that restrictions be timed around school hours or that safe pedestrian and bike paths be established.

There was also discussion on managing parking during events, prioritizing emergency access, and using signage as a deterrent for long-term parking.

Community members emphasized the need for restrictions on RV and bus parking, especially near schools and narrow roads, and suggested a permit system for residential parking.

Feedback called for improved clarity on enforcement roles between the Sheriff's Office and CHP, particularly in high-traffic and tourist areas like Vacation Beach.

Lilligren acknowledged these concerns, noting that proposed restrictions aim to address long-term occupancy, enhance public safety, and streamline enforcement with better signage and clear jurisdictional responsibilities. Supervisor Hopkins also indicated that no-overnight parking

restrictions are under consideration to facilitate enforcement.

Lilligren concluded by affirming that feedback would be considered in final recommendations and thanked everyone for their input.

**10. Committee & Community Project Reports**

There were no reports

**11. Adjournment**

Chair Nicholls adjourned the meeting at 7:14 PM

DRAFT



# Board of Supervisors Calendar of Items of Significant Public Interest

# Overview



- Origin and History
- Development Process
- Public Participation
- Adoption Process



# Origin and History

- Rule 45 of Board Rules of Procedures established path to identify Items of Significant Public Interest.
- Draft Calendar is presented at the beginning of the year.
- Historically this has been at an off-site meeting open to the public.



# Development Process



- Departments submit anticipated content for consideration
- Content is reviewed for by the County Executive Officer(CEO) and Office of Equity
- The CEO works with the Chair to develop the draft for public consideration

# Public Participation

- Members of the community are encouraged to contact their representative Supervisor about issues of importance to them.
- Example of how to provide input:
  - Email or contact your district Supervisor
  - Submit public comments to [bos@sonoma-county.org](mailto:bos@sonoma-county.org)
  - Make public comment during ‘Public Comment on Matters not Listed on the Agenda but Within the Subject Matter Jurisdiction of the Board’ (regularly scheduled Board meetings)
  - Make public comment during the annual workshop at the beginning of the year
  - Continued engagement via public comment and contact with your Supervisor throughout the year



# Adoption Process



- A meeting soon after off-site workshop the calendar is adopted.
- Once adopted, the calendar is appended to each published agenda.
- People are encouraged to continue to voice their support for matters of importance.

# Questions

# THANK YOU!



Marcie Woychik

Chief Deputy Clerk of the Board

[Marcie.Woychik@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Marcie.Woychik@sonoma-county.org)