



# JEFF GORELL Supervisor, 2<sup>nd</sup> District

# **ISRAEL RODRIGUEZ**Field Representative Supervisor Jeff Gorell

# REGULAR MEETING

# MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

- BOB FULKERSON, CHAIR
- TYLER COBB, VICE CHAIR
- JOHN W. (JACK) FOSS
- PATRICIA MARTINEZ
- KRISTA NOWAK
- ALTERNATE VACANCY

# **AGENDA**

OCTOBER 23, 2025 7:00 PM

Municipal Advisory Council Somis, California

Somis Elementary School Multipurpose Room 5268 North Street Somis, CA 93066

### **WEB ACCESS**

At: <a href="https://ventura.org/somismac">https://ventura.org/somismac</a>
MAC Calendar, Agenda, and Minutes

Welcome to the meeting of the Somis Municipal Advisory Council (MAC), an advisory council for the unincorporated area of Somis to Ventura County Supervisor Jeff Gorell.

# **LEGAL NOTICES**

Persons who require accommodation for any audio, visual, language, or other disability to review an agenda or to participate in a meeting of the Somis Municipal Advisory Council per the American Disabilities Act (ADA), may obtain assistance by requesting such accommodation by calling (805) 214-2510 or e-mailing Israel.Rodriguez@ventura.org. Any such request for accommodation should be made at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting for which assistance is requested.

All agenda reports and supporting data, including those filed in accordance with Government Code Section 54957.5 (b) (1) and (2) are available from Ventura County Supervisor Jeff Gorell's office at 2100 E Thousand Oaks Blvd, Suite E, Thousand Oaks, CA 91362. The same materials will be available and attached with each associated agenda item, when received, at the following website: https://ventura.org/somismac

Documents including staff materials, comment emails and letters, photos, etc., distributed to the Somis Municipal Advisory Council regarding any agenda item during an open session or after the meeting concluded, are posted online and made available for public inspection at <a href="https://ventura.org/somismac">https://ventura.org/somismac</a>

# **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Public comment is the opportunity for members of the public to participate in meetings by addressing the Somis Municipal Advisory Council in connection with one or more agenda or non-agenda items. Public comments by a member of the public at a single meeting are limited to a cumulative total of five minutes at such meeting unless the time allotment is increased or decreased by the Chair depending on the number of speakers. The public comment period during the opening part of the meeting to address nonagenda items is limited to 30 minutes total for all speakers; this 30-minute limit does not apply to items on the agenda.

To maintain a public meeting environment conductive and welcoming to receiving public comments from all members of the public, the audience is discouraged from engaging in displays of support or opposition to staff reports or public comments, including clapping, yelling, booing, hissing or cheering, that may create a disruptive environment for members of the public wishing to participate. Any person who disrupts or impedes the orderly conduct of a meeting will be instructed to cease the disruptive conduct. Failure to do so may result in that person being removed from the meeting.

Members of the public who would like to augment their comments with visual or audio

presentations must submit their materials to the Israel.Rodriguez@ventura.org for review at least 48 hours before the meeting. The review will be conducted to determine only whether the materials are on matters within the jurisdiction of the Municipal Advisory Council, would be disruptive of the meeting, or would foster illegality, such as identity theft. If it is determined that materials are about matters not within the Municipal Advisory Council's jurisdiction, or would be disruptive of the meeting, or would foster illegality, use of County-provided equipment will not be allowed.

# Email or Mail Public Comment in Advance of the Meeting

If you wish to make a comment on a specific agenda item by email or mail, please submit your comment by 12:00 p.m. on the day prior to the meeting. Indicate in the Subject Line the Agenda item number (e.g., Item No. 9) on which you are commenting. Your email or written comment will be distributed to the Municipal Advisory Council and placed into the item's record for the minutes of the meeting. Public Comments submitted in writing are public records and subject to disclosure. An unredacted version is made available when records are requested by a Public Records Act request. Please do not submit personal contact information if you do not want it to be made public. Please submit your comment to <a href="mailto:lsrael.Rodriguez@ventura.org">lsrael.Rodriguez@ventura.org</a> or mail to:

> Somis Municipal Advisory Council Ventura County Supervisor Jeff Gorell 2100 E Thousand Oaks Blvd Suite E Thousand Oaks, CA 91362

# In-Person Public Comment

If you would like to provide a verbal comment in person during the meeting, upon arrival at the meeting location, check in with staff and complete a comment card. When your name is called for public comment, please proceed to the podium. If you do not wish to pre-register but would like to provide in-person comments at the meeting, you must check in with the staff prior to the agenda item being called.

# **OPENING**

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Roll Call
- 3. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.
- 4. Approval of the Minutes from the Somis Municipal Advisory Council held on July 24, 2025
- 5. Agenda Review

- 6. Consent Agenda Items (A. through E.)
  - a. California Highway Safety Report: The October safety report is included in the final agenda packet. **Recommendation: Receive and File.**
  - b. Ventura County Fire Department Safety Report: The October safety report is included in the final agenda packet. **Recommendation: Receive and File.**
  - c. Ventura County Sheriff Safety Report: Report will be given verbally at the MAC meeting.
  - d. Somis MAC 2026 Calendar: The 2026 Somis MAC Calendar is included in the final agenda packet. **Recommendation: Receive and File.**
  - e. Somis Community Plan (Draft). Recommendation: Receive & File
- 7. Public Comments Citizen presentations regarding Somis Municipal Advisory Council related matters NOT appearing on this agenda. (See Guidelines above).
- 8. Office of Ventura County Supervisor Jeff Gorell's Comments Brief announcements and report on County activities.
- 9. Council Comments Comments by Council members on matters they deem appropriate. A Council member may ask a question for clarification, make a brief announcement, or make a brief report on his or her own activities. A Council member may also provide a reference to staff or other resources for information, or request staff to report back to the body at a subsequent meeting concerning any matter. The Council may also direct staff to place a matter of business on the future agenda.

# **REGULAR AGENDA**

Regular Agenda items are heard at the Council's discretion and may be heard at any time during the meeting. (Continue to the Next page for the items under the Regular Agenda)

# 10) Update on the Recent Acquisition of the AGRX Property on Somis Road

Property Owner to provide an update on the recent acquisition of the property, future plans/use for property and potential enhancements.

# 11) Public Works Update on Water Works District 19:

Assist Director Public Works, Jeff Palmer, to provide an update on the state of Water Works District 19. The presentation will include an overview of:

- WWD19 Infrastructure
- Financial Status
- Future Plans for WWD19

# 12) Caltrans Representatives to Provide an Update on Current & Future Projects in the Somis Area.

- Overview of 2026-2027 Caltrans Projects on CA34 & Hwy 118.
- Update on Construction on Hwy 118 including safety concerns.

# **CLOSING**

**13) Adjournment** of the Somis Municipal Advisory Council meeting to the next meeting, January 29 (Pending Approval), at Somis Elementary School, 5268 North Street, Somis, CA 93066





# JEFF GORELL Supervisor, 2<sup>nd</sup> District

ISRAEL RODRIGUEZ Field Representative Supervisor Jeff Gorell

# REGULAR MEETING

# MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

- PAT RICHARDS, CHAIR
- BOB FULKERSON, VICE CHAIR
- TYLER COBB
- JOHN W. (JACK) FOSS
- PATRICIA MARTINEZ
- VACANT (ALT)

# **MINUTES**

July 24, 2025 7:00 PM

Municipal Advisory Council Somis, California

> Somis Elementary School Multipurpose Room 5268 North Street Somis, CA 93066

### **WEB ACCESS**

At: https://ventura.org/somismac MAC Calendar, Agenda, and Minutes

# **OPENING**

### 1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. MAC members Jack Foss, Bob Fulkerson, and Krista Nowak were present.

# 2. Roll Call and Oath of Office - Krista Nowak

Supervisor Jeff Gorell administered the oath of office to Krista Nowak. Ms. Nowak introduced herself to the MAC and the public, providing background on her experience in the community and expressing her eagerness to serve on the MAC.

# 3. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America

Bob Fulkerson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

# 4. Approval of the Minutes from the Somis Municipal Advisory Council held on April 24, 2025

Jack Foss made a motion to approve the minutes from April 24, 2025. Krista Nowak seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

# 5. Agenda Review

Jack Foss made a motion to accept the agenda as presented. Krista Nowak seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

# 6. Consent Agenda Items (A. through C.)

Krista Nowak made a motion to approve the consent agenda items including the California Highway Safety Report, Ventura County Fire Department Safety Report, and Ventura County Sheriff Safety Report. Jack Foss seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

### 7. Public Comments

Seline Burns addressed the MAC regarding a decayed and vandalized fence along Somis Road near the lumber yard. She noted the fence is tagged with graffiti, falling down, and poses a safety risk, representing urban decay in the area. Ms. Burns stated she has had correspondence with Israel Rodriguez about the deteriorating conditions along this stretch. Mr. Rodriguez discussed the viability of addressing the fence issue and noted that a community cleanup of the rubbish along the road would be successful and beneficial for community engagement.

- 2-

**Teresa Lucas** inquired about the committees mentioned on the agenda, questioning the mission statement of the MAC, the development plan, and the structure of the board including individual councilor roles and responsibilities within their positions and committees. Israel Rodriguez discussed the MAC's mission statement in response.

Richard Cavaletto requested assistance regarding the intersection of Price Road and State Route 118. He noted the intersection design is inappropriate for large trucks and the road is continually damaged. Mr. Cavaletto displayed a photograph taken one hour prior showing a guard rail that had been knocked down by a tractor trailer. Krista Nowak stated that she has reported many issues in Somis through the Public Works app and found Ventura County Public Works to be very responsive. The CHP representative asked what improvements Mr. Cavaletto believed should be made to the intersection. Supervisor Gorell stated the intersection needs to be re-engineered and committed to reaching out to Public Works.

**Jim Pellerino** stated he used to work for the water company and recalled that approximately four years ago the MAC discussed water infrastructure for fire hardening. He noted that at that time it was stated the water line on Somis Road would be replaced, but this did not occur. Mr. Pellerino expressed concern that the current infrastructure is inadequate due to the water storage being located too far away.

# 8. Office of Ventura County Supervisor Jeff Gorell's Comments

Supervisor Gorell thanked members of the public and public service representatives from Fire, CHP, and RMA for attending. He reported that the County budget of over \$3 billion just passed. Public safety is being ensured through funding for the Sheriff's Office and District Attorney's Office. The budget includes funding for new infrastructure, and waterworks infrastructure needs improvement. He noted it is a balanced budget that will hopefully sustain cuts from the state and federal government. Supervisor Gorell stated Ventura County is in better shape than San Luis Obispo and Los Angeles Counties, which are seeing services downsized and police and fire staff being laid off.

Supervisor Gorell announced that Debby Tash was just appointed to the water board and is a valued member of the Somis community, representing Waterworks District No. 19. He emphasized that the best method to register infrastructure complaints and damage is to report through the Public Works app and provide an overview of the app's importance and usefulness. He also stated there is a long-term recovery group for Mountain Fire victims and encouraged anyone needing assistance to call his office.

California Highway Patrol Report: Lt. Zane, the new commander of Conejo Scales, introduced himself. He reported that the SR 118 scales improvement project is progressing, though the completion date is unknown. The Fourth of July Maximum Enforcement Period (MEP) was heavily enforced, with thousands of tickets issued during the holiday weekend. Lt. Zane described the new Dodge Durango's now in service and announced the CHP is hiring commercial vehicle inspection specialists. The Scales Office is in the beginning stages of

creating their social media presence. He mentioned the National Night Out event at the Moorpark Sheriff's Office with CHP participation.

A member of the public asked about the construction timeline for the Hwy 118 scales. Lt. Zane stated he is encouraged by the building being delivered and concrete being poured. Another member of the public noted the project has been ongoing for a couple of years without operational scales. A third member of the public inquired whether the presence of operational scales could reduce truck traffic on SR 118. Lt. Zane responded that he does not believe it would decrease traffic once the scales are open.

A member of the public raised concerns about food stands on the sides of Somis Road, noting that customers slam on their brakes to stop and pull back into traffic at low speeds, creating dangerous conditions. Israel Rodriguez stated he is in contact with VCSD Captain Hoglin to enforce the area. Supervisor Gorell noted the food stands likely have health permits but acknowledged the safety hazards of selling food alongside a busy road. Mr. Rodriguez stated enforcement is not yet viable, but he is working with Caltrans and CHP to begin the enforcement process.

**Ventura County Sheriff's Department Report:** Senior Deputy Vasquez, with 30 years in the department, addressed the food vendor issue, noting it has been a problem for some time. He explained that since 2020 there has been a hands-off leniency toward food vendors operating outside the traditional restaurant method. Deputy Vasquez asked the public to be patient regarding the enforcement of food vendors, as it takes time to properly address such situations.

Deputy Vasquez reported that since April there has been nothing significant occurring in Somis. He noted there have been agricultural thefts elsewhere in the county and encouraged the public to call police if they see anyone in the fields in the middle of the night to report suspicious activity. He stated people are stealing sprinkler heads to extract copper.

Deputy Vasquez encouraged the public to utilize 911, noting that if it is not an emergency, the dispatcher will transfer the caller to the appropriate non-emergency line. He warned of numerous scams, including text scams claiming to be from the DMV (urging people not to click links), computer scams about software damage (advising not to call the phone numbers), and scam calls about unauthorized bank transactions. He emphasized that no legitimate bank would ask customers to purchase gift cards.

Deputy Vasquez announced that the new Somis apartments had a grand opening on July 10 and suggested a community event would be appropriate. A member of the public stated there are many delivery trucks speeding in La Cubre and asked how to address the speeding problem. Supervisor Gorell stated he would follow up with Captain Hoglund to patrol and enforce speed limits by writing tickets.

## 9. Council Comments

Jack Foss requested that Jim Pellerino have contact with Waterworks District No. WWD19.

Krista Nowak cautioned members of the public not to drive on the shoulder at Somis Road and SR 118, noting she recently received a ticket for doing so.

# **REGULAR AGENDA**

# 10. Alternative Revenue Opportunities for Ventura County Farmers

Dave Ward, Planning Director for Ventura County, introduced himself and presented countyapproved alternative revenue sources for farmers. The presentation covered:

- Review of the County's Ag Tourism Program
- Farm Stays
- Onsite Farm Food Processing
- Battery Storage

See attached documents for the complete presentation by Mr. Ward. Members of the public asked questions about the presentation and relevant topics.

# 11. Preparedness Community Presentation - Office of Emergency Services & Ventura County Fire Department

Kim Dellacourt, Emergency Services Manager from the Ventura County Sheriff's Department, provided a disaster preparedness presentation.

Chief Horton and Chief Arledge delivered the Wildfire Hazard, Preparedness, and Mitigation presentation. Members of the public asked relevant questions following the presentation.

# 12. Sub-Committee and Ad-Hoc Committee Reports

No sub-committee or ad-hoc committee reports were provided at this meeting.

# **CLOSING**

# 13. Adjournment

Krista Nowak made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jack Foss seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:46 PM to the next meeting on October 23, 2025, at Somis Elementary School, 5268 North Street, Somis.

# Consent Item Documents

- A. CHP Safety Report
- **B. VCFD Safety Report**
- C. VCSO Safety Report (Presented at the MAC Meeting)
- D. 2026 Somis MAC Calendar
- E. Somis Community Plan (Draft)



Website: VCFD.org

Twitter: **@VCFD** 

Instagram: @VenturaCountyFire

Facebook:The @VenturaCountyFire

Contact: Scott Thomsen

Direcotor of Communications and Public Affairs

Phone: (805) 914-8502

Email: scott.thomsen@ventura.orgOcto

Oct. 6, 2025

Attn: Supervisor Jeff Gorell and Municipal Advisory Committees

- We are now in Fire Prevention Week, which runs from Oct. 5-11. This year's national focus is on lithium-ion battery safety. Improper use, charging, storage or disposal can lead to intense fires that are difficult to put out. Some key tips: Take batteries off the charger once the charging cycle is complete. Recycle batteries (even the small ones) rather than throwing them in the trash. Inspect batteries if they fall or get dropped, and immediately recycle any that are damaged. VCFD staff are sharing these safety messages at events across the county this week and through our social media channels.
- The Ventura County Fire Department supported the Ventura County Human Services Agency by hosting a Fall Prevention Forum. Participants learned about the serious risks fall pose, especially for seniors, and strategies for avoiding them. They also had the opportunity to get a health screening and participate in Zumba demonstrations. Emergency medical services account for about 75% of the calls VCFD responds to and falls make up the biggest share of those calls.
- The Office of Traffic Safety has approved VCFD for a new Child Passenger Safety Grant in the amount of \$95,000. With approval from the Board of Supervisors to accept the grant, it would continue to provide training for new parents on how to properly install child car seats. It also would provide car seats for income-eligible families in Ventura County.

Sincerely,

Scott Thomsen Director of Communications and Public Affairs Ventura County Fire Department

CALIFORNIA STATE TRANSPORTATION AGENCY

GAVIN NEWSOM, GOVERNOR

To: The Somis MAC c/o Supervisor Gorell's office

# CHP MOORPARK'S SOMIS MAC TALKING POINTS: (10.23.25)

- During the Labor Day Maximum Enforcement Period, the CHP made over 1,200 arrests for DUI, issued over 19,700 citations for speed violations, and conducted over 45,800 enforcement actions. Overall, there were a total of eight property damage only and/or minor injury crashes reported within the Moorpark Area during the MEP.
- With Halloween approaching and more people out walking, there is an increased responsibility to ensure pedestrian safety remains a high priority. Motorists and pedestrians share the responsibility to ensure the safety of one another. Pedestrians should cross streets at crosswalks where available and use extra caution at intersections where drivers may fail to yield the rightof-way to pedestrians. Before stepping in front of a car, make eye contact with the driver. Walking with reflective items or lights at night is always a good idea.
- The California Highway Patrol is still hiring officers to help make California's roadways safer. If you or someone you know would like to join the CHP, visit www.betheCHP1000.com for more information and to speak with a local recruiter. Also, the CHP is hiring more than just officers. For more details and applications please visit www.cho.ca.gov.
- Follow CHP Moorpark on social media for traffic updates, sig alerts, evacuation notices, roadway closures, and general information on what the CHP is doing in your area.

Twitter:

@CHPMoorpark

Facebook:

@CHP-Moorpark

Instagram:

@CHPMoorpark

Contact: Officer Ryan Ayers

Public Information Officer

Phone: (805) 553-0800

Email:

rayers@chp.ca.gov





# Somis MAC 2026 Meeting Calendar

- Meets Once a Quarter
- Meets on the Fourth Thursday in July, and October. the Months of January, April,
- Somis CA. Meets at 5268 North Street,

# 4 5 6 11 12 13 18 19 20 25 26 27 S M T **JANUARY** 7 14 21 28 8 8 15 22 F 2 9 16 23 30 S 3 10 17 24 31

17 1824 25

21 28

N S M

7

F 1 8 8 15 22 29

S 2 9 16 23 30

5 12 19 26

6 13 20 27

S M

\$

MAY

# S M T 1 2 3 8 9 10 15 16 17 22 23 24 **FEBRUARY** 4 11 18 25 T 5 12 19 26 F 6 13 20 27 S 7 14 21 28

# S M 1 7 8 14 15 21 22 28 29 7 2 9 16 23 30 W 3 10 17 24 11 18 25 F 5 12 19 26 S 6 13 20 27

29	22	15	$\infty$	$\vdash$	S	Z.
30	23	15 16	9	2	≤	RCH
31	24	17	10	W	$\dashv$	
		18				
	26	19	12	Çī	-	
	27	20	13	6	П	
	28	21	14	7	S	
26	19	12	5		S	ب
		13			S M	7
		14			$\dashv$	

23 30	16	9	2		S	AU	26	19	12	5		S
24 31	17	10	ω		Z	AUGUST	27	20	13	6		≤
25	18	11	4		$\dashv$	$\dashv$	28	21	14	7		$\dashv$
26	19	12	<del>ن</del>		≤		29	22	15	$\infty$	ightharpoonup	≤
27	20	13	6		$\dashv$		30	W.	16	9	2	$\dashv$
28	21	14	7		П		31	24	17	10	w	П
29	22	15	$\infty$	$\vdash$	S			25	18	11	4	S

# 2026

27	20	13	6		S	SEF
		14	7		Z	TEN
29	22	15	$\infty$	_	-	1BER
30	23	16	9	2	≤	
	24	17	10	ω	-	
	25	18	11	4	TI	
	26	19	12	5	S	

25	18	11	4		S	
26	19	12	رح ت		≤	TOB
27	20	13	6		-1	R
28	21	14	7		€	
29	2	15	$\infty$	$\vdash$	$\dashv$	
30	23	16	9	2	П	
31	24	17	10	ω	S	

29	22 23	15	$\infty$	_	S	NO
30	23	16	9	2	≤	VEM
	24	17	10	w	$\dashv$	BER
	25	18	1	4	≶	
	26	19	12	ഗ	-	
	27	20	13	6	TI	
	28	21	14	7	S	

27	20	13	6		S	DE(
28	20 21 22	14	7		≤	CEMI
29	22	15	$\infty$	$\vdash$	$\dashv$	3ER
30	23	16	9	2	≤	
31	24	17	10	ω	$\dashv$	
	25	18	11	4	П	
	26	19	12	U	S	

5 12 19 26

6 13 20 27 7 14 21 28

1 8 15 22 29

7 9 16 30

3 10 17 24

S 4 11 18 25

APRIL S M



# Presented By the Office of County Supervisor Jeff Gorell

Community Profile: Somis, California

# 📜 Historical Overview

Somis was founded in **1892** by Thomas Bard and D.T. Perkins on land from the **Rancho Las Posas Mexican land grant**. Its name derives from the **Chumash word "Śo Mís,"** meaning "water of the scrub oak". The area has deep agricultural roots, with early crops like corn, wheat, and barley shipped via rail and wharf from nearby Hueneme 1. The town's layout remains largely unchanged since its post–World War II expansion, preserving its historic charm.

Notable Cultural landmarks include:

- Fulkerson Hardware Store (est. 1912), a Ventura County Historical Landmark
- Somis Elementary School (est. 1895)
- Somis Thursday Club (Est. 1910), a hub for community gatherings and the oldest federated women's club in California.

# **Current Population & Demographics**

As of 2025, Somis has an estimated population of **1,429 (US Census Population, 2020 Census)**, reflecting modest growth and a strong sense of continuity.

- Median Age: 42.8 years
- Median Household Income: \$144,018
- Poverty Rate: Just 2.94%, well below state averages
- **Ethnic Composition**: Predominantly White (80%), with Hispanic (15.6%) and Asian (4.4%) communities contributing to its diversity

# Physical Description

Nestled in the **Las Posas Valley** of Ventura County, Somis spans **3.35 square miles** of land at an elevation of **345 feet**. The town is bordered by agricultural lands, with **South Mountain** to the north and **Camarillo** to the south. Somis Road (SR 34) serves as the main thoroughfare, flanked by West and East Streets and intersected by North Street.

### The landscape features:

- Rolling farmland and citrus groves
- Historic ranches and estates
- A warm-summer Mediterranean climate (Köppen "Csb")

# Community Aspects

Somis is a **tight-knit**, **rural community** known for its agricultural heritage and laid-back lifestyle. It lacks a formal downtown but thrives through local institutions and traditions.

### Key features include:

- Agricultural Economy: Farms, nurseries, and produce stands
- Education: Served by Somis Union School District and Oxnard Union High School District
- Public Services: Ventura County Sheriff and Fire Department coverage
- Cultural Identity: Events like the Somis Centennial and community clubs foster strong local pride

Somis is often described as "a day in the country," offering residents and visitors a peaceful, pastoral experience just minutes from urban centers

# **Top-Producing Crops in Somis**

Taking county-wide data and local operations into account, the top producing crops in and around Somis likely include:

- 1. Strawberries
- 2. Lemons
- 3. Avocados
- 4. Raspberries / other berries

# 5. Nursery stock / specialty vegetables & citrus

# 🧗 Vision Statement for Somis, California

"Rooted in tradition, thriving with purpose — Somis envisions a future where its rich agricultural heritage and rural spirit cultivate a sustainable, connected, and vibrant community. As stewards of this unique landscape, we embrace progress that enhances rather than erases — ensuring that Somis remains a rural haven of authenticity, resilience, and belonging."

# **\*\*ORTHON OF THE PROPERTY OF T**

"To preserve the rural character of Somis, safeguard our rich agricultural traditions, foster exceptional education for future generations, and ensure a safe, serene community for all—especially our cherished elders.

# Goals & Objectives

- Protecting Rural Identity: Limit urban development and maintain open spaces
- Preserve Farming: Support local farmers through incentives, marketing, and education
- Strengthen Education: Elevate Somis schools through community investment and partnerships
- Promote Safe Retirement: Develop senior-friendly services and housing while ensuring security

# Business & Development Strategy

# 1. Sustainable Agriculture

- Use Somis farmers and the Somis MAC as a sounding-board to ensure County
  policies and guidelines protect our farmers and help keep them competitive in a
  world-wide market.
- Ensure we have future access to low-cost water for farmers.
- Promote our Somis farmers locally.
- Promote county approved alternative revenue sources such as
  - o Agritourism (tours, workshops, seasonal events)
  - o Farm Stays/ADUs

o Farm Sourced Food Processing

# 2. Education Partnerships & Innovation

- Promote and partner with the innovative stem projects that are currently in progress that include:
  - Computer-monitored water system for growing berries. Sponsored by Mars Farms. Systems measure moisture & PH levels and blends water to the optimal level to grow berries. The system is run by upper-class elementary students and helps them learn about modern farming techniques.
  - Build a Go-cart. Students learn about mechanical and electrical systems by building a go-cart from parts in a bin to a production vehicle. Students then take apart the cart for the next class to build.
  - Modern Media/Film production studio. The studio is equipped with cameras, sound mixing equipment and "green screen" for film production. The area is filled with skilled media professionals that can help mentor and teach kids these valuable career development skills.
  - Robotic and mechatronic programs that help kids learn to code and build projects that help kids learn valuable skills for a modern driven future.
- Launch an Express Library in partnership with Somis Unified School District to provide services not available with neighboring Camarillo Library.
- Create scholarships and teacher incentive programs.

# 3. Senior-Family Friendly Infrastructure

- Explore what can be done to build small-scale affordable retirement/family cottages that are in alignment with the Somis community.
- Partner with county service providers to provide wrap-around services such as healthcare, senior services, family support, and enhance community safety.
- Support community centers with wellness and social programs

# 4. Smart Growth Policy

- Enforce zoning regulations in order to limit large commercial projects that impact the quality of the rural nature of Somis.
- Incentives for locally owned businesses that align with rural values

Encourage adaptive reuse of old structures instead of new builds

# 🄑 Marketing & Outreach

- "Keep Somis Rural" campaign across social media and local events
- Somis Farmers Market festivals featuring local artists and produce
- Storytelling series with longtime residents to celebrate heritage

# **III** Evaluation & Impact

- Quarterly MAC surveys for public feedback
- Reports on school performance, farm success, resident satisfaction
- Safety benchmarks and emergency preparedness audits

# Integration with the Somis Municipal Advisory Council

## Public Safety

- Community Watch Expansion: Establish neighborhood watch programs emphasizing senior safety and farm security
- Emergency Readiness: Advocate for rural-specific emergency response training and resources (e.g., wildfire preparedness for residents)
- Road Safety: Recommend traffic-calming measures on rural roads to protect residents, especially students and elders.

### Public Health

- Mobile Health Clinics: Support access to medical care for seniors and farm workers via partnerships with local providers
- Environmental Health Initiatives: Promote pesticide safety protocols and clean water preservation for agricultural zones
- Wellness Programs: Encourage outdoor wellness activities leveraging Somis's natural spaces

# **Planning**

• **Zoning Advocacy**: Recommend zoning that limits sprawl, encourages farmland conservation, and promotes senior housing near services

- Smart Development: Promote infrastructure projects that align with rural character, like walking paths or educational gardens
- **Design Review Input**: Participate in review processes to ensure buildings and renovations respect Somis's aesthetics

## **N** Public Works

- Infrastructure Maintenance: Prioritize upkeep of rural roads, irrigation systems, and school facilities
- Sustainable Upgrades: Propose eco-friendly upgrades such as solar panels for schools or electric shuttle service for elders
- Community Spaces: Develop and maintain multipurpose spaces for farming workshops, student clubs, and senior socials

## **EX** Community Welfare

- Complete the Somis Business Plan: Champion goals and objectives that help strengthen the community for generations to come.
- Ag Support Programs: Create Programs that help promote and support our local farmers.
- Retiree Services: Help craft initiatives that support aging in place, from home modifications to community companionship programs
- Create a Somis newsletter, along with community events, and projects that help maintain a close and cohesive Somis community.

# Somis MAC Organization Chart

# District 2 County Supervisor

District Representative/MAC
Secretary
Israel Rodriguez

Somis MAC Chairman Robert Fulkerson Chair – Education, Public Works & Planning Somis MAC Vice Council Tyler Cobb Vice Chair – Public Works, Planning, Farming, Water

Somis MAC Council Member Jack Foss Public Safety, Farming, Health Somis MAC Council Member
Krista Nowak
Community Welfare, Farming,
Water

Somis MAC Council Member Patricia Martinez Farming, Water, Education

# Somis MAC Sub & Ad-Hoc Committees

Sub-Committee
Public Safety & Health
Jack Foss

Sub-Committee
Public Works & Planning
Tyler Cobb

Sub-Committee
Community Welfare/Relations
Krista Nowak & Patricia Martinez

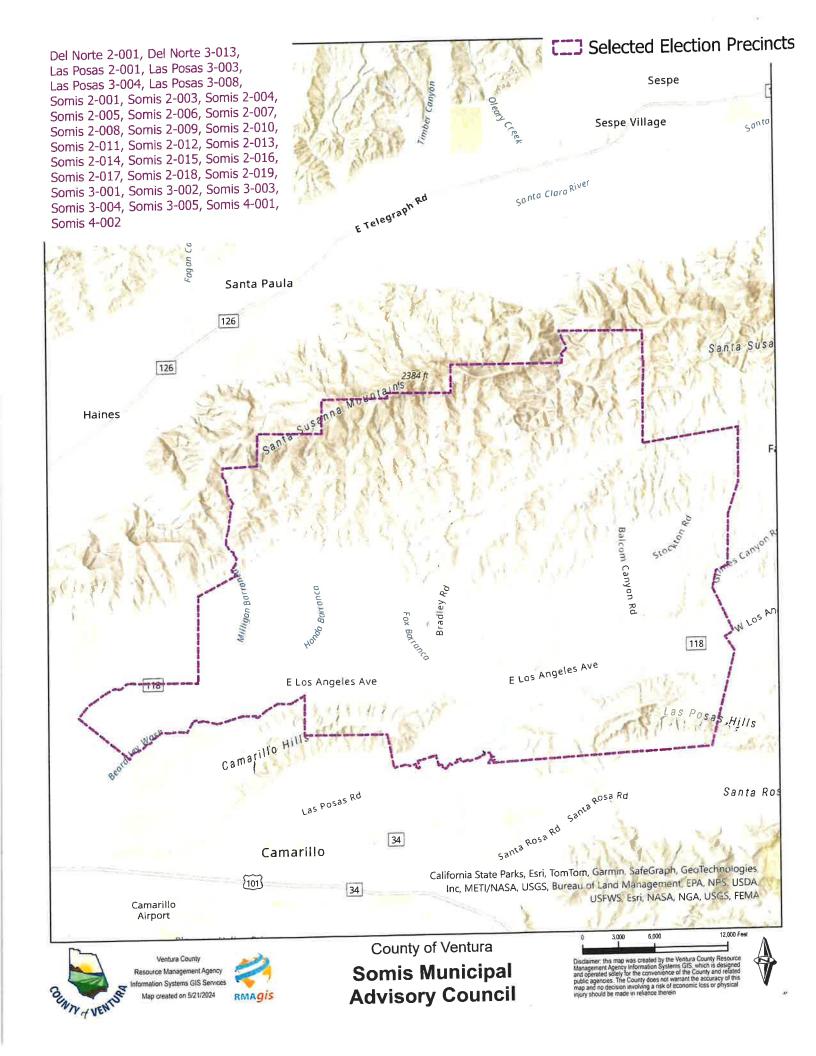
Ad-Hoc Committee
Jack Foss Firewise

Ad-Hoc Committee
Jack Foss Cert

Ad-Hoc Committee Krista Nowak Business Planning

# Tagline Options for Somis Brochure

- "Cultivating Tradition, Growing Tomorrow"
- "Where Heritage Meets Harvest"
- "Rooted in the Past, Growing with Purpose"
- "Small Town Soul, Boundless Fields"
- "Preserving Land, Nurturing Community"



# Regular Agenda Item Documents

Item # 10: AGRX Presentation Documents

Item # 11: Public Works Update WWD19 (Pending, will be provided at the MAC meeting)

Item # 12: Caltrans Update on Current & Future Projects in Somis (Pending, will be provided at the Mac meeting)

Note: Some presentation items may be in the process of development and will be provided at the MAC meeting.

# AGRX Presentation Documents

