



JEFF GORELL
Supervisor, 2nd District
ISRAEL RODRIGUEZ
Field Representative
Supervisor Jeff Gorell



MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

- Bob Fulkerson,
Chair
- Tyler Cobb,
Vice Chair
- Krista Nowak
- John "Jack" Foss
- Patricia Martinez

**REGULAR
MEETING**

MINUTES

October 23, 2025

7:00 PM

**Municipal Advisory Council
Somis, California**

**Somis Elementary School
Multipurpose Room**

**5268 North Street
Somis, CA 93066**

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

For More Information

<https://supervisorgorell.venturacounty.gov/advisory-councils/somis-mac/>

OPENING

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

2. Roll Call

Council Members Present: Chair Bob Fulkerson, Tyler Cob, Krista Nowak, Jack Foss

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

Led by Jack Foss.

4. Approval of Minutes – July 24, 2025, Meeting

Motion to approve made by Foss, seconded by Nowak.
Approved unanimously.

5. Agenda Review

No corrections.
Motion to approve made by Nowak, seconded by Foss.
Approved unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion to approve Consent Agenda Items A–E made by Jack Foss, seconded by Krista Nowak.
Approved unanimously.

6. Consent Agenda Items (A–E)

A. California Highway Patrol 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

Senior Deputy Vasquez provided the Sheriff's report:

- Minimal criminal activity since the last meeting.
- Citations are issued for illegal fireworks around the Fourth of July.
- Reports of fraud conducted via social media platforms.
- Two narcotics possession arrests.
- One DUI arrest.
- One domestic violence arrest.
- Two residential mail theft incidents involving stolen packages.
- Announced the Camarillo Station Trick-or-Treat event scheduled for October 29 at the Camarillo Community Center.

Public Question: Reports of frequent gunfire and concern over legality.

Response – Deputy Vasquez:

Discharging a firearm within 300 yards of an inhabited dwelling is illegal, depending upon caliber. Residents were advised to call 911 to allow law enforcement to investigate.

D. Somis MAC 2026 Calendar

The 2026 MAC calendar is included in the final agenda packet.

Recommendation: Receive and file.

E. Somis Community Plan (Draft)

Draft plan included in the final agenda packet.

Recommendation: Receive and file.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

7. Public Comments

Citizen presentations regarding matters not appearing on the agenda.

Tressa – Regarding Item 6E (Somis Community Plan Draft)

Expressed concern regarding preservation of Somis history and its rural character. Opposed potential overdevelopment related to the Somis Ranch project, citing impacts to water resources and future growth pressures. Questioned why the Draft Community Plan was placed on the Consent Agenda rather than for deeper discussion.

County Response – Israel Rodriguez, Field Representative:

Clarified that a Community Plan is a non-binding document designed to capture resident priorities for the Supervisor, while an Area Plan is an official county planning document requiring years of review and adoption. The Community Plan does not authorize development.

Mike Fassel

Requested the opportunity to participate in a future Water Works District 19 system tour to better understand district operations.

Lyn MacEwen Cohen

Asked about the status of new agricultural development between Bradley Road and Orchard Road, described as very large on scale. Sought clarification on the intent and long-term goals of the project.

Carol Jackson

I inquired about the reopening timeline for Balcom Canyon Road and whether the official cause of the Mountain Fire has been determined.

Mike Moacanin

Shared comments expressing general concerns about growth and development in Somis. No specific action requests were made.

8. Office of Ventura County Supervisor Jeff Gorell’s Comments

Supervisor Gorell submitted formal correspondence to the State of California encouraging leniency in enforcement of the upcoming Zone Zero Ordinance. The Ventura County Board of Supervisors approved forwarding the letter for state consideration.

9. Council Comments

Krista Nowak stated she is actively engaged in the Community Plan process and reiterated the goal of maintaining Somis's rural character.

REGULAR AGENDA

10. Update – AGRX Property Acquisition

Presenter: Charles Sandlin

Provided an update regarding the AGRX property on Somis Road.

- No changes planned to the existing building structure.
- Proposal for controlled vehicle and equipment storage behind Patty’s Farm, including farm equipment, RVs, and boats.

Public Questions & Responses

Q: Will the facility be multi-level?

A: No — single-level to protect the rural aesthetic.

Q: What about cleanup of the railroad fencing with trash and graffiti?

A: Responsibility rests with the railroad; cleanup is desired but complicated.

Q: Will stored vehicles and equipment be visible from the road?

A: No — screened from view.

Q: How many storage spaces are proposed?

A: 27 vehicle storage spaces.

Q: Is this a public storage facility?

A: Yes.

Q: Could an artistic “Welcome to Somis” sign be added?

A: Sandlin expressed openness to community-based artistic enhancements.

11. Public Works Update – Water Works District 19

Presenter: Jeff Palmer

- District north of Los Angeles Avenue; separated from PVMWC in the 1980s.
- Operating costs are elevated due to long main pipelines and limited-service connections.
- Primary water source: local aquifer with supplemental purchases from Calleguas.
- High mineral content prompting state-mandated removal of iron and manganese by July 2026.

Public Discussion

Greg Strakaluse and several residents questioned the district’s budget deficits. Tyler Cobb criticized past bureaucratic stagnation that kept rates unchanged, creating current fiscal pressure. He warned that rates may potentially triple to stabilize the district.

Concerns were raised about water strain from new apartment developments, and Palmer clarified that any newly approved development must fully pay all infrastructure costs.

12. Caltrans Projects – State Routes 34 & 118

Multiple Caltrans representatives provided updates.

Key Projects

- Oversight of Ventura County’s CA-34 widening project.
- Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Facility on Highway 118 (delayed).
- Pavement rehabilitation projects on Highway 118 and US-126 interchange.
- Slope stabilization through new bridge construction and rockfall mitigation.

Public Questions

- Confirmation that construction on Highway 118 will primarily occur at night.
- Significant resident concern regarding unsafe truck maneuvers, including travel on the wrong side of the road and illegal turnarounds.
- Requests for stricter enforcement and contractor safety accountability were noted.

CLOSING

13. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 PM.

Next Meeting:

January 29, 2026

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