



## EMPIRE MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

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### Members:

Christopher Nunes, Chair  
Dorothy Roberts, Secretary  
Fabian Tamayo, Vice-Chair

### MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, June 22, 2022 @ 6 PM

Empire Community Library, 98 I street, Empire, CA 95319 - Community Room.

Present: Christopher Nunes, Fabian Tamayo, and Dorothy Roberts

1. Meeting was called to order at 6:02 PM by Chair Nunes.
2. The pledge of allegiance was recited by all in attendance.  
*Community Manager, Erica Inacio, offered translation for non-English speakers.*
3. Chair Nunes welcomed the public and MAC members introduced themselves.
4. April 27<sup>th</sup> Meeting Minutes were unanimously approved.
5. Public Comment
  - Juan Alanis, Sgt. With Stanislaus County Sheriff's Office, shared he is running for State Assembly, District 22.
  - Claudia Manzo congratulated Erica Inacio for her nomination as Citizen of the Year for Love Stanislaus, along with Maria Jackson for winning School Classified Employee of the Year.
  - Rafael Rodriguez brought to the attention the MID poles located in the center of sidewalks, obstructing individuals from using the sidewalks and not been wheelchair or walker compliant. Erica Inacio clarified that these are utility poles. There is consideration to add cement around the poles to provide access to wheelchairs and walkers. Public Works does have this project on their list.
  - Heather Walton asked if CalTrans has made progress or release surveys on the intersections in Empire, including the intersections at by the post office, the gas station, and Santa Fe and Yosemite. Concerns about some lights being out on Abbie Street were also brought up.
  - Stars pilot program is available in the Library Substation on Wednesday and Saturday from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
6. Community Reports
  - Public Safety:
    - i. Stanislaus County Sheriff's Office
      - Deputy Austin Davis reported 120 calls, with most of those calls being miscellaneous. They made 7 warrant arrests and arrested an arson

suspect on 3rd street. He reminded the community to lock all doors as break ins and assaults have been on a rise. Deputy Davis addressed the concerns for illegal fireworks and stated he was unsure of the fines/ticket cost. He let the community know that if illegal fireworks are going off and the police show up, if the responsible party is not there the property owners could be ticketed.

ii. California Highway Patrol

- Officer Moore reported 2 non injury vehicle vs vehicle accidents, 1 non-injury hit and run accident, 2 vehicle vs vehicle minor injury accidents, 3 abandoned vehicles, and one stolen Ford Ranger on Church Street.

iii. Stanislaus Consolidated Fire

- Juan Alanis, reporting for Consolidated Fire, shared 4th of July tips such as keeping grass cut low, using safe fireworks, using the hose and soaking fireworks overnight before discarding them.

• Local Government:

i. Board of Supervisors –Channce Condit

- Russell Fowler reporting for Supervisor Channce Condit reminded the community about Empire Clean- up day on Saturday the 25th from 7-1. He went through the list of things not accepted such as tires, freon, hazmat items, and liquid. He is hopeful that we can have clean up days 1 to 2 times a year. The community brought up a free shredding and an e-waste event (which is separate from cleanup). He said he would bring that to Supervisor Condit's attention. There were questions brought up about the new three can garbage system implemented in Empire. Homeowners in Empire felt discriminated against as they were forced into the 3 can system while apartments were not. They were directed to contact their service provider. Russell also noted how proud he and Supervisor Condit are of Empire and their role in Love Stanislaus.

ii. Chief Executive Office

- Erica Inacio, Community Manager, stated there was an ARPA workshop on June 20th. They have received and are gathering data for presentation to the Board of Supervisors. A presentation will be scheduled to present the findings to the Board of Supervisors. The MAC will receive meeting information as soon as it's confirmed.

• School District

- Claudia Manzo, Principal of Empire Elementary, provided information on the summer meals in Empire on the 29th and stayed for 5 minutes as they have many sites to attend throughout the day. Food distribution will continue the 1st and 3rd Friday of every month from 10-11am. Claudia also thanked all the volunteers who helped serve over 200 families and is hoping to expand that to 300 families. She also stated that if you would like to volunteer, to be at the school at 8:30am and stay until 11am.

• Library

- Diane Ramirez, Library Assistant, shared that the magician at the Library sites were very successful. She also mentioned the Art projects starting

Thursday at 3:00. There will be a meeting July 9th at the library from 10 - 2 regarding transportation means of unincorporated communities, Bystrom and Empire.

7. Informational Items – None.
8. Action Items - None.
9. Council Comments & Recommendations for Future Agenda Items
  - Member Tamayo thanked all in attendance.
  - Member Roberts asked individuals in attendance that if they'd like to be added to the email distribution list, to please provide their email on the sign in sheet.
  - Community Manager, Erica Inacio, reminded all those present that Elections are scheduled for November and if anyone is interested in being a MAC member, to please contact the Elections Office.

10. Adjournment: 6:52 pm

Next Regular Meeting – July 27, 2022, at 6:00 PM.