



Empire Municipal Advisory Council

General Contact Information:

P.O. Box 1427

Empire, CA 95319

Email: StanEmpireMAC@gmail.com

www.StanCountyMACs.com

Members:

Kevin Oliver- President

April Towe- Vice President

Hannah Holden- Secretary

Rafael Rodriguez-Member

Kinzle Tumelson- Member

MINUTES

Wednesday, June 24, 2026 @ 6 PM

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance- Meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM
2. Welcome and Roll Call: Hannah Holden, April Towe, Rafael Rodriguez, and Kevin Oliver were present.
 - a. Kinzle Tumelson was absent
3. Approval of minutes for March 25, 2026- motion was made and carried forward for approval
4. Public Comment- National Night Out will be in August
5. Monthly Reports
 - a. Stanislaus County Sheriff's Office- Deputy Navarro reported that there was not much to report in the area. Deputy Silva was introduced as the newest member of the Community Resource Unit. A community member asked if there would be a dedicated line for fireworks and expressed concern over the large amount of illegal fireworks discharged in the Empire area. The deputy encouraged the community to use the non-emergency line for the Sheriff's Department.
 - b. California Highway Patrol- Jennifer Hidalgo reported on behalf of Detective Norseen. In the last 6 months, there were 6 property damage calls, 1 injury traffic crash, and 3 minor injury traffic crashes. A community member mentioned seeing the new Camaro and "Barney" CHP vehicles. Another community member expressed concern over not seeing CHP as much. It was advised that if the community is having issues needing CHP, they should call to report. Resources are allocated based on need, and calls help identify the needs of the communities CHP covers.
 - c. Assemblymember Juan Alanis, 22nd District- Bill 2085 is waiting for the Governor's signature. This bill would ensure that commercial weighing devices have visibility so that both parties of the transaction can see what is displayed. There are 11 other bills advancing through the legislative process. Any questions, call (209) 521-2201
 - d. Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors / Chief Executive Office- The PAL's program will be at the Empire Park on Fridays from 10 am to 3 pm, hosting a free kids event with games and activities. The Dept. of Child Support Services has an event on August 1st at MJC where they will be handing out free backpacks and school supplies. They are also taking donations.
 - e. Stanislaus County Public Works- regular maintenance is currently being done, such as chip seal and overlay. A community member brought up concerns about Church St improvements. Mentioning that a house near the church has flooding issues and they would like that to be looked at before work is started.



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- f. Stanislaus County Mobile Crisis Response Team- reminded the community that they are a 24/7 mobile crisis response team for mental health issues. They had 142 calls for service, with 16 resulting in hospitalizations. They can be reached by calling 911 or (888) 376-6246
 - g. Empire Public Library- The library is currently hosting a reading challenge for all ages. Winners get tickets for prizes. Interested people can sign up on the Bean Stack app.
 - h. Other Community Representative Reports- Stanislaus Consolidated Fire Station 22 reported that they have run 137 calls for service in the last month while maintaining staffing at 87%. They partnered with Modesto Fire to clean up overgrowth along the river and at Beard Park. Life jackets are available at the Empire and Waterford stations. There have been 2 drownings in the area that could have been avoided with the use of a life jacket.
6. Information Item(s)
- a. Presentation by the Department of Planning and Community Development on SB1000 General Plan Update and Request for Survey Responses for Input on Community Health-related and Environmental Justice Concerns. SB 1000 was passed in 2016, and it required cities and counties to identify disadvantaged communities and collect data on access to healthy activities, hazardous waste clean-up, asthma rates, rental costs, and fresh food. The general plan will be used to identify the county's future regarding these issues. The goal is to improve community health. The community was encouraged to use the provided QR code to fill out a survey of their thoughts and concerns.
 - b. Presentation on the five-year Short Range Transit Plan (SRTP)- Stanislaus Regional Transit Authority (StanRTA)- Angela Swanson, the senior transit analyst for the Stanislaus Regional Transit Authority, gave a rundown of the potential restructuring of routes in the area. The department is having funding issues and needs to make adjustments to compensate. The department currently has 27 routes. They are looking at cutting 7 of the routes and consolidating the remainder in various ways. Bus stops may be spread apart a little further, and frequencies may be a little longer. Bus route #24 from Abbie to Riverbank is looking at possible removal due to lack of riders.
7. Correspondence- Received the bill for PO Box, email from Innovation Campus regarding a development of the circular bio economy and emerging industry that uses agricultural waste and organic residues within our industry.
8. Council Comments and Suggestions for Future Agendas- BEAM Circular Innovation Campus presentation
9. Adjournment- the meeting was adjourned at 7:04 pm