



SOUTH MODESTO MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

P.O. Box 1302, Ceres, CA 95307

*Rebecca Harrington, Chair
Maria Madrigal, Vice-Chair
Silvia Camarillo, Secretary
Alvaro Ramirez, Member
Martha Villasenor, Member*

**Thursday, April 13, 2023 Meeting Minutes
Stanislaus County Ag Center Building
Harvest Hall (Room G)
3800 Cornucopia Way, Modesto, CA**

- I. Call Meeting to Order
Meeting was called to order at 6:14pm by Chair, Rebecca Harrington.
- II. Recording Secretary establishing Quorum by roll call. Members present are marked with an "X".

X Rebecca Harrington	X Alvaro Ramirez
Maria Madrigal (excused absence)	X Martha Villaseñor
X Silvia Camarillo	
- III. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag led by Russell Fowler (Field Rep for Supervisor Chance Condit)
- IV. Approval of Minutes for March 9, 2023
Motion by member, Alvaro Ramirez, to approve minutes from March 9, 2023, with the following correction. Item V. first bullet point to read sidewalks added on Sonora Ave. from... Second by member, Martha Villaseñor, all in favor.
- V. District 4 – Supervisor Mani Grewal
 - Clean up at North Ceres area is set for Saturday, April 15th, from 9am to 1pm. Three bins have been set aside for the cleanup. Had to stay under \$5,000 to avoid having to go before the Board of Supervisors for approval and to have it done ASAP. It's been a team effort with several entities helping out. Tuolumne Principal has played key role, Board of Supervisors and MAC council.
 - Update on Mancini Park. Has spoken with City of Modesto and City of Ceres on why this park was left out of funding. One major reason is that this park is double the size compared to the number of residents. Met with Parks Director and was informed that \$24,000 have come in yearly form the cell tower over the past 10 years, which is about \$240,000. They have about \$450,000 set aside for the improvements of the park with a portion coming from the Insurance money not being used to rebuild Legion Hall. He has a call tomorrow to find out how these funds will be used i.e. Walkway, games, bathrooms etc. Working on getting community participation to do portions of the work to offset salary costs. Comment: Chair, Rebecca Harrington, shared with residents additional funds that have been set aside for the park. TID donated \$5,000, she has this commitment in an email. Universal Recycling donated \$2,000.
 - Working on the extra block or so of sidewalk that is still needed on Sonora Ave.
 - Is aware of the many many potholes in the area. It's not just South Modesto, so continue to report them.

VI. District 5 – Supervisor Channce Condit

- Reached about 900 signatures for the infrastructure improvements petition and will be giving them to Senator Alvarado-Gil who is scheduled to be at one of the Parklawn resident's home located at 1575 Eureka then they'll head to Parklawn Park.
- Comment: Secretary, Silvia Camarillo, asked if the deadline for the petition had been shortened. Russell clarified that due to the Senator wanting to visit the area, it was moved.

VII. Community Reports (5 Minute Maximum)

A) California Highway Patrol- None present

B) Stanislaus Sheriff's Department – Deputy Topete

Stats; rec'd about 500 service calls of which 200 were considered minor offenses.

Comment: Resident, Bertha Andrade, there needs to be more law enforcement visibility at Herndon and Joyce, specifically at the 7-11 store. There are a lot of transients doing inappropriate activity.

Comment: Member, Martha Villasenor, there was a shooting Easter Sunday in Parklawn and only saw a helicopter, but no vehicle law officers. By the time the officers arrived the shooters had left. Officer Topete, clarified that an officer will always wait for back up before approaching a dangerous situation and that could easily be a reason for the delay in response.

C) Assemblyman, District 22 – Juan Alanis, Representative Michelle Finch spoke on his behalf.

- Assemblyman Alanis has put out about 20 Bills thus far and co-authored many more. 4 of those 20 are on their which is unheard of for a new person coming into office. Co-authored AB 912.
- Working with Senator Alvarado-Gil on Bill to decriminalize cruising, legalize low riders. Comment: Chair, Rebecca Harrington, voiced her opposition for such bill. This bill would only add to the current problems. Rep. Finch clarified that there will be restrictions.
- There's also a Bill on sideshows being worked on.

D) Stanislaus County Chief Executive Office – None present

E) Other community representative reports

Field Representative Christian Santos for Congressman, John Duarte.

- Congressman Duarte is a member of the Agricultural, Natural Resources, Transportation and Infrastructure committees to name a couple.
- His district covers West Modesto to Turlock, all of Ceres, all of West Stanislaus.
- Has secured \$1 Million for fire fighter education at MJC.
- Wrote a letter of support for Metavan-Stanislaus Regional transit to have \$15 rides to Bay Area Hospitals.
- Will be hosting the visit of representatives from Washington DC to Tulare County to see the water resources.
- Working on HRI which deals with lower energy cost act to reform oil and gas exploitation. His office is located in Turlock, has Spanish speaking employees and can also assist with Passport & Immigration issues.

- VIII. Public Comments – Pertaining to Items Not on the Agenda (3 Minute Maximum)
- Resident, Bertha Andrade, lives on Nadine Ave and wanted to thank those involved in the cleanup that’s taking place this Saturday, but she won’t be able to help this time.
- IX. Informational Items – None
- X. Action Items - None
- XI. Special Order of Business/Updates/Announcements
- Chair, Rebecca Harrington, made invitation for free event taking place on May 12th downtown “Music in the Plaza”. Perez Band will be playing from 7pm-9pm. Starts at 5pm with vendors, food, and music.
- XII. Council Comments/Issues/Topics for Next Agenda
Member, Martha Villasenor, wants to have PAL for Youth programs
- Secretary, Silvia Camarillo, thanked all the Representatives for coming to the meetings. Makes all the difference in the community feeling that our Representative care about the residents in their Districts.
- Chair, Rebecca Harrington, echoed the sentiment.
- XIII. Adjournment: 7:33pm, Next Regular Meeting, May 11, 2023.