

BLOOMINGTON MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL (MAC)

The mission of the Bloomington Municipal Advisory Council is to engage the community and advise the County to solve problems, create solutions, and set a course for the future of Bloomington.

MINUTES

Wednesday, September 06, 2023, at 6:00 pm

The Bloomington MAC will hold meetings pursuant to the provisions of the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20 dated March 17, 2020, which suspends certain requirements of the Ralph M. Brown act. Members of the public may participate electronically in the meetings.

(1) In-person meeting will be held at the Ayala Park Community Center, 17909 Marygold Ave, Bloomington, CA 92316. Masks are optional for the entirety of the meeting.

(2) To participate via video, visit here: <https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLqCYbka4xnj198pxKAn3-ga88SWeui3tO>

(3) In lieu of making a comment in person, you may submit your comments via email to supervisor.baca@bos.sbcounty.gov. Your comments will be read into the record at the meeting.

1. CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. ROLE CALL OF MAC MEMBERS

Gary Grossich- Present	Stephanie Santoyo-Not Present	Ana Paredes- Not Present
Angela McClain- Present	Dianne Méndez- Present	Teresa Escoto- Present

3. AGENCY STAFF REPORTS

a) Supervisor Joe Baca, Jr.'s Office

- i. Fire Station Property Acquisition: Discussion was held regarding the acquisition of properties in the Bloomington area around the 10 freeway for the fire station. The location of the fire station was deliberate, with the possibility of it being on either side of the 10 freeway. It was noted that the specific location is yet to be identified.
- ii. Kessler Park Construction: Members were informed that the Kessler Park construction was scheduled to commence earlier and is expected to be completed in October 2023.
- iii. Animal Shelter Updates: The announcement of the upcoming new shelter was highlighted, with a "Coming Soon" sign to be put up. The plan to create a mobile vet unit for the shelter was discussed. It was mentioned that sign installation and billing would take place on September 20 at 10 AM.
- iv. Cedar Interchange Project: The progress of the Cedar Interchange project was mentioned, stating that it is still moving forward. - Completion of the project was projected to be in February 2025. SBCTA was identified as the lead agency for the project, and any updates would come from their office.
- v. New Street Lights Installation: Eight new streetlights were mentioned, with five to be installed, five on Otilla and three on Manila. The contract for the installation was expected to be issued in November. Construction was planned to begin and be completed by March 2024.
- vi. Bloomington High School Netting Check Presentation: Attendees were invited to the netting check presentation at Bloomington High School, scheduled for tomorrow at 5:30 PM.
- vii. Agenda Updates: The agenda now includes important contact numbers, along with upcoming meeting dates, events, and social media channels.
- viii. Bob from Bloomington Roadwork Improvements mentioned that during the previous month's meeting, they shared the timeline, and there have been no changes since then.
- ix. Work is currently underway at the site, specifically on Locust between Eighth and 11th and Jurupa on the west side. He emphasized that the ongoing work is not impacting the road or the residents.
- x. Attendees were informed that the project team has started some prep work on Locust. However, he reassured everyone that these activities have no effect on the residences or the road.

b) State Legislative Update

Armando Martinez, District Representative Office of Rosilicie Ochoa Bogh

- i. Provided an update on the current legislative activities and urged the community to take action. There are several controversial bills under consideration that could have a significant impact on education and the community. - It is crucial for community members to voice their concerns and opinions regarding these bills.

c) Code Enforcement

Guillermo Morales, Code Enforcement Supervisor

- i. Three methods of contact are provided: calling the customer service hotline at 909-884-4056, emailing the code enforcement division at LUS.sbcounty.gov, or visiting the SP Code Reporter website. The SP Code Reporter website can be found through a Google search for "SP Code Reporter."
- ii. Highlights their proactive approach to addressing graffiti in the Bloomington community with the help of a graffiti contractor.
- iii. The speaker mentions a code enforcement officer dedicated to Bloomington who patrols the area daily and collaborates with the sheriff's department to address any concerns raised by the community or brought to their attention. - Alongside regular code enforcement responsibilities, the officer is committed to addressing Bloomington-specific cases

- iv. Speaker mentioned in the event animal carcasses are found to contact animal control. If you do not have the contact Code Enforcement will contact them. To mitigate this issue of animal dumping it has been suggested to have Sheriffs possibly patrol the area.
- d) Colton Joint Unified School District
- e) County Fire Department
Battalion Chief, Mike Westfall
 - i. The Bloomington fire station has been busy with regular operations and no significant emergencies reported in the past month, averaging 200-250 calls for service.
 - ii. Chief Westfall warns residents about the start of Southern California's wildfire season due to the Santa Ana winds typically experienced in late September, October, and November. He emphasizes the importance of maintaining yards by removing tall weeds and debris piles, as these can contribute to the rapid spread of fires during high winds.
 - iii. Chief Westfall addresses the Cedar Overpass work, which has resulted in reduced travel speeds due to traffic and lane reductions. To address potential challenges for the fire station located on the north side of the freeway, a computer dispatch and GPS satellite data has recommended a reduced speed limit for fire engine response. As a result, Station 77 on Slover and Tamarind will now cover most of the southern part of Bloomington, ensuring efficient response times. The Sierra Overpass has been impacted as residents choose to use it instead, leading to increased responsibility for Bloomington Fire Station in covering the west side.
- f) Sheriff Department
Sargent Reese, Deputy Triguero, and Deputy Parraza
 - i. Sargent Reese focuses on two ongoing investigations in Bloomington. The first incident occurred on Saturday, August 25, at 12:38 AM at the brand-new Arco gas station on Santa Ana and Cedar. A frantic clerk called 911 to report being robbed at gunpoint by two individuals, with one clerk being pistol-whipped. Law enforcement is actively working on identifying and apprehending the responsible parties. Surveillance video footage has been collected, and numerous interviews have been conducted to gather evidence. It is emphasized that the investigation will continue until the culprits are identified and brought to justice.
 - ii. The second incident took place at the new Chevron gas station on Slover and Cedar, involving individuals using fraudulent bills and driving a stolen car. Through surveillance video quality and witness statements, the responsible individuals have been tracked down and apprehended. They are currently detained at the Central Detention Center in San Bernardino, and gang investigators are interviewing them.
 - iii. Deputy Triguero highlights the current situation at Bloomington High School regarding the prevalence of vaping among students.
 - iv. The school administration is actively addressing the issue by implementing safety measures.
 - v. Unfortunately, there was a case where a vape pen was laced with Fentanyl which resulted in a 3 day hospitalization of a student, whom has since returned to school.
 - vi. Deputy Triguero encourages collaboration with parents, teachers, and students to tackle the issue collectively. Open communication channels are being established to ensure that concerns and information can be shared effectively.
 - vii. Students who may be struggling with addiction or have concerns about vaping-related issues are encouraged to seek support from the school's counselors. Parents are also urged to engage in conversations with their children about the dangers of vaping and to provide guidance and support.
 - viii. Deputy Tray has reported an increase in runaway juveniles, particularly from court-ordered group homes, who are running away and getting involved in drug and sex-related activities.
 - ix. Erlinda Rogers, the sheriff department's crime prevention program coordinator, announces an upcoming event called "THAT" which stands to raise awareness about human trafficking. The event will be split into separate days for girls (October 14th) and boys (October 21st) and aims to educate parents and teenagers about human trafficking and provide them with tools to navigate the digital era.
- g) Special District
Aaron
 - i. Groundbreaking at Kessler Park was a significant milestone for Bloomington and a great day for park users. Construction is progressing rapidly and is currently on schedule. The Corridor project, which will enhance the entire park, is set to begin in a couple of weeks.
 - ii. Temporary bathrooms will be installed to ensure the park remains open for public use, including little league and soccer programs.
 - iii. The upcoming months may present challenges in terms of parking and bathrooms, but our dedicated staff is committed to making the best of the situation.
 - iv. The Senior Nutrition Program has experienced remarkable growth and success. September 1st a record-breaking 72 meals were served, accompanied by live music, creating a vibrant atmosphere.
 - v. To further expand the program, a breakfast program has been implemented on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 am to 10 am, which has been well-received.
 - vi. Lunch is still served three times a week.
 - vii. The electric vehicle charge stations are not yet operational, but they will be up and running soon, providing convenient access for those in need of charging.
 - viii. Sign-ups are currently open for coed softball on Friday nights, and the soccer program will commence Saturday September 9th.
 - ix. A new cheerleading class has been introduced and is flourishing alongside the popular dance classes.
 - x. Sign-ups are also available for the flag football program.
 - xi. Two new programs are being launched: Googles and Goodies, a baking class where children can create special Halloween treats, and an art class with a Halloween theme.
 - xii. The month will conclude with the trunk or treat event on Saturday, October 28, which promises to be a fantastic occasion.

h) West Valley Water District

West Valley Water District President, Greg Young

- i. The Bloomington area relies heavily on groundwater for its water supply. Therefore, continuous wet years are needed to replenish the groundwater aquifers.
- ii. Artificial recharge is employed to manage water supply during droughts. The Rialto Colton basin is a primary water source for Bloomington. Negotiations have been ongoing with the county to use four basins around Cactus Avenue and Baseline for water recharge.
- iii. An agreement was reached for the Bunker Hill basin, but disputes within the flood control department have hindered progress for the Rialto Colton basin.
- iv. The Groundwater Council, comprising various agencies, will be submitting a letter to the Board of Supervisors requesting their support in resolving the issues surrounding the Rialto Colton basin.
- v. The agreement is crucial for the long-term sustainability of water resources in Bloomington.
- vi. Continued support and involvement from Supervisor Baca's office has been requested.

4. INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION

a) West Coast Cold Storage- Cole Hatt

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes were approved.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment was given.

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Old Business
- New Business
 - Gary would like to see the MAC members as alternative alternate member at Code Enforcement Committee Meetings.
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8. COMMUNITY EVENTS

- October 28th SB Riders
- October 28th Ayala Park Trunk or Treat
- October 31st Olive Branch is hosting their Annual Trunk or Treat
- First week of October Fall Ball starts and ends in November.

9. MAC MEMBERS REPORTS

- Diane Mendez opened the floor to the MAC Members to give their opinions on what is taking place in Bloomington. She stated that her role is to listen to the community and facilitate any comments or questions.
- Angela McClain expressed her discomfort with the warehouses and truck stops in Bloomington.
- Teresa Escoto expressed disappointment in the fact more residents were not present at the MAC meeting. Encouraged community to spread the word. She also explained her love for Bloomington and how she will always look out for Bloomington's best interest. Lastly, though she thinks the warehouse is a good a good project she thinks it is in an area not so favorable to Bloomington.
- Gary Grossich announced AQMD Community Meeting on September 21^s to discuss the impacts of rail yards at Colton High School. Gary gave background on development in Bloomington. He also spoke about 90% of the truck traffic going through Bloomington is not Bloomington's. He explained the community cannot afford another industrial facility on Cedar. Gary second Teresa Escoto on the project is a quality project, it's just not a good location.

10. ADJOURN MEETING

Meeting adjourned 9:25 pm

NEXT BOARD MEETING: October 04, 2023, at 6:00 pm

All Board materials can be found at the San Bernardino County 5th District Website: <https://www.sbcounty.gov/baca>