

McKinleyville Municipal Advisory Committee
In person at Azalea Hall, 1620 Pickett Road, McKinleyville
and ZOOM PLATFORM - ONLINE MEETING
August 27, 2025 6:00 pm

MINUTES

1. Call to Order: Roll call Attendance, Acknowledgement of Indigenous Lands, Flag Salute, MMAC Meeting Agreements:

Members Present: Mary Burke, Maya Conrad, Lisa Dugan, Kevin Jenkins, Pat Kaspari,
Twila Sanchez, Bonnie Oliver

Members Absent: Scott Binder

2. 3. Additions and Changes to the Agenda:

Humboldt County Building and Planning Director John Ford requested that Agenda Items 7.a and 7.b be continued to a future meeting. Twila Sanchez asked why the discussion of the August 21 McKinleyville Town Center Ordinance Workshop (Item 7.a) could not happen at this meeting. It was moved and seconded (Kevin Jenkins / Maya Conrad) that Agenda Items 7.a and 7.b be continued to a future meeting.

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mary Burke, Maya Conrad, Kevin Jenkins, Pat Kaspari, Bonnie Oliver.

No: Twila Sanchez Abstention: Lisa Dugan

MOTION APPROVED

3. Approval of the Agenda:

It was moved and seconded (Lisa Dugan / Kevin Jenkins) to approve the Agenda with the change noted above.

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mary Burke, Maya Conrad, Lisa Dugan, Kevin Jenkins, Pat Kaspari, Twila Sanchez,
Bonnie Oliver.

No: None Abstention: None

MOTION APPROVED

4. Review and Approve Minutes: June 25, 2025

The Draft Minutes of the July 30, 2025 Special MMAC Meeting were reviewed. Agenda Item 7.a was revised to indicate that Lisa Dugan recused herself from the meeting for this discussion and was not present in the meeting space. Her name was also removed from the list of “Yes” votes for the two motions passed during the discussion on Item 7.a. Item 7.d.ii mistakenly had a description of a subcommittee report from an earlier MMAC meeting. The Minutes were revised to replace this paragraph with “No report”. It was moved and seconded (Kevin Jenkins / Lisa Dugan) to approve the Minutes as amended.

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mary Burke, Maya Conrad, Lisa Dugan, Kevin Jenkins, Pat Kaspari, Twila Sanchez,
Bonnie Oliver.

No: None

Abstention: None

MOTION APPROVED

5. Community Safety and Information Presentation:

Assistant Chief Ross McDonald of the Arcata Fire District reported that the summer has been a mostly quiet season for fire in the greater McKinleyville area other than the fire adjacent to the McKinleyville Community Forest in July. They are planning to have an Open House at the McKinleyville Fire Station on October 4 (to be verified) as part of their Fire Prevention Week activities. He also highlighted their services that are open to the community including fire extinguisher training, home inspections, business inspections and CPR and First Aid classes.

Jesse Miles of the McKinleyville Chamber of Commerce announced the upcoming Chamber Mega-Mixer which will be held August 28, 2025, 5-7 pm at the Activity Center (gym) at Pierson Park. She also shared that they are taking speaker recommendations for the Chamber's 2026 State of McKinleyville event.

Ann Lindsey announced that "Humboldt Commons" is the new name for the Life Plan Humboldt project and that they are having a Gala Fund Raising Event on Sept. 4 at the Fieldbrook Winery.

Colin Fiske of the Coalition for Responsible Transportation Priorities announced that the National Week for Not Driving is September 29 – October 5 and encouraged community members to consider giving it a try and sign up on their website.

Maya Conrad announced that the McKinleyville Community Forest Advisory Committee has set up a volunteer Trail Stewards program to work on the forest trails on the 2nd Saturday of each month. She also shared that a funding vehicle for accepting tax deductible donations for the Community Forest work has been set up through the Humboldt Area Foundation.

Bonnie Oliver announced a Food for People's Backpacks for Kids program \$10,000 Gift Matching Challenge from former McKinleyville Union School District teacher and administrator Anne Hartline.

Kevin Jenkins announced Mad River Rotary Youth Exchange events in McKinleyville including a Golf Tournament at Beau Pre on Sept. 5 and an informational meeting at McKinleyville High School on Sept. 17.

5th District Supervisor Steve Madrone announced that there will be 3 openings on the MMAC after October 2025 and encouraged interested community members to submit an application to serve (including a contact email). He also shared that the road chip sealing project on Heartwood Avenue was being paid for by the subdivision property owners, not through Measure O Funds.

6. Public Comment on items not on the Agenda:

Elaine Johnson requested more MMAC outreach to the community on noticing / advertising our meetings and recommended using the "Next Door" social media app and to MCSD quarterly newsletters to announce MMAC meeting dates.

7. Discussion / Information / Action Items

- a. Discussion of the Planning Commission's August 21 McKinleyville Town Center Workshop:** Continued to a future meeting.

b. Presentation (continued) on MMAC Consideration of the Town Center Ordinance and Final Environmental Impact Report: Continued to a future meeting.

c. Discussion of MMAC 2025 Calendar of Meetings and Joint Meeting Proposal by MCSD for October 22, 2025:

Pat Kaspari reported that the MCSD Board of Directors discussed plans for the upcoming meeting with the MMAC and proposed that the joint meeting take place on the October 22, 2025 Regular MMAC Meeting date. Their top recommendation for a focus topic for this meeting is Emergency Preparedness, Response and Recovery. Maya Conrad recommended that we invite a panel of speakers with expertise in these areas to speak and answer questions. Some suggested speakers are: Sheriff Honsal, Deputy Willoughby (who works with Search and Rescue for HCSO), Cliff VanCott of HC CERT Coalition, Arcata Fire, Lori Dengler (expert in earthquake and tsunami hazard reduction, retired Cal Poly Humboldt professor). Community member and HC Planning Commissioner Peggy O’Neal recommended that “Safe Routes to School” and school safety protocols in emergency situations would also be good topics for community discussion. Community member Bonnie MacGregor recommended that the discussion should include how new Town Center development would affect our emergency preparedness planning. MMAC members supported the MCSD proposal for the joint meeting and stressed that it was important to get the word out about this event to the community. Mary Burke, Pat Kaspari and Maya Conrad will work on this.

d. Discussion about McKinleyville Middle School and High School student engagement with MMAC:

Jim Ritter, retired McKinleyville and Arcata High School educator, answered questions and encouraged the MMAC to continue to work toward involving local high school students in MMAC’s meetings, possibly through a student representative to the MMAC. MMAC members discussed how our Rules, Regulations and Procedures would have to be amended to add a student representative, but that it certainly could be done. Also discussed was whether the student would be a voting member of the MMAC, should middle school students be considered, and what the process should be for appointing a student representative. Other ways to bring the youth voice and perspective to the MMAC were discussed including possibly holding a MMAC meeting at McKinleyville High School in the spring and consulting the NHUHSD Board of Trustees about how they involve student members on their Board. Kevin Jenkins and Mary Burke will work on setting up a meeting with District Superintendent Roger Macdonald to discuss the issue and report back to the MMAC.

e. Subcommittee Reports:

i. Committee for Active Transportation (CAT):

Bonnie Oliver reported that the committee met on August 4 with discussion focused on the Hiller Road Quick-Build Mural Art project. She updated the MMAC on the County Public Works estimated schedule for installation of their Quick-Build infrastructure installation for protected bike and pedestrian lanes and the round-about at Hiller Road and McKinleyville Ave. (2nd or 3rd week of September). She also gave

an update on their efforts to secure funding for the street mural art portion of the project and recruitment of mural artists to design and coordinate the art installations. Committee member Megan Blumenstein shared that there has been a lot of support from interested artists and local business sponsors. Kevin Jenkins expressed concern related to possible wet weather during the painting process and the longevity of the murals.

ii. Incorporation Exploration (MIESC):

Lisa Dugan reported that subcommittee is still looking for some community members to join their committee. They are looking forward to the consulting Planners visit on September 17, 2025 which will include a tour of McKinleyville, lunch at Six Rivers Brewery and meeting with MIESC and the public from 4-6 pm at the MCSD Conference Room. They are still looking into making a video to explain the ideas and questions related to incorporating.

iii. 4 x 4: No meeting / report.

8. Committee General Comments & Event Announcements:

MMAC is signed up to table at the McKinleyville Chamber of Commerce Mega Mixer on August 28 and Mary Burke, Twila Sanchez, Bonnie Oliver and Lisa Dugan will attend.

9. Next Meeting: Our next meeting will be a Special Meeting on September 10, 2025, 6:00 pm, at Azalea Hall, 1620 Pickett Road, McKinleyville.

10. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Bonnie Oliver