



# MINUTES

## Meeting of the Safety Advisory Committee (SAC)

**Date: April 23, 2026**

**Time: 1:30 PM**

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| <b>CITY OF SCOTTS VALLEY</b><br>1 Civic Center Drive<br>Scotts Valley, CA 95066<br>(831) 440-5670 | <b>MEETING LOCATION</b><br>City Hall Conference Room<br>1 Civic Center Drive<br>Scotts Valley, CA 95066 | <b>POSTING:</b> Agenda posted on<br>4/21/2026 at City Hall, SV<br>Senior Center, SV Public<br>Works Building, and on the<br>Internet at:<br><a href="http://www.scottsvally.gov">www.scottsvally.gov</a> |
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### CALL TO ORDER 1:30 PM

The SAC meeting was called to order at 1:33 PM by Chief Jayson Rutherford.

| ROLL CALL                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
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| <b>ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT:</b><br>Krista Jett, Council Member<br>Greg Wimp, Council Member | <b>STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:</b><br>Mali LaGoe, City Manager (Present: 2:41PM)<br>Jayson Rutherford, Police Chief<br>Meredith Roberts, Police Lieutenant<br>Rodolfo Onchi, Public Works Director<br>Allison Pfefferkorn, Manager, Parks & Recreation<br>Cerina Locke, Administrative Secretary Analyst |

### PUBLIC COMMENT TIME

**The following dialog took place at the beginning of public comment time:**

Chf. Rutherford read instructions.

#### **Speakers:**

None

### ALTERATIONS TO CONSENT AGENDA

None

### CONSENT AGENDA

None

## REGULAR AGENDA

### 1. **Scotts Valley Drive/Mt. Hermon Road Project Update**

- PWD Onchi discussed the project plans for Mt. Hermon Road and Scotts Valley Drive extending to Victor Square where the road narrows towards Granite Creek. The initiative aims to merge three projects into one to maximize efficiency and budget. Both roadways are primarily commercial corridors that are being upgraded to include more robust pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure.
- PWD Onchi discussed the design features to include:
  - Streets will feature buffers, varying in width (2 to 5 feet), for shared vehicle and bicycle travel.
  - Critical areas, particularly near schools, will have green markings for cyclists' left-turn safety.
  - Introduction of broken bicycle lanes to prevent vehicle encroachment.
  - Depending on location, high visibility crosswalks and new signal equipment will be installed.

#### **Community and Council Involvement:**

- CM Jett inquired about potential changes to speed limits, which PWD Onchi will present to the City Council later.
- PWD Onchi said the emphasis is on maintaining two northbound and two southbound lanes; the addition of protected bicycle lanes, though costly, is aimed at enhancing safety.
- PWD Onchi said future plans include adding raised islands for bicycle lanes, pending community support and consideration of driveway impacts, as highlighted by CM Wimp.

#### **Project Justification and Challenges:**

- **Traffic and Safety:** PWD Onchi said the project addresses increased traffic flow without aiming to slow it down. Improvements are supported by a grant from the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission (SCCRTC).
- **Business Concerns:** Businesses have raised issues about lane narrowness affecting deliveries.
- **Collaboration:** PWD Onchi is coordinating with Caltrans on permitting and other work aspects.
- **Timeline and Communication:** No start date has been set yet; PWD Onchi is liaising with contractors and businesses regarding driveway closures during construction.

#### **Additional Inquiries:**

- CM Jett asked about resurfacing and lane painting.
- PRM Pfefferkorn inquired about directional arrows on bicycle lanes, which PWD Onchi confirmed will be added post-intersection to enhance safety and awareness among cyclists and drivers.

### 2. **Oversized Vehicle Enforcement Review**

### **Police Department's Recommendation**

- Chf. Rutherford reported that the police department advises against implementing an ordinance at this time. The department is currently collecting detailed data on various oversized vehicles, including diesel pusher types, toy hauler trailers, and a boat.

### **Data Collection Efforts**

- The night patrol team is gathering data on registered vehicle owners, complaint frequency, and parking locations in residential areas.
- Chf. Rutherford noted that calls for service, such as dumping gray water, are rare.

### **Street Sweeping and Citations**

- Due to debris issues, Tuesday morning street sweeping has been introduced, resulting in numerous citations and one vehicle tow.

### **Community Engagement and Enforcement**

- The department has increased enforcement efforts in neighborhoods where oversized vehicles are present.
- Community members are encouraged to inform the department of any concerns.
- Patrol teams are inquiring about vehicle owners' duration in the area, their local work status, and potential parking solutions.

### **Future Data Review**

- CM Jett suggested reviewing the current year's data at next year's workshop if oversized vehicles are not deemed a significant issue. Chief Rutherford agreed with this suggestion.

### **Public Relations and Awareness**

- PRM Pfefferkorn highlighted that this ongoing approach enables the police department to collect data and report any increases to the City Council.
- There is an emerging awareness among a core group of oversized vehicle owners regarding the proactive night patrols by the police department.

### **Specific Concerns on Estrella Drive**

- CM Jett inquired about problematic trailers on Estrella Drive. Chief Rutherford confirmed that the department addresses complaints from neighbors.

### **Impact of External Ordinances**

- CM Jett noted Watsonville's recent ordinance and questioned whether it has affected the number of oversized vehicles in Scotts Valley.
- Lt. Roberts confirmed that there has not been an increase in Scotts Valley.

### **Actions**

- The police department will continue data collection on oversized vehicle presence and keeping a running list.
- Monitor the impact of external ordinances on local vehicle counts.
- Plan for a data review at next year's workshop.

## **3. Skypark Tennis Courts – Parking/Vehicle Violation Issues**

### **Complaints and Attendance:**

PRM Pfefferkorn stated the recent Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting addressed complaints regarding pickleball noise and speed violations. Notably, 80 attendees were present, with only 10 being residents; the majority were pickleball players.

**Traffic and Parking Enforcement:**

- Lt. Roberts has instructed patrol staff to enforce traffic regulations and stationed a speed unit trailer in Skypark.
- Stop signs have been installed, and boulders placed to restrict parking in dirt areas.

**Safety Concerns and Suggestions:**

- PRM Pfefferkorn proposed more visible crosswalks to address issues of illegal parking over crosswalks and blocked driveways.
- Chf. Rutherford emphasized the importance of resident reports for immediate action.
- Suggestions included red curbing certain areas and implementing permit parking during specific times.

**Parking Challenges:**

- CM Wimp highlighted the lack of adequate parking, with people parking indiscriminately.
- Discussions on adding parking spaces were held; however, PWD Onchi noted potential costs and implications, including ADA compliance and drainage.

**Future Plans and Community Engagement:**

- PWD Onchi is conducting a Skypark master plan, incorporating community feedback on court usage and recreational activities.
- A possible partnership with a group to integrate parking solutions with Skypark and the Town Center is underway.

**Enforcement and Communication:**

- Chf. Rutherford committed to continued enforcement of parking violations.
- CM Jett emphasized the importance of communicating enforcement efforts to residents.

**Action Items**

- PWD Onchi to assess feasibility and cost of adding additional parking spaces and explore using community benefit funds.

**4. Civic Center Speed Bump Review**

The issue of installing speed bumps on Civic Center Drive was revisited. Chf. Rutherford said, previously, the SV Fire District expressed strong opposition to speed bumps.

● **Concerns Raised:**

- **Vehicle Damage:** Speed bumps could be linked to increased claims against the City due to vehicle damage.
- **Emergency Response Delays:** Speed bumps can delay emergency response due to the large apparatus needing to navigate them.
- **Noise Increase:** Noise levels tend to rise in areas with speed bumps.
- **Safety Issues for Cyclists:** Bicyclists and motorcyclists face risks that can lead to collisions.

● **Alternative Solutions:**

- **Flashing Lights:** Chf. Rutherford mentioned the installation of flashing lights as an alternative mitigation measure.
- **Signage and Feedback:** PWD Onchi suggested using signage as an initial measure and then gathering feedback to assess its effectiveness.
- **Flashing Beacons:** Consideration of flashing beacons instead of speed bumps, particularly at critical crossing points like the end of Linear Trail.

- **Specific Areas Discussed:**
  - **Cathy Lane:** A resident has requested speed bumps near the SV Water District. A comprehensive review of the area is recommended.
  - **Skypark Entrance:** High pedestrian traffic has prompted inquiries about speed management at the main entrance area.
- **Routing Issues:**
  - CM Wimp and CM Jett discussed how drivers are using Cathy Lane and Estrella Drive to bypass Scotts Valley Drive and Mt. Hermon Road, respectively.

The discussion underscored the need for a balanced approach to traffic management, considering both safety and efficiency. Further analysis and community feedback were deemed essential in determining the most effective measures for specific areas in the city.

## 5. Safety Action Plan Reviews

The Safety Action Plan is scheduled to be presented to the City Council on May 6, 2025. The plan incorporates public input and data on incidents to identify accident-prone areas and suggest mitigations.

- **Collaboration:** PWD Onchi is coordinating efforts with Watsonville for a countywide initiative. The first step for grant eligibility requires having an adopted Safety Action Plan.
- **Consultant Involvement:** PWD Onchi is working closely with a consultant, alongside the police department, school district, and Public Works staff, to develop the plan.
- **Study Locations:** Specific areas in the city are designated as study locations to qualify for grants.

## Recommendations and Countermeasures

- **Traffic Improvements:** PWD Onchi suggests the implementation of permissive left turns, installation of new signal poles, and not using a dedicated pedestrian phase that employs pedestrian-only crossing times, which completely halts traffic.
- **Target Intersection:** CM Wimp highlighted the lack of a left turn lane at the Target intersection, leading to unsafe pedestrian crossings. PWD Onchi recommends upgrading signals as a countermeasure.
- **Corridor Improvements:** The plan includes raised pylons for fully protected bicycle lanes and pedestrian paths. Bean Creek Road will feature driveway breaks and protected intersections.

## Problematic Intersections and Solutions

- **Granite Creek, Scotts Valley Drive, and Glenwood Drive Intersection:** This is identified as a major concern. PWD Onchi proposes a one-lane roundabout to manage congestion effectively.
- **Roundabout Design:** Due to the intersection's width, an oval-shaped roundabout is suggested, contingent upon further congestion studies.
- **Caltrans Regulations:** The City is restricted by Caltrans from modifying signal systems, necessitating data-driven solutions.

## Action Items:

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- **Further Studies:** Conduct additional studies on the proposed roundabout design and congestion management.

**Next Meeting:** Oct. 22, 2026.

Lt. Roberts will send out calendar invites with Minutes.

**Future Agenda Items:**

## ADJOURNMENT

**Meeting Adjourned:** 2:44 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cerina Locke, Administrative Secretary Analyst, SVPD