



Meeting Minutes

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY El Sobrante Municipal Advisory Council

Wednesday, September 10, 2025

7:00 PM

El Sobrante Library (4300 Garden Rd. El
Sobrante)

Thomas Lang (Chair), George Cleveland (Vice-Chair), Tom Owens, Dr. Melinda V. McLain, Jim Hermann, Randy Loyd, Mikki Norris, Teri Edlinger, Jedd Hart

Agenda Items: Items may be taken out of order based on the business of the day and preference of the Committee

1. Roll Call and Introductions

00:00:32

Present	George Cleveland, Teri Edlinger, Jedd Hart, Thomas Lang, Randy Loyd, Mikki Norris, and Tom Owens
Absent	James Hermann
Late	Melinda McLain

2. Treasurer's Report

00:01:07

The Treasurer's Report was presented, showing a current balance of \$3,000.

3. Approval of Minutes

[25-3508](#)

Attachments: [8.13.25_esMAC Minutes](#)

00:02:01

The minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed and approved.

This Discussion Item was approved.

Motion:	Cleveland
Second:	Loyd
Aye:	Cleveland, Edlinger, Lang, Loyd, Norris, and Owens
Absent:	Hermann
Late:	McLain
Result:	Passed

4. Presentations

00:03:10

P.1. County Update, Supervisor John Gioia

00:09:26

Supervisor Gioia presented a comprehensive update on Contra Costa County's immigrant protection efforts, highlighting the County's commitment to immigrant rights and public health. He shared information about recent settlements, including \$20 million dedicated to air quality improvements and \$16 million allocated for broader initiatives.

Concerns were raised about the impact of proposed federal budget cuts on programs such as Head Start and Section 8 rental assistance, with an estimated 70,000 residents potentially losing healthcare. Supervisor Gioia also provided updates on the County's policies regarding cooperation with ICE, emphasizing a commitment to non-cooperation. The Council expressed strong support for the Supervisor's efforts and discussed the importance of additional measures, including legislative advocacy, business training, and community education.

Supervisor Gioia outlined current and upcoming homelessness response strategies, including the expansion of shelter beds and modular housing units in North Richmond. The County has also invested in constructing a 45-bed mental health rehabilitation center to address gaps in care. He emphasized a focus on transitional and permanent housing models as long-term solutions to reduce homelessness and encampments.

P.2. Sheriff's Office Bay Station Update, Lt. Fitzgerald

00:04:09

Lieutenant Fitzgerald of the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Office provided an update on public safety. For the month of August, there were 676 service calls, including incidents involving theft, domestic violence, and other serious crimes. The Council briefly discussed differences between petty and grand theft and touched on issues involving uninsured food vendors and code enforcement challenges. Lieutenant Fitzgerald also noted ongoing difficulties with vendors who were cited for violations and became aggressive toward county staff.

P.3. Contra Costa County Fire Protection District Update, Michelle Rinehart

00:41:17

Michelle Reinhart from the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District shared information on upcoming events, including an open house and pancake breakfast. She also provided an update on the East Richmond Heights shaded fuel break project, which includes prescribed burning, mechanical, and manual treatments. Michelle stressed the importance of resident participation in maintaining fuel break zones and preparing for evacuation routes.

*P.4. California Highway Patrol (tentative)**P.5 Re-introduction Presentation, Contra Costa County Public Works, Monish Sen*

5. Discussion Items: DI. Development plan applications, variance reports, building modification requests, appeals etc., received in the previous month from the Contra Costa County Conservation and Development Department and Notices of Public Hearing

*DI.1 - County File Number: CDLP25-02031 (435 VALLEY VIEW RD, EL SOBRANTE, CA 94803)
The applicant requests approval of a land use permit to allow for the renewal of an existing T-Mobile Wireless telecommunications facility previously approved under the currently valid (County File CDLP15-02052 expires: 4/1/2026). No modifications or changes are proposed with this application.*

01:03:12

[25-3509](#)

Attachments: [CDLP25-02031 ACR](#)

DI.2 - (Update) Countywide Noise Ordinance

01:05:46

Ronnie Mills shared that Grant Farrington spoke with the Director of the Department of Conservation and Development at the beginning of the month. According to the update, the department is working on a proposed plan that is expected to be brought before the Board of Supervisors in the coming months, with a tentative timeline targeting October. While the update was brief, it confirmed that progress is ongoing and the process is moving forward.

DI.3 - MAC Recommendation on County Policy for Resident Protection from ICE Cooperation

01:06:43

The Council engaged in a broader conversation about federal ICE policies and their local impacts. Members suggested writing a letter to Supervisor Gioia commending his leadership and recommending additional actions, including support for state legislation requiring ICE officers to display identification and remove face coverings, as well as increasing training and outreach to businesses and immigrant communities. The Council also discussed expanding the "Stand Together Contra Costa" initiative to further assist West County residents.

DI. 4 - Impact of SOS Richmond Service Loss and Potential MAC Response

01:31:35

The Council received an update on the Warm Hands Wellness and Resource Center located at the San Pablo Library. Over the past year, the center has provided 896 showers and 564 loads of laundry, serving approximately 100 individuals per month. The center will soon relocate to the Church of Christ parking lot and continues to take a person-centered approach to support services. Additionally, 8.135 tons of trash have been collected from encampments in the past month, highlighting the significant need for continued sanitation efforts. Challenges with funding were discussed, particularly the City of Richmond's reduction in financial support.

An update was provided on the Pinole Creek Restoration Project, which is offering participants hands-on training in environmental stewardship. The program also supports workforce development by equipping individuals with transferable skills while promoting creek health. The Council discussed funding gaps and the need for sustained investment, recommending that a letter be sent to Supervisor Gioia outlining the unique services offered and the importance of continued financial support.

6. Public comment on any item under the jurisdiction of the Committee and not on this agenda (speakers may be limited to two minutes).

01:54:51

Concerns were raised about a proposed bike trail in Wildcat Canyon, citing potential environmental impacts and increased traffic. There was general concern regarding the lack of transparency and public engagement in the project's planning phase. The Council recommended setting up a meeting with East Bay Regional Park District staff to better understand the environmental review process and provide public input.

Concerns about speeding on Dam Road were raised, with residents describing unsafe driving conditions. The effectiveness of California Highway Patrol (CHP) patrols was noted, though it was acknowledged that staffing limitations may hinder regular enforcement. The Council agreed on the importance of pursuing affordable traffic calming solutions and suggested inviting CHP representatives to future meetings.

Attendees reiterated support for wellness services and housing initiatives. Council members agreed to draft a formal letter to Supervisor Gioia based on the meeting's discussions.

An update was provided on The Good Table, a new community-serving space. Power has been connected, and gas service is expected soon. The project is on track for an October opening. The Council expressed support for continued investment to ensure the space can meet the community's needs for gatherings, events, and meetings.

7. Information Items

Updates were shared on several upcoming community events. The El Sobrante Pride event was announced, with encouragement for local organizations to host informational booths and volunteer. The El Sobrante Stroll was also discussed, featuring vendors, music, and family-friendly activities.

8. Subcommittee Reports – Next Clean Up, September 20, 2025

02:15:04

The Green Team provided updates on cleanup events, including a Coastal Cleanup Day and plans for a themed parade float. Councilmembers emphasized the importance of volunteer participation in making these events successful.

9. Agenda Items / Speakers for Upcoming ESMAC Meetings

02:19:42

The next meeting is currently scheduled for October 8, 2025

Adjourn

The Council will provide reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities planning to attend the Council meetings. Contact the staff person listed below at least 72 hours before the meeting. Any disclosable public records related to an open session item on a regular meeting agenda and distributed by the County to a majority of members of the Council less than 96 hours prior to that meeting are available for public inspection at El Sobrante Library (4191 Appian Way, El Sobrante, CA 94803) during normal business hours. Staff reports related to items on the agenda are also accessible online at www.contracosta.ca.gov. If the Zoom connection malfunctions for any reason, the meeting may be paused while a fix is attempted. If the connection is not reestablished, the Council will continue the meeting in person without remote access. Public comment may be submitted via electronic mail on agenda items at least one full work day prior to the published meeting time.

For Additional Information Contact: Ronnie Mills, ronnie.mills@bos.cccounty.us, 510-942-2222