

Winchester-Homeland Municipal Advisory Council

MEETING MINUTES

Date: December 11, 2025

Place: Winchester Community Center, 32655 Haddock Street, Winchester

Call to Order: Call to order at 6:30 PM.

Pledge of allegiance.

Councilmember Roll Call:

Chair Jimmy Sheldrake, Vice Chair Grant Becklund, Secretary James Horecka, Kate Alder, & Kathryn Holmes.

Oath of Office: Juan Hernandez was sworn-in as an alternate member of the board.

Approval of the Agenda:

Motion to approve the agenda by JH; seconded by GB. Unanimous.

Approval of the Minutes from October 9, 2025:

Motion to approve minutes by GB; seconded by KA. Unanimous.

Representative Reports:

- A. Riverside County Third District Supervisorial District. Melissa Morfin:
 - Update on the Winchester Community Plan and the General Plan Amendment: The County is in the final steps of working out a memorandum of understanding with surrounding cities.
 - CalTrans pavement work was done (fixing potholes, etc.)
 - The Veteran's Expo will be January 22nd, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the French Valley Library.
 - Q: Which cities? A: Menifee, Temecula, and Murrieta.
 - Q: Is the Traffic Study ready? A: Not yet.
 - Q: Will the Highway 79 Policy Area remain in effect? A: No, the GPA would replace that.
 - C: Called several times regarding line markings wearing-off on SH-79 & Domenigoni Pkwy. R: Morfin said she did connect with CalTrans regarding this. Becklund stated that the Domenigoni Pkwy is Riverside. Morfin said that's true, but the stripes at issue are under CalTrans.
- B. Riverside Sheriff's Office, Perris Station. Captain Lamb:
 - Stats: Calls: Winchester 332; Homeland 284. 82 less than last report. Arrests: 17 in October, 9 in November.
- C. California Highway Patrol. Officer Ricardo Palomera, Public Information Officer
 - Oct. 4th to date: 41 crashes, 4 DUI, 0 fatalities, 22 arrests. CHP is continuing their presence at the school.
 - Captain Daniel Hesser will be coming in, in January. Noted there are 780 new officers throughout the state.
- D. CalFire Winchester Station 34. Jesse Malone, in for Captain Joshua Lent:
 - 137 calls for service; 7 false alarms, 51 medical, 13 public assistance, 23 traffic collisions, 14 wildfires.
 - Average response time is 7.3 minutes. Of those, 69 were under 5 minutes!
 - C: Gregg Cowdery recognized their recent busy day.
 - Matt Damon, Supervising Fire Marshal for open parcel areas, abatement, etc. He'll be her from now on.
- E. Assemblymember Dr. Corey Jackson:
 - No representative present.
- F. Department of Animal Services:
 - No representative present.
- G. Riverside County Code Enforcement. Daniel Gregorio, Code Enforcement Office:
 - Winchester has 152 open cases. In past period, they closed 54 cases and opened 68 new cases.
 - Homeland area has 338 open cases. In past period, they closed 28 cases and opened 83 new cases.
 - General telephone: 951-955-2004; transfer to District 3 (our area).
 - C: There was a fire in Highland Palms this morning. Process? A: C.E. visits site, assesses it. Tags it. Due process goes on, following time allotments.
 - Q (A. Little): Is one of the open cases on Patterson? A: Yes. They're working on it; the process advances.

- Code Enforcement is here to help. They are complaint-driven. RCTLMA.org; under Code Enforcement.
- Q (K. Alder): Once reported, can we follow-up & find status? A: Yes; provide case number. Alt: Address.
- H. Valley Wide Parks & Recreation District; Craig Schultz, Public Information Officer:
 - VW is working on a Grant Survey for money for park improvements, including Winchester Trails. Come see him if you wish to discuss.
 - The Polar Plunge will be January 10th. Into 40-degree water.
 - VW is planning The Weekend, a major fundraiser. March 20th Dinner; 21st Auction.
 - C: Gregg Cowdery expressed congratulations for a great “Grinch’mas” event.
 - October 16th EMWD celebrates 75 years! History: The city of LA was growing. Early cities formed MET; mission: A canal from Colorado to Los Angeles, with a tunnel under the San Jacinto Mountains. Opened in the late 1930s. Then farmers noticed ground water drying up. Legal challenges ensued. EMWD was formed in 1950; served the farmers. Why ‘Eastern’? Because it was the most eastern. Nearly a million people. Recently Rainbow and Fallbrook joined EMWD.
 - Q (A. Domenigoni): Was Eastern formed before Western? A: Yes.
 - Soboba; left out of settlement. Finally settled about a decade ago.
 - C (Cowdery): Circa 1960, locals petitioned EMWD to bring water to Winchester.
- I. Winchester-Homeland Town Association’s Land Use Committee. Angela Little:
 - No report.
- J. Other Departments and Public Agencies:
 - Fernando Herrera, Senior Planner:
 - The Menifee Valley Specific Plan is under construction. 449 units are advancing, incl 396 apartments. McCall Square is coming along well. See the Development Page, on the city’s website, for updates, maps, etc.
 - Q: With all these homes going in, what are plans for hospitals, grocery stores, etc.? A: The city doesn’t do development, but they hope to attract development.
 - C: A citizen expressed their hope that housing development would slow down.

New Business Item A:

Jennifer Nguyen, RTA Director of Planning, presented on the Comprehensive Operational Analysis:

- Jennifer Nguyen delivered a PowerPoint presentation, “Our Vision Forward.” Left a deck of slides for our files.
- The Riverside Transit Agency covers about 2500 square miles.
- The Sustainable Service Plan was a 3-year plan for 2022-2025; it’s time for a new plan to guide future changes.
- A 10-year service plan to guide RTA service changes for future growth.
- An opportunity to make a detailed review of service performance, ridership trends, & market demand.
- They’re gathering community feedback, via surveys, etc. Studying fare rates, technology; forecasting. They’ll look at bus stops; consolidation, cease some, add new where needed.
- A ten-year capital improvement project.
- They had their first virtual public meeting last night, December 10th.
- You can visit their website, and pan their Allocation Station game; easy & fun. There’s also an interactive map. You can drop comments, give feedback, etc., regarding routes, stops, service. Efforts will continue into 2026.
- OurVisionForwardRTA.com
- Q (A. Little): We hope to pursue Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) in the downtown core. What is the vision relative to this; infrastructure first or demand first? A: Demand first. Please keep RTA informed of plans.
- Q: Is Go Micro Service integrated with fixed routes? A: Varies; connects. Go is stop-to-stop, not door-to-door.
- Sheldrake and all thanked the presenters for sharing good information.

New Business Item B:

Mike Sattley, Hemet Unified School District Director of Facilities; facilities update.

- Sattley delivered a PowerPoint presentation. He left a printed deck of slides for our files.
- This district covers 650 square miles! Tonight’s topics include:
- HUSD Facilities Improvements: Since 2019, over 264 projects. Completed total \$229M; underway \$98M.
- The modernization of our Winchester Elementary School was completed; \$21M; \$4M state. Measure X funds.
- Measure X was approved November 18th. A tax rate extension GO Bond. Many completed projects, & active.
- Pleasant Valley Elementary School: Construction is underway. Projected to open fall of 2026. Capacity: 909.
- Current facility needs include modernization & remodels of many schools. Also replacement of portables.

- Q (A. Little): What is the funding mix for new schools? A: There's a robust development fee program. So developer participation via development fees, local moneys, state funding, bonds. Fees are based on square feet, set by statute.
- Q (A. Little): Is the rate of growth leveling off? A: Nationwide, the birthrate is down. But there's local growth. He sees this as an anomaly. Though there was recently a big dip; likely temporary.
- C: Winchester School has been serving our area for 135 years.
- Q: When will we get a new middle school or high school? A: HUSD already has ample capacity for both. The crunch now is for new elementary schools. Development depends on demand. Unlikely in the next 8-10 years.
- Q (G. Becklund): What are the current school fees? A: \$5.29 / SF. Paid by the developer.
- Q: What about funds from lottery money? A: Lottery \$ can't be used for construction. Overall, about 2%.

Public Comments:

- Gregg Cowdery announced that the Spark of Love Toy Drive is underway, with Cal Fire and the Winchester Fire Department. They are collecting unwrapped gifts. To help, come to the strip center at the crossroads.

Councilmember Reports and Comments:

- None.

Adjourn Meeting:

- The next WH-MAC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 12, 2026, 6:30 PM, at the Community Center.
- The WH-MAC adjourned at 7:45 PM (JH, GB; U).