Marin Commission On Aging
General Meeting
9 November 2026

ROLL CALL

CALL TO ORDER

CHAIR WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS

Chairman's Welcome And Opening Remarks

Welcome to the Marin County Commission on Aging general meeting. Thank you all for taking the time to join us at today’s Commission on Aging meeting; your presence and insights are incredibly valuable to our community's seniors.

The Commission on Aging welcomes diverse perspectives, constructive debate, and respectful disagreement as essential elements of our work. While we may not always agree, all commissioners, staff, and members of the public need to engage in good-faith dialogue that respects the dignity of every participant and our commissions guiding values and principles. To ensure transparency and clarity, I would like to briefly cover several key points.

These values serve as core part of our advocacy and education role:

- **Collaboration**: Fostering community and agency partnerships to strengthen engagement, transparency, and actionable outcomes.
- **Transparency**: Supporting data-based, transparent decision-making processes and sharing metrics with all stakeholders.
- **Enhancing Outcomes**: Strengthening performance tracking and data collection to drive decisions that directly benefit older adults.

These values serve as core part of our advocacy and education role:

- **Communication**:
  - ✓Exchange information, recommendations, and comments on the topic simply and directly without adding confusing or unnecessary details,
  - ✓Choosing precise words, sticking to the main point, ensuring your core idea is easy to grasp, and
  - ✓Utilizing active listening to understand and respond to insights and comments from others.
- **Goals, priorities, and action plans**: Ensure all objectives and action plans follow the SMART framework (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, and Time-bound).

We need everyone to actively support:

1) Respectful Dialogue

- ✓Support freedom of speech while valuing a diversity of opinions.
- ✓Maintain a civil, courteous demeanor at all times.
- ✓Refrain from questioning the character, integrity, or motives of any meeting participant.
- ✓Avoid threatening, profane, or abusive language that disrupts or impedes the orderly conduct of the meeting.

We need everyone to actively support

2) **Active Listening**
   - ✓Practice active listening to understand other perspectives, emotions, and needs.
   - ✓Focus on building rapport and trust to prevent misunderstandings and find common ground.
   - ✓Acknowledge and validate that the concerns of others have been heard, which is critical for achieving compromise, resolution, and community acceptance.

We need everyone to recognize and accept:

3) Behavior that causes distress, disrupts the flow of the meeting, or undermines the dignity of participants will not be tolerated. Prohibited actions include:

- ✓Aggressive Interruptions: Cutting people off mid-sentence, talking over others, or using a patronizing or condescending tone.
- ✓Open Multitasking: Checking emails, browsing, or sending text messages while others are speaking.

We need everyone to recognize and accept:

3) Behavior that causes distress, disrupts the flow of the meeting, or undermines the dignity of participants will not be tolerated. Prohibited actions include:

- ✓Side Conversations: Whispering, private messaging, or mocking others during a presentation or discussion.
- ✓Blame Shifting: Weaponizing the meeting to find scapegoats for a problem rather than focusing on constructive solutions.
- ✓Dismissive Language: Using words or gestures that belittle or disregard another participant's input.

We need everyone to understand

- ✓To maintain an orderly and productive environment, anyone engaging in disruptive behavior or disrespectful dialogue will receive an initial warning from the Chair.
- ✓If the behavior continues after a warning, the participant will be asked to leave the meeting.

AGENDA

3) Presentation of proposed agenda for approval
   - Open for discussion on proposed changes, additions, or deletions
   - Move to approve agenda as presented or amended & seconded
   - Limited debate and roll call vote

AGENDA

4) Motion to approve proposed minutes1

A. Minutes for September 4, 2026

- ❑Open for discussion on proposed changes, additions, or deletions
- ❑Move to approve minutes as presented or amended & seconded
- ❑Limited debate and roll call vote

B. Minutes for October 30, 2026

- ❑Open for discussion on proposed changes, additions, or deletions
- ❑Move to approve minutes as presented or amended & seconded
- ❑Limited debate and roll call vote

AGENDA

4. Open time for public express on matters not on the agenda. Each person will be allowed two (2) minutes.

I would like to take a brief moment to recognize and honor Veterans Day and express my deep gratitude to all the men and women who have worn the uniform of the United States military, who served in times of peace or conflict, at home or abroad, who made a choice to put duty, country, and something larger than themselves first. To any veterans in this room, or anyone here with family members or friends who served I would like thank them for their courage and service.

This Tuesday at the Redwoods there is a special recognition ceremony for veterans at the Redwoods starting at 3:00 PM. On Wednesday, Marin County veterans' ceremony will start at 9:30 AM at the San Rafael Marin Center Exhibition Hall.

AGENDA

5. Discussion & Voting
    a. County Wide Strategic Plan process is Marin County's first Strategic Plan in more than 25 years is providing the community an opportunity to look ahead and share our experiences, needs, priorities and hopes for Marin's future.

Envision Marin - What Matters Most to You?

- **What do you love most about Marin today? What** makes Marin special to the people who live, work, and spend time here? Tell us about the places, experiences, services, or qualities you value most?
- **What's your big, bold vision for Marin's future?** Imagine Marin 10 to 20 years from now. Share your biggest ideas for what the County could become, even if they seem ambitious.
- **What are your ideas for Marin's future?** Share what you'd like to see improve, protect, create, or prioritize in the years ahead.

Envision Marin Community Listening Sessions

Following is the published schedule:

- November 12th 6:00 to 7:30 PM at Marin Art & Garden Center, Ross
- November 14th 10:00 to 11:30 AM Board Chamber County Civic Center
- November 14th 1:30 to 3:00 PM Marin Health & Wellness Center, San Rafael
- November 16th 6:00 to 7:30 PM Marin Humane Auditorium, Novato
- December 1st 6:00 to 7:30 PM Mill Valley Community Center, Mill Valley
- December 2nd 5:30 to 7:00 PM (Facilitated in Spanish - Location TBD)
- December 5th 10:00 to 11:30 AM (Online – Details to be posted)

Registration and links for meetings or participating online

Https://WWW.marincounty.gov/departments/executive/envision-marin

What do you love most about Marin today?

What makes Marin special to the people who live, work, and spend time here?

What are the places, experiences, services, or qualities you value most?

- Dramatic natural beauty from the coastal beaches and San Francisco bay, vast open spaces, redwoods, parks, and the chaparral heights of Mount Tamalpais.
- Access to nature trails, sailing, kayaking, surfing.
- Mild temperate climate
- Charming communities with vibrant local shops to quiet, rustic costal communities and ready access to San Francisco via the Golden Gate Bridge or scenic ferry system.

What's your big, bold vision for Marin's future?

Imagine Marin 10 to 20 years from now. What are your biggest ideas for what the County could become, even if they seem ambitious?

Vision for the Future

- **Transit-Oriented Density:** Expect to see the most visible physical changes along the Highway 101 corridor. Towns like San Rafael, Novato, and Larkspur will likely feature more mixed-use, mid-rise apartment complexes clustered near SMART train stations and ferry terminals.
- **The Coastline:** Lower-lying coastal gems, particularly Stinson Beach and areas around the Tiburon peninsula, will be actively deploying managed retreat strategies or major engineering projects to combat sea-level rise and king tide flooding.
- **Autonomous Transit:** Specialized, smaller autonomous shuttle fleets feeding residents down to central transit hubs, medical appointments, or social events will be in place.
- **The Commute:** With hybrid work permanently cemented, the traditional grueling commute across the Golden Gate will morph entirely. The Larkspur Ferry and SMART train will remain vital, but they will function more as lifestyle connectors rather than standard 9-to-5 corporate pipelines
- **Wildfire Defense:** Microgrids, undergrounded power lines, and automated wildfire detection systems will be standard. Building codes will be incredibly stringent, and home insurance landscapes will force a complete reimagining of home construction.

Vision for the Future

- Within the next ten years the County will have established and implemented a single, unified countywide roadmap to align resources and funding to effectively address proactively older adult current and evolving critical issues as well as adapting to emerging challenges in the future.
- Older adult needs will be deeply imbedded as a key fully funded component of the strategic plan and older adults are able to full enjoy quality of life, to be active members of the community, with full access to reqources, and secure (financially, emotionally, and physically) in their residence.

What are your ideas for Marin's future?

Share what you'd like to see in the years ahead to:

1) Prioritize
2) Improve
3) Protect
4) Create

What are your ideas for Marin's future?

Inclusion & Equity

- Structure & supporting older adult needs
- Community engagement
- Employment
- Transparency

What are your ideas for Marin's future?

Affordable Aging

- Basic needs
- Financial security
- Food insecurity
- Personal safety
- Transparency

What are your ideas for Marin's future?

Housing & Transportation

- Housing security & affordability
- Age & disability communities
- Transparency

What are your ideas for Marin's future?

Health & Wellness

- Accessible & affordable health care
- Building sustainable services, support, & training
- Feeling connected & addressing inclusion, equity, & ageism
- Volunteers
- Care coordination
- Loss of memory or cognition
- Caregiving
- Caregivers
- Respite
- Falls
- Social Isolation
- Access to resources
- Emergency preparedness
- Climate & environment
- Crimes, financial abuse, scams
- Transparency
- End of life planning

Strategic Plan Discussion & Voting

- Supporting older adult needs proactively should be a strategic plan priority.
- Recognize MCCOA's role is to:
  - Advocate and educate for older adult, adults with disabilities, and caregiver needs.
  - Advocate and collaborate with community members and organizations as well as government agencies to support older adult, adult with disabilities, and caregiver needs.
  - Identify and formally recognize key demographic, health, housing, and economic challenges, evolving needs, concerns, and issues older adults are facing.
  - Advocate and facilitate awareness as well as seeking collaborative support with community and government agencies to support current and evolving needs.
- Identify:
  - Opportunities for collaboration (Health & wellness, Homelessness)

EXAMPLES

- Caregivers
- Community outreach & engagement
- Collaboration opportunities
- Social isolation
- Challenges of middle-income adults
- Access to resources
- Resource guide
- Transportation
- Housing
- Systemic discrimination
- Lack of institution focus for older adults

2026 MCCOA Retreat

Discussion and decision process involved first looking at the situation, then the possibilities, then selecting and determining an action plan for each item.

1) Roles & responsibilities
2) Successful outcomes
3) Topics & Goals

When discussing situations, outcomes, topics, and goals, the Commission determined items needed to separated into the following segments, external focused and internal focused.

Commissioners were asked to identify issues they might like to work on with other Commissioners in the coming year. The listing was in no particular order.

Agenda

6. Break

7. Committee Reports
    A. Health & Nutrition (Brown)
    B. Planning, Legislative & Communications (Ruben & Notowich)
    C. Housing & Transportation (Smith)
    D. Bylaws Ad Hoc (Notowich)

8. Officers Reports
    A. President
    B. Vice President
    C. Secretary

9. Aging & Adult Services

10. Commission Reports (District) 1 minute per report

11. New Business for the next agenda
    A. Bylaws
    B. AAA presentation

12. Adjournment