



County of Santa Barbara Planning and Development

Lisa Plowman, Director

Jeff Wilson, Assistant Director

Elise Dale, Assistant Director

Published August 1, 2023

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF AND PUBLIC HEARING ON THE DRAFT PROGRAM ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE AGRICULTURAL ENTERPRISE ORDINANCE (Case Nos. 23ORD-00005 and 23ORD-00006)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The County of Santa Barbara proposes to amend the County Land Use and Development Code and the Coastal Zoning Ordinance to allow a variety of uses that would be incidental to, and compatible with, agricultural uses on lands zoned Agricultural II (AG-II) (Case Nos. 23ORD-00005 and 23ORD-00006). The primary use of the land must continue to be agriculture (e.g., crop cultivation, ranching/grazing).

PROJECT LOCATION: The project is located on rural unincorporated lands of Santa Barbara County zoned AG-II, including the Coastal Zone, but excluding lands within Montecito and lands under the jurisdiction of incorporated cities, the federal government, and the University of California. In addition, one of the proposed uses (incidental food service) would also be considered for winery tasting rooms on lands zoned Agricultural I (AG-I).

PUBLIC HEARING AND COMMENT: The County of Santa Barbara Planning and Development (P&D) is soliciting comments on the adequacy and completeness of the analysis and proposed mitigation measures described in 23EIR-00003, SCH #2021110353. You may comment by providing testimony at the virtual public hearing on **Monday, August 21, 2023, 6:00 p.m.** Please visit the project website <https://www.countyofsb.org/728/Agricultural-Enterprise-Ordinance> where a link to the hearing will be provided. You may also submit written comments to the project planner identified below prior to the close of public comment on **Thursday, September 14, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.**

PROJECT DETAILS: The Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance consists of two components: (1) a tiered permitting structure that would allow new and incidental, compatible, and supplemental agricultural enterprise uses on certain agricultural lands, and (2) a streamlined permit process for larger structural agricultural developments. Proposed uses include supplemental agricultural support activities (e.g., small-scale processing and product preparation, composting, farm stand, firewood processing and sales) and rural recreational/agritourism uses (e.g., small-scale campgrounds, farmstays, educational opportunities, small-scale events).

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW FINDINGS: P&D has prepared a Draft Program Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) (23EIR-00003, SCH No. 2021110353) pursuant to requirements of the State Guidelines for the Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the County of Santa Barbara Guidelines for the Implementation of CEQA. P&D has prepared a DEIR for the proposed project due to the potential for unavoidable, significant adverse effects to result from project implementation. The DEIR prepared for the project identifies and discusses potential impacts, mitigation measures, residual impacts and monitoring requirements for identified subject

areas. **Significant and unavoidable** effects on the environment identified in the DEIR include: air quality, greenhouse gas emissions, and transportation. **Significant but mitigable** effects on the environment identified in the DEIR include: biological resources, cultural and tribal cultural resources, hazards and hazardous materials, noise, and wildfire. If the project description changes, P&D will require a reevaluation to consider the changes.

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY: The DEIR and all documents incorporated by reference in the DEIR may be reviewed at P&D offices located at 123 E. Anapamu St, Santa Barbara and 624 Foster Rd, Santa Maria AND is available on the P&D website:

<https://www.countyofsb.org/728/Agricultural-Enterprise-Ordinance>

The DEIR is also available for review at the Goleta Valley Library, 500 N. Fairview Ave, Goleta, and the Santa Maria Public Library, 421 S. McClelland St, Santa Maria.

HOW TO COMMENT: Please provide comments to the project planner, Julie Harris at 123 E. Anapamu St, Santa Barbara, CA 93101, (805) 568-3543, or PADAgEnterprise@countyofsb.org prior to the close of public comment on Thursday, September 14, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. or provide testimony at the public hearing on the date and time specified above. Please limit comments to environmental issues such as aesthetics, biology, agricultural resources, etc. Future notice will be provided for dates of future public hearings to consider project approval or denial.

If you challenge this environmental document in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues raised by you or others in written correspondence or in hearings on the proposed project.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this hearing, please contact Hearing Support Staff (805) 568-2000. Notification at least 48 hours prior to the hearing will enable Hearing Support Staff to make reasonable arrangements.