



March 28, 2013

*Santa Ynez  
Valley Alliance*

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Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors  
105 East Anapamu Street  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

**Re: Temporary Uses (Special Events) Ordinance Amendments**

Chairperson Carbajal and Honorable Supervisors,

The Santa Ynez Valley Alliance wishes to thank the Board for its consideration of our concerns.

We ask that the Board adopt the Planning Commission-approved and Staff recommended actions to approve Case Nos. 12ORD-00000-00002, 12ORD-00000-00003 and 12ORD-00000-00004, without modification.

This minor update to the existing ordinance does not affect wineries, private parties, charitable events, or political fundraisers. It simply addresses commercial events in residential and agricultural zones, and the action proposed only closes two troublesome loopholes. Claims to the contrary are misleading and self-serving.

Every owner of a parcel in the County zoned Residential or Agricultural is at risk of having his or her neighbor being able to host unlimited commercial events.

Agricultural use and property values will suffer if the Board fails to adopt the language updating the ordinance. One cannot shrug off the notion that someone might choose to host a for-profit "Burning Man" type event on a 20 acre parcel.

We cannot even begin to measure the enormous unforeseen public safety and un-budgeted fiscal burdens on the County that would ensue if the proponents of unlimited commercial events were to prevail.

The mission of the Santa Ynez Valley Alliance is to protect and preserve the rural character of the Santa Ynez Valley, especially its diverse natural and agricultural resources.

Once again, thank you for the opportunity to comment on this very important issue, affecting not only the Santa Ynez Valley, but all of the unincorporated regions of Santa Barbara County.

Sincerely,



Mark Oliver  
President