



COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

February 13, 2018

Mr. Das Williams, Chair
Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
123 East Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA. 93101
Re: Cannabis Development Standards

Dear Chair Williams and members of the Board:

AAC acknowledges the unique nature of cannabis as a crop, especially considering that it is still federally illegal, and understands that certain restrictions and limitations are necessary due to public health and safety concerns that other crops may not require. However, AAC is concerned with the precedent of placing restrictions on agricultural production through development standards and the potential for the County to exercise its land use authority over routine agricultural practices.

Examples of concern include the archeological and paleontological surveys; fencing plan that specifies screening requirements and prohibits certain fencing materials; landscape and screening plan; lighting plan; noise plan; tree protection, habitat protection, and wildlife movement plans; lot size prohibitions; avoidance of prime soils for cultivation that is not in-ground and for ancillary use facilities; prohibition of hoop structure lighting; site transportation plan; water efficiency standards based on the Director's satisfaction; and sourcing restrictions.

AAC questions whether the addition of such broad development standards, which could set precedent and negatively impact conventional agriculturalists, should be made without greater opportunity for review and stakeholder involvement. We encourage the Board of Supervisors to engage with agricultural stakeholders on the proposed development standards before taking final action on the development standards.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Paul Van Leer, Chair

Committee Members

Bradley Miles
Ron Caird
Sharynè Merritt
AJ Cisney
Randy Sharer
Deborah Adam
Claire Wineman
Paul Van Leer, Chair
June Van Wingerden
Brook Williams
Andy Mills, Vice Chair
Jason Sharrett

Representing

1st District Supervisor, Das Williams
2nd District Supervisor, Janet Wolf
3rd District Supervisor, Joan Hartmann
4th District Supervisor, Peter Adam
5th District Supervisor, Steve Lavagnino
California Women for Agriculture
Grower-Shipper Association of SB and SLO Counties
Santa Barbara County Farm Bureau
Santa Barbara Flower & Nursery Growers' Association
Santa Barbara Vintners
Santa Barbara County Cattlemen's Assn.
California Strawberry Commission