



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
(805) 568-2240

**Department Name:** Sheriff-Coroner  
**Department No.:** 032  
**For Agenda Of:** Set-Hearing: 11.28.23  
1st Reading: 12.12.23  
Departmental  
2nd Reading: 1.9.24  
Administrative  
**Placement:** Set Hearing  
**Estimated Time:** 30 MIN on 12.12.23  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:**  
**Vote Required:** Majority

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Bill Brown Sheriff-Coroner 805-681-4290 *BB*  
Contact Info: Lieutenant Garrett Te Slaa 805-681-4108

**SUBJECT:** Amendments to Santa Barbara County Code Chapter 6, Article VI Regarding Outdoor Festivals and Chapter 36 Regarding Public Nuisances

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes  
Other Concurrence: N/A  
As to form: N/A

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: N/A

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors:

On November 28, 2023:

- a) Set a public hearing on the December 12, 2023 Board of Supervisors meeting to consider the introduction (First Reading) of an Ordinance to amend Santa Barbara County Code Chapter 6, Article VI regarding Outdoor Festivals and Chapter 36 regarding Public Nuisances;

On December 12, 2023:

- a) Receive and file a presentation regarding an Ordinance amending Chapter 6, Article VI of the Santa Barbara County Code regarding Outdoor Festivals and Chapter 36 regarding Public Nuisances.
- b) Consider and approve the Introduction (First Reading) of an Ordinance amending Chapter 6, Article VI of the Santa Barbara County Code regarding Outdoor Festivals and Chapter 36 regarding Public Nuisances.

- c) Read the title of the Ordinance and waive further reading of the Ordinance in full;
- d) Set a hearing on the Administrative Agenda of January 9, 2023 to consider the adoption (Second Reading) of an Ordinance amending Chapter 6, Article VI of the Santa Barbara County Code regarding Outdoor Festivals and Chapter 36 regarding Public Nuisances.

On January 9, 2024:

- a) Consider and approve the Adoption (Second Reading) of an Ordinance of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara amending Chapter 6, Article VI regarding Outdoor Festivals and Chapter 36 regarding Public Nuisances; and
- c) Determine that the above actions are not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15378(b)(5) of the CEQA guidelines because they consist of administrative activities of government that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

**Summary Text:**

This item is on the Agenda to amend Chapter 6, Article VI and Chapter 36 of the Santa Barbara County Code regarding outdoor festivals and public nuisances. The amendments will update regulations on outdoor festivals and public nuisances.

**Background:**

The annual unsanctioned “Deltopia” street party in Isla Vista continues to strain emergency services, public rights-of-way, and other county resources as a result of the excessive alcohol and drug consumption directly related to the event. In 2022, the event was declared a Mass Casualty Incident as a result of demand it placed on emergency services. In 2017, the Board of Supervisors added revised language to Chapter 6, Article VI, Section 6-70.01 that placed a “sunset” expiration on the prohibitions against Deltopia related festival noise as outlined in 6-70.01(a)(1). As such, the prohibitions in the law ended on April 9, 2023. Retaining the restrictions against outdoor festivals and similar activities are an essential part of the county’s efforts to keep the community safe.

Since 2022, the Isla Vista community has experienced an influx of commercial party and concert promoters who are illegally profiting off utilizing residential properties to host concerts, DJs, dance parties, and similar activities while charging a fee for entry or selling alcohol. These commercial promoters do not follow the permitting process required by Santa Barbara County. Isla Vista has seen concert attendance at these events in the hundreds and thousands during Deltopia and the events often create dangerous over-capacity issues on bluff facing patios and balconies throughout Isla Vista. The proposed ordinance additions would, in part, prohibit such commercial activities on residential properties in Isla Vista and provide the Sheriff’s Office with the ability to declare these events a public nuisance with authority to disperse such events.

Lastly, Chapter 36, section 36-6 remains an important enforcement option for the Sheriff’s Office to maintain control of unruly social gatherings that devolve into criminal activity. However, the ordinance has not been updated to reflect current trends and the needs of the community. Proposed revisions to this

ordinance would make it easier for the Sheriff's Office to declare a gathering a public nuisance when certain violent crimes are occurring, when a commercial party has been identified, or when party attendees are climbing onto rooftops or exposed bluffs. The proposed changes also reclassify a violation of Section 36-6 as a misdemeanor to allow for higher penalties and potential imprisonment.

A more detailed Board Letter with all necessary attachments and details of proposed changes will be prepared and provided for the December 12, 2023 hearing.

The Sheriff's Office shall publish the Notice of Public Hearing 5 and 10 days before the hearing date in accordance with Government Code section 25124.

**Special Instructions:** None

**Authored by:**

Lieutenant Garrett Te Slaa, Isla Vista Foot Patrol  
Santa Barbara Sheriff's Office

**COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
Tuesday, December 12, 2023  
In Santa Barbara  
The meeting starts at 9:00 a.m.**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that on Tuesday, December 12, 2023, the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing to consider adoption of an ordinance to amend County Code Chapter 6, pertaining to Outdoor Festivals and Chapter 36, pertaining to Public Nuisances.

For additional information, please contact Lieutenant Garrett Te Slaa, at: Email: [gjt3809@sbsheriff.org](mailto:gjt3809@sbsheriff.org) | Tel: 805-681-4148.

For current and alternative methods of public participation for the meeting of December 12, 2023, please see page two (2) of the posted agenda. The posted agenda is available on the Thursday prior to the above referenced meeting for a more specific time for this item. However, the order of the agenda may be rearranged or the item may be continued.

Please see the posted agenda and staff report available on the Thursday prior to the meetings at <http://santabarbara.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx> under the hearing date.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors by 4:00 PM on Friday before the Board meeting. For information about these services please contact the Clerk of the Board at (805) 568-2240.

If you challenge the project in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence to the Board of Supervisors prior to the public hearing. G.C. Section 65009, 6066, and 6062a.

Mona Miyasato  
CLERK OF THE BOARD

By Sheila de la Guerra  
Deputy Clerk