



## COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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November 9, 2018

Hon. Das Williams, Chair  
Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors  
105 East Anapamu St, Fourth Floor  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

### **Re: Ag Employee Dwelling Ordinance Amendments – Agenda Item #6**

Dear Chair Williams and Honorable Members of the Board:

The Board of Supervisors created the Agricultural Advisory Committee with a charter to provide County agencies with advice that will help maintain and enhance agriculture as a viable and sustainable industry in Santa Barbara County.

In accordance with our charge of advising the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors on policies, ordinances, projects, and programs that have broad implications to agriculture, the Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC) is pleased to offer comments on the proposed Agricultural Employee Dwelling Ordinance Amendments.

There are urgent needs for housing for both full-time agricultural employees and housing for H-2A employees. But, there is a great difference between the needs of temporary workers and those of full time workers.

Given these differences, housing for full time laborers and H-2A workers should be treated as separate issues and H-2A housing should not be integrated into the Agricultural Employee Dwelling ordinance.

We believe that the Staff Recommendation detailed in the Board Letter for this November 13, 2018 hearing outlines a course of action that addresses our concern, and, moreover, makes intelligent and much needed changes to the Ag Employee Dwelling ordinance. Accordingly, we ask that you support Staff's recommendations.

Thank you for the opportunity to make these comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P. Van Leer", is written over a horizontal line.

Paul Van Leer, Chair

**Committee Members**

Bradley Miles  
Ron Caird  
Sharyne 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**

1<sup>st</sup> District Supervisor, Das Williams  
2<sup>nd</sup> District Supervisor, Janet Wolf  
3<sup>rd</sup> District Supervisor, Joan Hartmann  
4<sup>th</sup> District Supervisor, Peter Adam  
5<sup>th</sup> 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