



# Santa Barbara County Farm Bureau

Affiliated with the California Farm Bureau Federation and the American Farm Bureau Federation

October 16, 2015

Hon. Janet Wolf, Chair  
Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors  
105 East Anapamu Street, Fourth Floor  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
Sent via email to mailto: [sbcob@co.santa-barbara.ca.us](mailto:sbcob@co.santa-barbara.ca.us)

## Re: Eastern Goleta Valley Community Plan

Dear Chair Wolf and Honorable Members of the Board:

On behalf of the over 490 Santa Barbara County Farm Bureau agricultural members we thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Eastern Goleta Valley Community Plan.

SBCFB appreciates the fact that the designation of chaparral does not apply in the agricultural zones but urge you to consider that in instances in which agricultural operations about the mountainous zone, this designation could be an issue for agricultural production. Specifically, the interface issue could hamper any defensible space clearance around orchards.

We are concerned that the designation of chaparral habitat types, as ESHA will set a precedent that will have deleterious effects on agriculture.

We are also concerned about structures in proposed creek setbacks becoming non-conforming and not being able to be rebuilt back in the same footprint if damaged more than 75%.

SBCFB objects to riparian setbacks being measured from edge of riparian habitat or top of bank whichever is greater. We feel it should be measured only from top of bank.

SBCFB feels strongly that setbacks from creeks should be 50 feet for urban agriculture and should not expanded.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Russell Doty'.

Russell Doty  
President