

#4

Ramirez, Angelica

Public Comment

From: Laurie Tamura <laurie@urbanplanningconcepts.com>
Sent: Monday, April 6, 2020 3:43 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: AED Board of Supervisors 4-7-2020
Attachments: AED Board of Supervisors 4-7-2020.docx

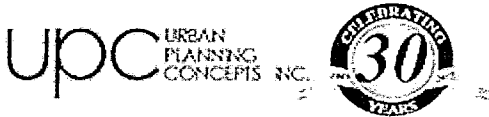


Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Please provide this letter into the record for the Board of Supervisors meeting tomorrow on the AED item.

Thank you

Laurie Tamura, AICP
Principal Planner



2624 Airpark Drive
Santa Maria, Ca 93455

805-934-5760 Office
805-431-6713 Cell



April 6, 2020

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

RE: Coastal Commission Certification for AED's in the Coastal Zone

Dear Supervisors:

It has come to our attention that the Board of Supervisors will be reviewing the Agricultural Employee Dwelling Coastal Zone Ordinance at your hearing tomorrow. This effort has been several years in the making. There are several landowners and farmers that do not agree with one of the changes being incorporated into this new version of the ordinance

When this ordinance was review last by the Board of Supervisors in 2018, there was a very important provision that has now been altered by the Coastal Commission. The originally approved provision allowed any agricultural owner to provide agricultural employee housing on an agricultural lot and those employees could also work at other farms or ranches owned by their employer.

The Coastal Commission Suggested Modification #2 would limit those farmers who operate on many smaller properties to provide housing for their employees. The requirement that either all the employees or a majority must work on the site where the housing is located does not address the issue the Coastal Commission raised which was loss of agricultural land. It is much more beneficial to have housing provided in a central location and allow flexibility of the farming employees to encourage the continuation of farming in the coastal zone.

We request that Board of Supervisors adopt the original permit requirements for Employee/Location provision of the ordinance. This will be a better way to support existing and future farming operations along the coast.

Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Laurie Tamura". The signature is written in black ink and has a long, sweeping underline.

Laurie Tamura, AICP
Principal Planner