Brennan, Kaitlin

From:	Deborah Brasket [dbrasket@verizon.net]
Sent:	Friday, October 09, 2009 6:12 PM
To:	Centeno, Joseph; Farr, Doreen; Gray, Joni; Wolf, Janet; SupervisorCarbajal
Cc:	sbcob
Subject:	Comment on Crossroads Special Events & Rezone
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October 9, 2009

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
105 East Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93121

RE: Crossroads Special Events and Rezone

Dear Chairman Centeno and Honorable Supervisors,

The Santa Barbara County Action Network (SB *CAN*) is a grassroots advocacy group that works tirelessly on social justice issues and focuses on the concerns of housing, open space and transportation. The preservation of agricultural land is among our interests in this county that has such a wealth of resources, among them agricultural land.

We have deep concerns about the Crossroads request to allow non-ag commercial use of agricultural lands. While we understand the importance of finding ways to help make agriculture more economically viable, especially for small independent farmers and ranchers, we must make sure that those efforts promote agriculture and do not set precedents that could undermine its operation.

Allowing 20 commercial special events and 5 charitable events per year with up to 250 guests per event will surely boost the profits of the landowner, but far from being a means to preserve agriculture, it will open up a rural area to a commercial entertainment venue more appropriate for urban areas. These events also would interfere with normal agricultural operations and over time drive up the cost of ag land. They also would have considerable impacts on traffic, noise, and other environmental impacts, which still need to be studied.

We urge you to deny this request.

Sincerely,

Deborah Brasket
SB *CAN* Executive Director

Delivered by email 10-9-09

Deborah Brasket, Executive Director
Santa Barbara County Action Network (SB *CAN*)
P.O. Box 23453, Santa Barbara, CA 93121

10/13/2009

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