

January 26, 2017

Santa Barbara County
Planning Department

To whom it may concern,

Los Olivos Grocery has been an established and well recognized grocery store in the Santa Ynez Valley. Our store, while smaller than a supermarket, has always strived to carry as many items as possible that a customer may have on a shopping list. Whether it is natural and organic produce and foods, to everyday household items and gourmet groceries, we are always listening and trying to update and cater to their needs. Throughout the years we've had many requests for distilled spirits from both locals and tourists staying in the valley. The vast majority of our clientele doing grocery shopping are those shopping for their home or a vacation rental, almost always with shopping carts. It has been a regret having to always refer them to another establishment for items we have not been able to carry in the past and so, in light of this, we have asked for the privilege of expanding our selection to better meet the needs of the valley.

We at Los Olivos Grocery pride ourselves on maintaining a good relationship with both locals and tourists and enjoy the reputation of being a valley market that people use to shop for their homes, not for convenience. We have decided that we will suspend our Type 41 license that allows us to serve Beer & Wine for consumption on the premise in exchange for the privilege to carry distilled spirits. The feedback we have received from our client base has been positive and we feel it is much more important to our business to be able to provide a wider selection of grocery items and maintain an image of being a full service valley market for our customers than to be able to serve wine/beer for consumption on the premises to our deli patrons. There are many places nearby where customers can have a glass of wine but we are the only grocer nearby that is here to provide for the home.

The closest market/grocer that sells spirits is over 7 miles away (El Rancho Market in Solvang). Los Olivos Grocery is the only grocery store between Los Olivos and Solvang that carries produce, cuts of raw meat/poultry, rotisserie, gourmet/organic groceries, and other goods that are unique to a grocery store. We have never sold or been in violation of selling or serving alcohol to any minor or any patron deemed a risk. We do not intend to saturate the market with liquor, we only ask for a small section that will suit the most basic needs of our customers such as liqueur for baking or ingredients for a cocktail. The liquor will be stocked on shelving near the front of the store, towards and in plain view of the cashiers and also under surveillance. We also have never had any issues with any of our neighbors and continue to maintain a great relationship with the valley.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Mitch Samaan, Owner
Los Olivos Grocery
2621 Highway 154
Santa Ynez, CA

January 5, 2017

Santa Barbara County
Board of Supervisors

To whom it may concern,

Per Section 23958.4 of the Business and Professions Code, the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control requires a determination of Public Convenience and Necessity (PC&N) from the local governing body when a business has applied for a certain type of alcoholic beverage license. As stated in the attached ABC-245 form, my clients premises is located in an area that is determined to be over-concentrated with off-sale licenses.

I am a retired ABC Supervisor and am familiar with this section of law. The ABC-245 form shows that Census Tract (19.05), where the premises is located in, allows 3 off-sale liquor licenses and there are currently 21 existing.

I've attached a printout from the ABC showing the existing off-sale licenses in Census Tract 19.05. Although there are 21 off-sale licenses existing, there is only one (1) license that is a storefront and open to the public (refer to #9, highlighted). The remaining licenses noted on the form are considered type 20 (off-sale Beer and Wine) licenses and attached to a wholesale license for internet sales only and cannot be open to the public.

I've attached Section 23817.8 of the Business and Professions Code. This Section was created in 1997 by special legislation so that non-retail (winery, wholesale, etc) licenses could sell their product via internet or mail. This license also does not require a PC&N determination.

The law states that where the premises license is issued they cannot be open to the public. The ABC also restricts this type of license by imposing conditions. The conditions state that the premises can only be used as an office and no product can be stored, possessed or delivered from the premises. They are also restricted to on-line or direct mail sales of their product.

Because the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Controls new computer system cannot differentiate between these retail and non-retail type 20 licenses, it makes census tract 19.05 appear highly over-concentrated with stores that are open to the public.

I hope this information is helpful in making a determination of Public Convenience and Necessity for my client's location.

Regards,


Phil Lundell

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Pismo Beach CA
93448

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Los Olivos Grocery/Aziz Khalil

2621 HIGHWAY 154

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SANTA YNEZ

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DUNN
SCHOOL

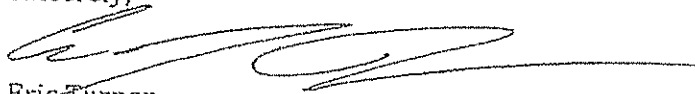
February 10, 2017

To Whom It May Concern:

Dunn School supports the Los Olivos Grocery in its petition to sell distilled spirits. The LOG has been a good partner with the school, and we anticipate that they will continue to provide a safe and appropriate store atmosphere where our students may shop and congregate at the café. The school and LOG have open lines of communication, and we are comfortable discussing any concerns that may arise regarding our students' behavior in their store or concerns that we may have about traffic or other issues generated by having a business so close to our school.

If any clarification is needed, then I would be happy to discuss this issue in greater length. I may be reached at (805) 686-0636 or by email: eturner@dunnschool.org.

Sincerely,



Eric Turner
Dean of Students
Dunn School
Los Olivos, CA 93441