Katherine Douglas Public Comment - Group 1

From: Laurie Wright <lawrn@charter.net>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2026 8:48 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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Laurie Wright
Los Osos CA
coastalcardography@yahoo.com
June 17, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Laurie Wright (Customer (chickens and produce), class attendee), and I am writing as a customer and community supporter of Dare 2 Dream Farms to respectfully ask the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to grant full relief — or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest — on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

I have been a customer of Dare 2 Dream Farms through purchasing chickens, attending chicken raising classes and buying produce. For me and my family, this farm represents something increasingly rare: a local, working agricultural operation that makes fresh, honestly grown food genuinely accessible to our community.

We have driven to the farm from Los Osos on multiple occasions for multiple reasons. Dare to Dream Farm is a gem of a place with a special purpose.

Dare 2 Dream Farms has been serving customers like me since 2013, when they first opened their farm to the community through agricultural exchange programs and tours. What makes this even more extraordinary is that Dare 2 Dream Farms is the first CSA in Santa Barbara County to accept SNAP Online payments — listed on the USDA's own federal website — so that food stamp recipients can order fresh local produce online for delivery or pickup. During COVID-19, the farm grew its CSA to 500% of previous capacity to serve as a community food emergency operation. Every month it donates excess vegetables to Veggie Rescue to feed families in need. One of the things that has always set this farm apart is that it keeps its gates open to the entire community — sunup to sundown, every day — welcoming anyone who wants to visit the animals, walk the garden, or see firsthand where their food comes from. This is not a hotel. It is a working farm that has chosen to be genuinely accessible to the people it serves. Over the years they have grown their impact considerably — operating a CSA produce box subscription service, a farm stand, and participating in the Route One Farmers Market, all while employing 5–6 full-time local workers and hosting hundreds of agricultural exchange visitors from around the world.

I understand that Santa Barbara County is now retroactively assessing approximately $65,000 in Transient Occupancy Tax, penalties, and interest against this farm for a period when the County itself had no legal framework in place for

farm-based lodging on agricultural properties. The County's own Supervisor Joan Hartmann stated at the December 2024 hearing that passed the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance that the goal was to help working farms "stabilize their income during the ups and downs of what is a very difficult way to make a living." A $65,000 retroactive penalty does the opposite — and ultimately affects not just the farm, but the customers and community members who depend on it.

I respectfully ask this Board to grant full forgiveness of the assessed amount, or at minimum to waive all penalties and interest that accumulated during the years when the County provided no legal compliance pathway.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Laurie Wright
Customer (chickens and produce), class attendee Los Osos CA

Laurie

Katherine Douglas

From: Blaine Shifley <bashifley@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2026 9:09 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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Blaine Shifley
United States
bashifley@aol.com
June 17, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Blaine Shifley (Customer), and I am writing as a customer and community supporter of Dare 2 Dream Farms to respectfully ask the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to grant full relief — or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest — on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

I have been a customer of Dare 2 Dream Farms, purchasing my own backyard chickens from D2D. For me and my family, this farm represents something increasingly rare: a local, working agricultural operation that makes fresh, honestly grown food genuinely accessible to our community.

Small farms need to be supported by local governments, not taxed to death. Increasing costs of fuel, water and farms are felt the most by farmers who are trying to support their community. Local grown food helps the community and encourages others to live a healthier and more community focused lifestyle. Knowing where my food comes from is important and should be to the board too.

Dare 2 Dream Farms has been serving customers like me since 2013, when they first opened their farm to the community through agricultural exchange programs and tours. What makes this even more extraordinary is that Dare 2 Dream Farms is the first CSA in Santa Barbara County to accept SNAP Online payments — listed on the USDA's own federal website — so that food stamp recipients can order fresh local produce online for delivery or pickup. During COVID-19, the farm grew its CSA to 500% of previous capacity to serve as a community food emergency operation. Every month it donates excess vegetables to Veggie Rescue to feed families in need. One of the things that has always set this farm apart is that it keeps its gates open to the entire community — sunup to sundown, every day — welcoming anyone who wants to visit the animals, walk the garden, or see firsthand where their food comes from. This is not a hotel. It is a working farm that has chosen to be genuinely accessible to the people it serves. Over the years they have grown their impact considerably — operating a CSA produce box subscription service, a farm stand, and participating in the Route One Farmers Market, all while employing 5–6 full-time local workers and hosting hundreds of agricultural exchange visitors from around the world.

I understand that Santa Barbara County is now retroactively assessing approximately $65,000 in Transient Occupancy Tax, penalties, and interest against this farm for a period when the County itself had no legal framework in place for farm-based lodging on agricultural properties. The County's own Supervisor Joan Hartmann stated at the December 2024 hearing that passed the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance that the goal was to help working farms "stabilize their income during the ups and downs of what is a very difficult way to make a living." A $65,000 retroactive penalty does the opposite — and ultimately affects not just the farm, but the customers and community members who depend on it.

I respectfully ask this Board to grant full forgiveness of the assessed amount, or at minimum to waive all penalties and interest that accumulated during the years when the County provided no legal compliance pathway.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Blaine Shifley
Customer
Stevenson Ranch
United States

Sent from my iPhone

Katherine Douglas

From: Courtnie Clegg <bobbybloo@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2026 9:12 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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Courtnie Clegg
Lompoc, CA United States
bobbybloo@gmail.com
June 17, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Courtnie Clegg , and I am writing as a customer and community supporter of Dare 2 Dream Farms to respectfully ask the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to grant full relief — or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest — on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

I have been a customer of Dare 2 Dream Farms through the farm stand, purchasing chickens and free farm tours for the kids. For me and my family, this farm represents something increasingly rare: a local, working agricultural operation that makes fresh, honestly grown food genuinely accessible to our community.

I believe it's important to have local resources of healthy food available, and this farm food that. That are also a community builder, which is very important in this area and this day and age. Lompoc and really the Central Coast needs Dare 2 Dream farms to keep functioning like it has been. They give a lot back to the community.

Dare 2 Dream Farms has been serving customers like me since 2013, when they first opened their farm to the community through agricultural exchange programs and tours. What makes this even more extraordinary is that Dare 2 Dream Farms is the first CSA in Santa Barbara County to accept SNAP Online payments — listed on the USDA's own federal website — so that food stamp recipients can order fresh local produce online for delivery or pickup. During COVID-19, the farm grew its CSA to 500% of previous capacity to serve as a community food emergency operation. Every month it donates excess vegetables to Veggie Rescue to feed families in need. One of the things that has always set this farm apart is that it keeps its gates open to the entire community — sunup to sundown, every day — welcoming anyone who wants to visit the animals, walk the garden, or see firsthand where their food comes from. This is not a hotel. It is a working farm that has chosen to be genuinely accessible to the people it serves. Over the years they have grown their impact considerably — operating a CSA produce box subscription service, a farm stand, and participating in the Route One Farmers Market, all while employing 5–6 full-time local workers and hosting hundreds of agricultural exchange visitors from around the world.

I understand that Santa Barbara County is now retroactively assessing approximately $65,000 in Transient Occupancy Tax, penalties, and interest against this farm for a period when the County itself had no legal framework in place for

farm-based lodging on agricultural properties. The County's own Supervisor Joan Hartmann stated at the December 2024 hearing that passed the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance that the goal was to help working farms "stabilize their income during the ups and downs of what is a very difficult way to make a living." A $65,000 retroactive penalty does the opposite — and ultimately affects not just the farm, but the customers and community members who depend on it.

I respectfully ask this Board to grant full forgiveness of the assessed amount, or at minimum to waive all penalties and interest that accumulated during the years when the County provided no legal compliance pathway.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Courtnie Clegg
Lompoc, CA United States

~Courtnie

Katherine Douglas

From: Viri Acosta <acoviridiana@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2026 9:18 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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Viridiana Acosta-Merritt
CA
acoviridiana@gmail.com
June 17, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Viridiana Acosta-Merritt (Farm customer & I have purchased chicks from them), and I am writing as a customer and community supporter of Dare 2 Dream Farms to respectfully ask the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to grant full relief — or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest — on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

I have been a customer of Dare 2 Dream Farms through their farm stand and have purchased their chicks - who are now my young daughter's loved pets. For me and my family, this farm represents something increasingly rare: a local, working agricultural operation that makes fresh, honestly grown food genuinely accessible to our community.

My daughter and I have visited the farm informally — the staff showed us the animals, we walked the garden, and had an amazing time. Having real working farms that are welcoming of guests -especially children- are essential and it is imperative that they remain open.

Dare 2 Dream Farms has been serving customers like me since 2013, when they first opened their farm to the community through agricultural exchange programs and tours. What makes this even more extraordinary is that Dare 2 Dream Farms is the first CSA in Santa Barbara County to accept SNAP Online payments — listed on the USDA's own federal website — so that food stamp recipients can order fresh local produce online for delivery or pickup. During COVID-19, the farm grew its CSA to 500% of previous capacity to serve as a community food emergency operation. Every month it donates excess vegetables to Veggie Rescue to feed families in need. One of the things that has always set this farm apart is that it keeps its gates open to the entire community — sunup to sundown, every day — welcoming anyone who wants to visit the animals, walk the garden, or see firsthand where their food comes from. This is not a hotel. It is a working farm that has

chosen to be genuinely accessible to the people it serves. Over the years they have grown their impact considerably — operating a CSA produce box subscription service, a farm stand, and participating in the Route One Farmers Market, all while employing 5–6 full-time local workers and hosting hundreds of agricultural exchange visitors from around the world.

I understand that Santa Barbara County is now retroactively assessing approximately $65,000 in Transient Occupancy Tax, penalties, and interest against this farm for a period when the County itself had no legal framework in place for farm-based lodging on agricultural properties. The County's own Supervisor Joan Hartmann stated at the December 2024 hearing that passed the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance that the goal was to help working farms "stabilize their income during the ups and downs of what is a very difficult way to make a living." A $65,000 retroactive penalty does the opposite — and ultimately affects not just the farm, but the customers and community members who depend on it.

I respectfully ask this Board to grant full forgiveness of the assessed amount, or at minimum to waive all penalties and interest that accumulated during the years when the County provided no legal compliance pathway.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Viridiana Acosta-Merritt
Farm customer & have purchased chicks
San Luis Obispo
CA

Katherine Douglas

From: Dawn Valerie Valencia <dawnvalerie@earthlink.net>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2026 9:23 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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Dawn Valencia
Santa Ynez, CA/Santa Barbara
dawnvalerie@earthlink.net
June 17, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Dawn Valencia (Long time Customer), and I am writing as a customer and community supporter of Dare 2 Dream Farms to respectfully ask the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to grant full relief — or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest — on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

I have purchased chickens from Dare 2 Dream Farms on multiple occasions and I have visited the farmstand. For me and my family, this farm represents something increasingly rare: a local, working agricultural operation that makes fresh, honestly grown food genuinely accessible to our community. Even though the Santa Ynez Valley is also an agricultural area, there is nothing here that I know of that provides the same services, level of customer service, and/or available healthy birds.

I grew up in Lompoc back when the flower fields were everywhere. Everyone knew someone who worked in agriculture, and the town was so closely tied to that industry that the Flower Festival was a true highlight of the year. Now, big ag has taken over and the flowers are mostly gone. A lot of agricultural jobs are seasonal, and the money leaves Santa Barbara county. Dare 2 Dream Farms is still here. They employ people who are here. They benefit the entire county through generous donations of food, and they educate so many adults and children about the importance of agriculture. It doesn't seem like they are unwilling to pay their fair share, but it doesn't seem feel like they are being penalized for doing everything I would have thought the Board of supervisors would want them to do.

Dare 2 Dream Farms has been serving customers like me since 2013, when they first opened their farm to the community through agricultural exchange programs and tours. What makes this even more extraordinary is that Dare 2 Dream Farms is the first CSA in Santa Barbara County to accept SNAP Online payments — listed on the USDA's own federal website — so that food stamp recipients can order fresh local produce online for delivery or pickup. During COVID-19, the farm grew its CSA to 500% of previous capacity to serve as a community food emergency operation. Every month it donates excess vegetables to Veggie Rescue to feed families in need. One of the things that has always set this farm apart is that it keeps its gates open to the entire community — sunup to sundown, every day — welcoming anyone who wants to visit the animals, walk the garden, or see firsthand where their food comes from. This is not a hotel. It is a working farm that has chosen to be genuinely accessible to the people it serves. Over the years they have grown their

impact considerably — operating a CSA produce box subscription service, a farm stand, and participating in the Route One Farmers Market, all while employing 5–6 full-time local workers and hosting hundreds of agricultural exchange visitors from around the world.

I understand that Santa Barbara County is now retroactively assessing approximately $65,000 in Transient Occupancy Tax, penalties, and interest against this farm for a period when the County itself had no legal framework in place for farm-based lodging on agricultural properties. The County's own Supervisor Joan Hartmann stated at the December 2024 hearing that passed the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance that the goal was to help working farms "stabilize their income during the ups and downs of what is a very difficult way to make a living." A $65,000 retroactive penalty does the opposite — and ultimately affects not just the farm, but the customers and community members who depend on it.

I respectfully ask this Board to grant full forgiveness of the assessed amount, or at minimum to waive all penalties and interest that accumulated during the years when the County provided no legal compliance pathway.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Dawn Valencia
Long time Customer
Santa Ynez
Santa Ynez, CA/Santa Barbara

dvv

Katherine Douglas

From: Kristina Coleman <kristinarcoleman@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2026 9:35 AM
To: sbcob
Cc: jraff@dare2dreamfarms.com
Subject: Public Comment - TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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Kristina Coleman
Minneapolis, MN
kristinarcoleman@gmail.com

June 17, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Kristina Coleman, and I am writing from Minneapolis, Minnesota to express my strong support for Dare 2 Dream Farms in their appeal before your Board. I participated in the WWOOF (World Wide Opportunities on Organic Farms) agricultural work-exchange program at Dare 2 Dream Farms in Fall 2013, and the experience has had a lasting impact on me.

The WWOOF program is a non-commercial, educational work-exchange: participants contribute their labor to the farm and receive housing, meals, and immersive hands-on agricultural education in return. It is not a commercial lodging arrangement. Dare 2 Dream Farms has welcomed over 500 WWOOF participants from across the United States and internationally — sharing California's Central Coast agricultural traditions, sustainable farming practices, and genuine rural community with people from around the world. I was grateful to be one of them.

I still talk about my time on the "chicken farm" and have encouraged others to check out WWOOF opportunities around the world. Jeremy, Megan, and their farm were my home for a few months and I'll never forget how welcoming they were to all who visited. They immediately made us feel like family, and taught us the ins and outs of the farm while working shoulder to shoulder alongside us. My stay at the farm was short but I'll never forget mornings waking up at dawn (I'm not a morning person!) feeding the chickens, gardening, and going on adventures with the other WWOOFers! Thank you to Jeremy and Megan for giving me a home between my move from South Carolina to San Francisco.

The kind of authentic agricultural education and cultural exchange that Dare 2 Dream Farms provides cannot be replicated by a commercial operation. The farm has always kept its gates open sunup to sundown to

anyone who wants to visit — to see the animals, walk the garden, and connect with where their food comes from. It is a farm that has chosen openness as a core value, not a business model. I urge this Board to recognize the extraordinary value this farm represents — locally, nationally, and internationally — and to grant full relief from the retroactive TOT assessment. At minimum, I ask that you waive the penalties and interest that accumulated during the years when the County not only provided no legal pathway forward, but actively ruled against creating one — despite good-faith efforts by Jeremy and others, who in 2019 joined the County's Farmstay Advisory Committee — bringing his perspective as a working farmer to help find a common-sense solution — whose recommendations became the foundation of the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance, finally passed in December 2024.

Thank you for considering this perspective from someone whose life was enriched by this farm.

Sincerely,

Kristina Coleman
Development Manager
Minneapolis, MN

Katherine Douglas

From: Kate Bennett <kate@katebennett.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2026 9:44 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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Kate Bennett
Lompoc CA USA
kate@katebennett.com
June 17, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Kate Bennett (Customer), and I am writing as a customer and community supporter of Dare 2 Dream Farms to respectfully ask the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to grant full relief — or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest — on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

I have been a customer of Dare 2 Dream Farms through [describe your connection — farm stand, CSA produce box subscription, Route One Farmers Market, farm tour, or other]. For me and my family, this farm represents something increasingly rare: a local, working agricultural operation that makes fresh, honestly grown food genuinely accessible to our community.

Dare 2 Dream Farms has been serving customers like me since 2013, when they first opened their farm to the community through agricultural exchange programs and tours. What makes this even more extraordinary is that Dare 2 Dream Farms is the first CSA in Santa Barbara County to accept SNAP Online payments — listed on the USDA's own federal website — so that food stamp recipients can order fresh local produce online for delivery or pickup. During COVID-19, the farm grew its CSA to 500% of previous capacity to serve as a community food emergency operation. Every month it donates excess vegetables to Veggie Rescue to feed families in need. One of the things that has always set this farm apart is that it keeps its gates open to the entire community — sunup to sundown, every day — welcoming anyone who wants to visit the animals, walk the garden, or see firsthand where their food comes from. This is not a hotel. It is a working farm that has chosen to be genuinely accessible to the people it serves. Over the years they have grown their impact considerably — operating a CSA produce box subscription service, a farm stand, and participating in the Route One Farmers Market, all while employing 5–6 full-time local workers and hosting hundreds of agricultural exchange visitors from around the world.

I understand that Santa Barbara County is now retroactively assessing approximately $65,000 in Transient Occupancy Tax, penalties, and interest against this farm for a period when the County itself had no legal framework in place for farm-based lodging on agricultural properties. The County's own Supervisor Joan Hartmann stated at the December 2024 hearing that passed the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance that the goal was to help working farms "stabilize their income

during the ups and downs of what is a very difficult way to make a living." A $65,000 retroactive penalty does the opposite — and ultimately affects not just the farm, but the customers and community members who depend on it.

I respectfully ask this Board to grant full forgiveness of the assessed amount, or at minimum to waive all penalties and interest that accumulated during the years when the County provided no legal compliance pathway.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kate Bennett
Customer
Lompoc CA USA

Sent from my iPad

Katherine Douglas

From: Patrick Tolosky <ptolosky15@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2026 9:52 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Dare 2 Dream Farm Letter of Support
Attachments: Tolosky MD MPH. Comment. Dare 2 Dream Farms Hearing..pdf

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.

Hello Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to submit this letter of support for Dare 2 Dream Farms in their upcoming hearing on July 7, urging the office to grant full relief from the retroactive TOT assessment.

I outlined in the letter (attached) why I am urging this stance, and the impact of the farm on my professional career in medicine and public health (with a focus on food, agriculture, and human health) along with my personal life.

Thank you for taking the time to read this. All my best,

Patrick Tolosky MD, MPH
Bates College '15
Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth '21

Dare 2 Dream Farms

Patrick J Tolosky MD, MPH
Freeport Maine
ptolosky15@gmail.com
June 17, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Patrick J Tolosky, and I am writing to express my strong support for Dare 2 Dream Farms in their appeal before your Board. I participated in the WWOOF (World Wide Opportunities on Organic Farms) agricultural work-exchange program at Dare 2 Dream Farms in Spring 2017, and the experience has had a lasting impact on me.

My time living and working as a volunteer at Dare 2 Dream was one of the most powerful experiences of my adult life. I had a burgeoning interest in food and agriculture, and wanted to get a better understanding of what it was like to work and live on a farm and agriculture in general. This time was hard work - caring for the chickens, pruning tomato plants, and doing general farm tasks, but I loved the work. It also planted the seed for my growing interest in the intersection of nutrition, agriculture, human well being and public health. I experienced firsthand the importance of farming and agriculture, and how being connected to one's food production is a very powerful experience. I went on to study medicine and am now a family physician and preventive medicine physician. My Masters in Public Health capstone course focused on food insecurity in Maine, a topic that I chose. This year I am finishing my certification in lifestyle medicine, which holds nutrition as a key pillar of healthy living. I have also been involved in work at my hospital on establishing hospital based food pantries and running programming focused on nutrition to individuals who screen positive for food insecurity.

This desire to pursue additional public health training with a focus on nutrition, food security, and health stemmed from my time at Dare 2 Dream, and I am forever indebted to Jeremy and Megan and the farm for opening my eyes regarding the importance of food and nutrition. This set the foundation for my professional career in medicine with a focus on the intersection between food, nutrition, and human health.

The WWOOF program is a non-commercial, educational work-exchange: participants contribute their labor to the farm and receive housing, meals, and immersive hands-on agricultural education in return. It is not a commercial lodging arrangement. Dare 2 Dream Farms has welcomed over 500 WWOOF participants from across the United States and internationally — sharing California's Central Coast agricultural traditions, sustainable farming practices, and genuine rural community with people from around the world. I was grateful to be one of them.

The kind of authentic agricultural education and cultural exchange that Dare 2 Dream Farms provides cannot be replicated by a commercial operation. The farm has always kept its gates open sunup to sundown to anyone who wants to visit — to see the animals, walk the garden, and connect with where their food comes from. It is a farm that has chosen openness as a core value, not a business model. I urge this Board to recognize the extraordinary value this farm represents — locally, nationally, and internationally — and to grant full relief from the retroactive TOT assessment. At minimum, I ask that you waive the penalties and interest that accumulated during the years when the County not only provided no legal pathway forward, but actively ruled against creating one — despite good-faith efforts by Jeremy and others, who in 2019 joined the County's Farmstay Advisory Committee — bringing his perspective as a working farmer to help find a common-sense solution — whose recommendations became the foundation of the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance, finally passed in December 2024.

Thank you for considering this perspective from someone whose life was enriched by this farm.

Sincerely,

Patrick J Tolosky MD, MPH
Family Physician and Public Health Leader
Freeport, ME

Katherine Douglas

From: Marisela Glasgow <mari.glasgow@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2026 9:59 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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Marisela Glasgow
Los Angeles, CA
mari.glasgow@gmail.com
June 17, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Marisela Glasgow (Customer), and I am writing as a customer and community supporter of Dare 2 Dream Farms to respectfully ask the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to grant full relief — or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest — on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

I have been a customer of Dare 2 Dream Farms through their breeding program. I purchased my very first 6 day old chicks from Dare 2 Dream Farms and they were perfect and healthy chicks. For me and my family, this farm represents something increasingly rare: a local, working agricultural operation that makes fresh, honestly grown food genuinely accessible to our community.

Dare 2 Dream Farms allowed me to start my homesteading journey, provide for my family, and learn what it means to be humble and grateful about where our food comes from.

Dare 2 Dream Farms has been serving customers like me since 2013, when they first opened their farm to the community through agricultural exchange programs and tours. What makes this even more extraordinary is that Dare 2 Dream Farms is the first CSA in Santa Barbara County to accept SNAP Online payments — listed on the USDA's own federal website — so that food stamp recipients can order fresh local produce online for delivery or pickup. During COVID-19, the farm grew its CSA to 500% of previous capacity to serve as a community food emergency operation. Every month it donates excess vegetables to Veggie Rescue to feed families in need. One of the things that has always set this farm apart is that it keeps its gates open to the entire community — sunup to sundown, every day — welcoming anyone who wants to visit the animals, walk the garden, or see firsthand where their food comes from. This is not a hotel. It is a working farm that has chosen to be genuinely accessible to the people it serves. Over the years they have grown their impact

considerably — operating a CSA produce box subscription service, a farm stand, and participating in the Route One Farmers Market, all while employing 5–6 full-time local workers and hosting hundreds of agricultural exchange visitors from around the world.

I understand that Santa Barbara County is now retroactively assessing approximately $65,000 in Transient Occupancy Tax, penalties, and interest against this farm for a period when the County itself had no legal framework in place for farm-based lodging on agricultural properties. The County's own Supervisor Joan Hartmann stated at the December 2024 hearing that passed the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance that the goal was to help working farms "stabilize their income during the ups and downs of what is a very difficult way to make a living." A $65,000 retroactive penalty does the opposite — and ultimately affects not just the farm, but the customers and community members who depend on it.

I respectfully ask this Board to grant full forgiveness of the assessed amount, or at minimum to waive all penalties and interest that accumulated during the years when the County provided no legal compliance pathway.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Marisela Glasgow
Customer
Los Angeles, CA

Katherine Douglas

From: VICTORIA MCCLAIN <auntievic@verizon.net>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2026 10:14 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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.

Victoria Leslie McClain
CA
auntievic@verizon.net
June 17, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Victoria Leslie McClain (Customer), and I am writing as a customer and community supporter of Dare 2 Dream Farms to respectfully ask the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to grant full relief — or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest — on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

I have been a customer of Dare 2 Dream Farms through the farm stand and Route One Farmers Market. For me and my family, this farm represents something increasingly rare: a local, working agricultural operation that makes fresh, honestly grown food genuinely accessible to our community.

This farm is an important resource in our community and family run organic farms are important to the health of our community. We should support and preserve community resources like Dare 2 Dream.

Dare 2 Dream Farms has been serving customers like me since 2013, when they first opened their farm to the community through agricultural exchange programs and tours. What makes this even more extraordinary is that Dare 2 Dream Farms is the first CSA in Santa Barbara County to accept SNAP Online payments — listed on the USDA's own federal website — so that food stamp recipients can order fresh local produce online for delivery or pickup. During COVID-19, the farm grew its CSA to 500% of previous capacity to serve as a community food emergency operation. Every month it donates excess vegetables to Veggie Rescue to feed families in need. One of the things that has always set this farm apart is that it keeps its gates open to the entire community — sunup to sundown, every day — welcoming anyone who wants to visit the animals, walk the garden, or see firsthand where their food comes from. This is not a hotel. It is a working farm that has chosen to be genuinely accessible to the people it serves. Over the years they have grown their impact considerably — operating a CSA produce box subscription service, a farm stand, and participating in the Route One Farmers Market, all while employing 5–6 full-time local workers and hosting hundreds of agricultural exchange visitors from around the world.

I understand that Santa Barbara County is now retroactively assessing approximately $65,000 in Transient Occupancy Tax, penalties, and interest against this farm for a period when the County itself had no legal framework in place for farm-based lodging on agricultural properties. The County's own Supervisor Joan Hartmann stated at the December 2024

hearing that passed the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance that the goal was to help working farms "stabilize their income during the ups and downs of what is a very difficult way to make a living." A $65,000 retroactive penalty does the opposite — and ultimately affects not just the farm, but the customers and community members who depend on it.

I respectfully ask this Board to grant full forgiveness of the assessed amount, or at minimum to waive all penalties and interest that accumulated during the years when the County provided no legal compliance pathway.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Victoria Leslie McClain
Customer
Lompoc
CA

Sent from my iPhone

Katherine Douglas

From: Melissa Musgrove <melissa@melissamusgrove.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2026 10:14 AM
To: sbcob
Cc: jraff@dare2dreamfarms.com
Subject: TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

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.

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Melissa Musgrove, and I am writing as a customer and community supporter of Dare 2 Dream Farms to mightily request the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to grant full relief — on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

I have been a customer of Dare 2 Dream Farms through purchase of baby chicks. At this time, maybe more than ever, we need to support small independent farms in every way possible.

Most people are very disconnected where the food they eat comes from. As a county we should probably be paying the farm for the education they give by allowing schools to come tour the farm. For FREE!
Health is at the top of the list for a civilized community. For people to learn where, how and why about agriculture in a real way, to see and touch, can have lifelong lasting impressions. Not to mention the food people can purchase. What better way to connect community than through food grown locally. And the health benefits? One need not be a rocket scientist to figure out.

Instead of trying to revive downtown Santa Barbara with I would argue - no impact - actions like painting blue stripes on the street, we could support something that will have actual results. Can we please get our priorities straight? If I received the correct amount from google the cost was $100,000. for the project.

The chickens I purchased at Dare 2 Dream farms lay eggs that I joyfully give on a weekly basis to our garbage collector, newspaper delivery, friends and family. Need I tell you how delighted they are each week? Especially with groceries at an all time high.

Surely, you can make way in your budget, or find a grant like you did for the downtown blue stripe project, when you consider all the benefits a local farm produces for our County.

I'm asking the Board to grant full forgiveness of the assessed amount, or at minimum to waive all penalties and interest that accumulated during the years when the County provided no legal compliance pathway.

Thank you for standing with our community and doing the right thing.

Sincerely,

Melissa Musgrove
San Marcos Pass Rd.
Santa Barbara, CA 93105

Katherine Douglas

From: Flor Macias <flor_sm8@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2026 10:16 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment %2[illegible] TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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.

Flor Macias Martinez Orcutt, Ca / Santa Barbara County Flor_sm8@yahoo.com June 17, 2026 Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors County of Santa Barbara 105 E. Anapamu Street Santa Barbara,
CA 93101 Re: Public Comment %2[illegible] TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors, My name is Flor Macias Martinez , and I am writing as a customer and community supporter of Dare 2 Dream
Farms to respectfully ask the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to grant full relief %2[illegible] or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest %2[illegible] on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you. I have been a customer of Dare
2 Dream Farms through thrir farm stand, CSA produce box subscription and Route One Farmers Market. For me and my family, this farm represents something increasingly rare: a local, working agricultural operation that makes fresh, honestly grown food genuinely
accessible to our community. My kids deserve the best and with Dare to Dream I've found that. Always amazingly delicious fruits and vegetables, fresh, local honey. With staff that goes above and beyond. Always a smiley face at the farmers maeket, always a
hello at the stand. My kids always feel like the are on a field trip when we go to the stand. They have affordable prices with all of their products. Dare 2 Dream Farms has been serving customers like me since 2013, when they first opened their farm to the
community through agricultural exchange programs and tours. What makes this even more extraordinary is that Dare 2 Dream Farms is the first CSA in Santa Barbara County to accept SNAP Online payments %2[illegible] listed on the USDA's own federal website %2[illegible] so that
food stamp recipients can order fresh local produce online for delivery or pickup. During COVID-19, the farm grew its CSA to 500% of previous capacity to serve as a community food emergency operation. Every month it donates excess vegetables to Veggie Rescue
to feed families in need. One of the things that has always set this farm apart is that it keeps its gates open to the entire community %2[illegible] sunup to sundown, every day %2[illegible] welcoming anyone who wants to visit the animals, walk the garden, or see firsthand
where their food comes from. This is not a hotel. It is a working farm that has chosen to be genuinely accessible to the people it serves. Over the years they have grown their impact considerably %2[illegible] operating a CSA produce box subscription service, a farm
stand, and participating in the Route One Farmers Market, all while employing 5%2[illegible]6 full-time local workers and hosting hundreds of agricultural exchange visitors from around the world. I understand that Santa Barbara County is now retroactively assessing
approximately $65,000 in Transient Occupancy Tax, penalties, and interest against this farm for a period when the County itself had no legal framework in place for farm-based lodging on agricultural properties. The County's own Supervisor Joan Hartmann stated
at the December 2024 hearing that passed the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance that the goal was to help working farms "stabilize their income during the ups and downs of what is a very difficult way to make a living." A $65,000 retroactive penalty does the
opposite %2[illegible] and ultimately affects not just the farm, but the customers and community members who depend on it. I respectfully ask this Board to grant full forgiveness of the assessed amount, or at minimum to waive all penalties and interest that accumulated
during the years when the County provided no legal compliance pathway. Thank you for your consideration. Sincerely, Flor Macias Martinez Orcutt, Ca / Santa Barbara County

Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer

Katherine Douglas

From: Chris LaVino <chrislavino@icloud.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2026 10:27 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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Chris LaVino
Solvang, CA
chrislavino@icloud.com
June 17, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Chris LaVino , and I am writing as a customer and community supporter of Dare 2 Dream Farms to respectfully ask the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to grant full relief — or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest — on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

I have been a customer of Dare 2 Dream Farms through the farm stand. For me and my family, this farm represents something increasingly rare: a local, working agricultural operation that makes fresh, honestly grown food genuinely accessible to our community.

Having food that is locally sourced and grown by people who support the community is very important to me and essential to making the world a better place. Being on the farm and seeing the garden, chickens, goats, etc is such a heartwarming experience. One, that everyone should have the opportunity to experience.

Dare 2 Dream Farms has been serving customers like me since 2013, when they first opened their farm to the community through agricultural exchange programs and tours. What makes this even more extraordinary is that Dare 2 Dream Farms is the first CSA in Santa Barbara County to accept SNAP Online payments — listed on the USDA's own federal website — so that food stamp recipients can order fresh local produce online for delivery or pickup. During COVID-19, the farm grew its CSA to 500% of previous capacity to serve as a community food emergency operation. Every month it donates excess vegetables to Veggie Rescue to feed families in need. One of the things that has always set this farm apart is that it keeps its gates open to the entire community — sunup to sundown, every day — welcoming anyone who wants to visit the animals, walk the garden, or see firsthand where their food comes from. This is not a hotel. It is a working farm that has chosen to be genuinely accessible to the people it serves. Over the years they have grown their impact considerably — operating a CSA produce box subscription service, a farm stand, and participating in the Route One Farmers Market, all while employing 5–6 full-time local workers and hosting hundreds of agricultural exchange visitors from around the world.

I understand that Santa Barbara County is now retroactively assessing approximately $65,000 in Transient Occupancy Tax, penalties, and interest against this farm for a period when the County itself had no legal framework in place for

farm-based lodging on agricultural properties. The County's own Supervisor Joan Hartmann stated at the December 2024 hearing that passed the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance that the goal was to help working farms "stabilize their income during the ups and downs of what is a very difficult way to make a living." A $65,000 retroactive penalty does the opposite — and ultimately affects not just the farm, but the customers and community members who depend on it.

I respectfully ask this Board to grant full forgiveness of the assessed amount, or at minimum to waive all penalties and interest that accumulated during the years when the County provided no legal compliance pathway.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Chris LaVino
Solvang, CA

Katherine Douglas

From: James Allen <happyearthboy@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2026 10:42 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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James Allen
Santa Barbara, CA, USA
happyearthboy@gmail.com
June 17, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is James Allen, and I am writing as a customer and community supporter of Dare 2 Dream Farms to respectfully request the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to grant full relief on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

I have been a customer of Dare 2 Dream Farms through the farm stand and online products. For me, my family, and my local business in Santa Barbra County, this farm represents the values our country was founded upon and something increasingly rare: a local, working agricultural operation that successfully makes fresh, healthy food accessible to our community, while providing experiential education across all generations.

Dare 2 Dream Farms has been serving customers like me since 2013, when they first opened their farm to the community through agricultural exchange programs and tours. You are already in agreement that this is a legitimate working farm that has made itself easily accessible to the community. You are also already aware that over the years they have grown their impact considerably — operating a CSA produce box subscription service, a farm stand, and participating in the Route One Farmers Market, all while employing 5–6 full-time local workers and hosting hundreds of agricultural exchange visitors from around the world.

I've been informed that Santa Barbara County is now retroactively assessing approximately $65,000 in Transient Occupancy Tax, penalties, and interest against this farm for a period when the County itself had absolutely no legal framework in place for farm-based lodging on agricultural properties. The County's own Supervisor Joan Hartmann stated at the December 2024 hearing that passed the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance that the goal was to help working farms "stabilize their income during the ups and downs of what is a very difficult way to make a living." A $65,000 retroactive penalty does the opposite — and ultimately affects not just the farm, but the customers and community members who depend on it.

This assessment appears to punish conduct that the County has since recognized as beneficial and worthy of support. Dare 2 Dream Farms did not operate in secrecy, nor did it attempt to evade County oversight. Its agricultural exchange programs, tours, and lodging activities were conducted openly and publicly for many years, contributing to agricultural education, agritourism, and local food production.

Where a property owner knowingly violates clear regulations, penalties may be appropriate. However, this situation arose during a period when Santa Barbara County had not yet established a clear regulatory pathway for farm-based lodging on working agricultural properties. Under these circumstances, imposing taxes, penalties, and interest retroactively creates the appearance of penalizing a farm for operating within a regulatory gray area that the County itself later addressed through the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance.

Granting full relief would not undermine County policy; rather, it would affirm the County's stated commitment to supporting working farms, encouraging agricultural innovation, and fostering economic resilience in rural communities. It would recognize that Dare 2 Dream Farms acted in good faith while providing substantial public benefit to Santa Barbara County residents and visitors alike.

As a customer, taxpayer, and member of this community, I respectfully request that the Board exercise its discretion to grant full forgiveness of all assessed taxes, penalties, and interest. Given the absence of a clear regulatory framework at the time, the farm's good-faith and public operation, and the substantial benefit it has provided to our community, full relief is both fair and consistent with the County's stated agricultural policy goals.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

James Allen
Customer
Santa Barbara, CA, USA

Katherine Douglas

From: Angela Hudson <angelalerche@me.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2026 11:00 AM
To: sbcob
Cc: jraff@dare2dreamfarms.com
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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.

Angela Lerche
Santa Barbara, CA
angelalerche@me.com
June 17, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Angela Lerche (Customer), and I am writing as a customer and community supporter of Dare 2 Dream Farms to respectfully ask the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to grant full relief — or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest — on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

I have been a customer of Dare 2 Dream Farms through [describe your connection — farm stand, CSA produce box subscription, Route One Farmers Market, farm tour, or other]. For me and my family, this farm represents something increasingly rare: a local, working agricultural operation that makes fresh, honestly grown food genuinely accessible to our community.

[Add your personal experience — why locally sourced food matters to you, what the farm's products have meant to your household, what it would mean to lose this resource in our community. If you have visited the farm informally — brought your kids to see the animals, walked the garden, or stopped by the farm stand — mention that too.]

Dare 2 Dream Farms has been serving customers like me since 2013, when they first opened their farm to the community through agricultural exchange programs and tours. What makes this even more extraordinary is that Dare 2 Dream Farms is the first CSA in Santa Barbara County to accept SNAP Online payments — listed on the USDA's own federal website — so that food stamp recipients can order fresh local produce online for delivery or pickup. During COVID-19, the farm grew its CSA to 500% of previous capacity to serve as a community food emergency operation. Every month it donates excess vegetables to Veggie Rescue to feed families in need. One of the things that has always set this farm apart is that it keeps its gates open to the entire community — sunup to sundown, every day — welcoming anyone who wants to visit the animals, walk the garden, or see firsthand where their food comes from. This is not a hotel. It is a working farm that has chosen to be genuinely accessible to the people it serves. Over the years they have grown their impact considerably — operating a CSA produce box subscription service, a farm stand, and participating in the Route One Farmers Market, all while employing 5–6 full-time local workers and hosting hundreds of agricultural exchange visitors from around the world.

I understand that Santa Barbara County is now retroactively assessing approximately $65,000 in Transient Occupancy Tax, penalties, and interest against this farm for a period when the County itself had no legal framework in place for farm-based lodging on agricultural properties. The County's own Supervisor Joan Hartmann stated at the December 2024 hearing that passed the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance that the goal was to help working farms "stabilize their income during the ups and downs of what is a very difficult way to make a living." A $65,000 retroactive penalty does the opposite — and ultimately affects not just the farm, but the customers and community members who depend on it.

I respectfully ask this Board to grant full forgiveness of the assessed amount, or at minimum to waive all penalties and interest that accumulated during the years when the County provided no legal compliance pathway.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Angela Lerche
Customer
Santa Barbara, CA
Sent from my phone

Katherine Douglas

From: Delbert Britschgi <delbrit@icloud.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2026 11:28 AM
To: sbcob
Cc: Delbert Britschgi
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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Delbert Britschgi
Solvang, CA
delbrit@icloud.com
June 17, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Delbert Britschgi (Customer), and I am writing as a customer and community supporter of Dare 2 Dream Farms to respectfully ask the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to grant full relief — or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest — on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

I have been a customer of Dare 2 Dream Farms through farm stand and farm visit. For me and my family, this farm represents something increasingly rare: a local, working agricultural operation that makes fresh, honestly grown food genuinely accessible to our community.

I recently had the pleasure of driving to the farm to pick up a few hens for our small flock. It was such a rewarding experience to be able to see in person the people who raised the chicks. That level of trust and concern can only be had from this kind of local neighbors. That day I was also able to purchase five pounds of locally produced sage honey at a great price.

Dare 2 Dream Farms has been serving customers like me since 2013, when they first opened their farm to the community through agricultural exchange programs and tours. What makes this even more extraordinary is that Dare 2 Dream Farms is the first CSA in Santa Barbara County to accept SNAP Online payments — listed on the USDA's own federal website — so that food stamp recipients can order fresh local produce online for delivery or pickup. During COVID-19, the farm grew its CSA to 500% of previous capacity to serve as a community food emergency operation. Every month it donates excess vegetables to Veggie Rescue to feed families in need. One of the things that has always set this farm apart is that it keeps its gates open to the entire community — sunup to sundown, every day — welcoming anyone who wants to visit the animals, walk the garden, or see firsthand where their food comes from. This is not a hotel. It is a working farm that has chosen to be genuinely accessible to the people it serves. Over the years they have grown their impact considerably — operating a CSA produce box subscription service, a farm stand, and participating in the Route One Farmers Market, all while employing 5–6 full-time local workers and hosting hundreds of agricultural exchange visitors from around the world.

I understand that Santa Barbara County is now retroactively assessing approximately $65,000 in Transient Occupancy Tax, penalties, and interest against this farm for a period when the County itself had no legal framework in place for farm-based lodging on agricultural properties. The County's own Supervisor Joan Hartmann stated at the December 2024 hearing that passed the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance that the goal was to help working farms "stabilize their income during the ups and downs of what is a very difficult way to make a living." A $65,000 retroactive penalty does the opposite — and ultimately affects not just the farm, but the customers and community members who depend on it.

I respectfully ask this Board to grant full forgiveness of the assessed amount, or at minimum to waive all penalties and interest that accumulated during the years when the County provided no legal compliance pathway.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Delbert Britschgi
Customer
Solvang
Solvang, CA

Katherine Douglas

From: Deanna Origas <deanna.origas@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2026 12:21 PM
To: sbcob
Cc: jraff@dare2dreamfarms.com
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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Deanna Origas
Lompoc, California
deanna.origas@gmail.com

June 17, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Deanna Origas (Neighbor and customer), and I am writing as a customer and community supporter of Dare 2 Dream Farms to respectfully ask the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to grant full relief — or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest — on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

I have been a customer of Dare 2 Dream Farms through CSA produce box subscription and Route One Farmers Market. For me and my family, this farm represents something increasingly rare: a local, working agricultural operation that makes fresh, honestly grown food genuinely accessible to our community.

I choose this farm because I know where my produce is coming from instead of from a grocery store. I like being able to participate in my community and support local farms. I love getting weekly farm boxes delivered straight to my door and have nutritious vegetable and fruit options I can trust and expand my palate. Many local produce is more difficult to find at your chain grocery stores and I love being able to make new recipes with the produce I have never tried before.

Dare 2 Dream Farms has been serving customers like me since 2013, when they first opened their farm to the community through agricultural exchange programs and tours. What makes this even more extraordinary is that Dare 2 Dream Farms is the first CSA in Santa Barbara County to accept SNAP Online payments — listed on the USDA's own federal website — so that food stamp recipients can order fresh local produce online for delivery or pickup. During COVID-19, the farm grew its CSA to 500% of previous capacity to serve as a community food emergency operation. Every month it donates excess vegetables to Veggie Rescue to feed families in need. One of the things that has always set this farm apart is that it keeps its gates open to the

entire community — sunup to sundown, every day — welcoming anyone who wants to visit the animals, walk the garden, or see firsthand where their food comes from. This is not a hotel. It is a working farm that has chosen to be genuinely accessible to the people it serves. Over the years they have grown their impact considerably — operating a CSA produce box subscription service, a farm stand, and participating in the Route One Farmers Market, all while employing 5–6 full-time local workers and hosting hundreds of agricultural exchange visitors from around the world.

I understand that Santa Barbara County is now retroactively assessing approximately $65,000 in Transient Occupancy Tax, penalties, and interest against this farm for a period when the County itself had no legal framework in place for farm-based lodging on agricultural properties. The County's own Supervisor Joan Hartmann stated at the December 2024 hearing that passed the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance that the goal was to help working farms "stabilize their income during the ups and downs of what is a very difficult way to make a living." A $65,000 retroactive penalty does the opposite — and ultimately affects not just the farm, but the customers and community members who depend on it.

I respectfully ask this Board to grant full forgiveness of the assessed amount, or at minimum to waive all penalties and interest that accumulated during the years when the County provided no legal compliance pathway.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Deanna Origas
Neighbor and customer
Lompoc, California

Katherine Douglas

From: Sandra Dwan <fitjunkie@me.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2026 12:36 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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Sandra Dwan
Lompoc, CA/Santa Barbara
fitjunkie@me.com
June 17, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Sandra Dwan (Regular customer at both farmers market & farmstand), and I am writing as a customer and community supporter of Dare 2 Dream Farms to respectfully ask the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to grant full relief — or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest — on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

I have been a customer of Dare 2 Dream Farms for several years both at the Route One Farmers Market and driving to the farm which is always a joy and something we look forward to. It is truly a special place. For me and my family, this farm represents something increasingly rare: a local, working agricultural operation that makes fresh, honestly grown food genuinely accessible to our community.

I am the sole caretaker for my elderly parents in Lompoc and one of the critical factors in their care is to continue to provide locally sourced, nutritionally dense meals for which I rely on the exceptional quality of produce and pricing from Dare 2 Dream Farms. Actively taking my children to the farmers market and the farmstand to pick out produce for these meals has been vital to their education. Being able to walk on the land where their food is grown and to see how the seasons and cycles of nature work symbiotically with what we eat is invaluable. And having this within close driving distance from anywhere in Lompoc is necessary for our family and our community. What they provide is unmatched and is greatly necessary for our area.

Dare 2 Dream Farms has been serving customers like me since 2013, when they first opened their farm to the community through agricultural exchange programs and tours. What makes this even more extraordinary is that Dare 2 Dream Farms is the first CSA in Santa Barbara County to accept SNAP Online payments — listed on the USDA's own federal website — so that food stamp recipients can order fresh local produce online for delivery or pickup. During COVID-19, the farm grew its CSA to 500% of previous capacity to serve as a community food emergency operation. Every month it donates excess vegetables to Veggie Rescue to feed families in need. One of the things that has always set this farm apart is that it keeps its gates open to the entire community — sunup to sundown, every day — welcoming anyone who wants to visit the animals, walk the garden, or see firsthand where their food comes from. This is not a hotel. It is a working farm that has chosen to be genuinely accessible to the people it serves. Over the years they have grown their

impact considerably — operating a CSA produce box subscription service, a farm stand, and participating in the Route One Farmers Market, all while employing 5–6 full-time local workers and hosting hundreds of agricultural exchange visitors from around the world.

I understand that Santa Barbara County is now retroactively assessing approximately $65,000 in Transient Occupancy Tax, penalties, and interest against this farm for a period when the County itself had no legal framework in place for farm-based lodging on agricultural properties. The County's own Supervisor Joan Hartmann stated at the December 2024 hearing that passed the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance that the goal was to help working farms "stabilize their income during the ups and downs of what is a very difficult way to make a living." A $65,000 retroactive penalty does the opposite — and ultimately affects not just the farm, but the customers and community members who depend on it. Penalizing this farm is penalizing and crippling our community.

I respectfully ask this Board to grant full forgiveness of the assessed amount, or at minimum to waive all penalties and interest that accumulated during the years when the County provided no legal compliance pathway.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sandra Dwan
Regular customer at both farmers market & farmstand Lompoc Lompoc, CA/Santa Barbara

Katherine Douglas

From: Natalie Slaven <nmslaven@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2026 12:47 PM
To: sbcob
Cc: jraff@dare2dreamfarms.com
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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.

Natalie Rae Slaven
Escondido, California
nmslaven@gmail.com

June 17, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Natalie Rae Slaven, and I am writing from Escondido, California to express my strong support for Dare 2 Dream Farms in their appeal before your Board. I participated in the WWOOF (World Wide Opportunities on Organic Farms) agricultural work-exchange program at Dare 2 Dream Farms in Fall 2020, and the experience has had a lasting impact on me.

The WWOOF program is a non-commercial, educational work-exchange: participants contribute their labor to the farm and receive housing, meals, and immersive hands-on agricultural education in return. It is not a commercial lodging arrangement. Dare 2 Dream Farms has welcomed over 500 WWOOF participants from across the United States and internationally — sharing California's Central Coast agricultural traditions, sustainable farming practices, and genuine rural community with people from around the world.

I decided to live at Dare 2 Dream Farms after I lost my job during Covid-19. I was experiencing extreme sorrow and my marriage was falling apart. Working on the farm, whether I was cleaning up after the chickens, milking the cows or weeding the garden, was deeply healing for me. Because of Jeremy and Megan's generosity and their love for their community, I am still inspired by their example to care for my neighbors and extend my resources to those in need.

The kind of authentic agricultural education and cultural exchange that Dare 2 Dream Farms provides cannot be replicated by a commercial operation. The farm has always kept its gates open sunup to sundown to anyone who wants to visit — to see the animals, walk the garden, and connect with where their food comes from. It is a farm that has chosen openness as a core value, not a business model. I urge this Board to recognize the extraordinary value this farm represents — locally, nationally, and internationally — and to

grant full relief from the retroactive TOT assessment. At minimum, I ask that you waive the penalties and interest that accumulated during the years when the County not only provided no legal pathway forward, but actively ruled against creating one — despite good-faith efforts by Jeremy and others, who in 2019 joined the County's Farmstay Advisory Committee — bringing his perspective as a working farmer to help find a common-sense solution — whose recommendations became the foundation of the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance, finally passed in December 2024.

Thank you for considering this perspective from someone whose life was enriched by this farm.

Sincerely,

Natalie Rae Slaven
Escondido, California

Katherine Douglas

From: Cressa Nursement <cressa.nursement@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2026 1:56 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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Cressa Nursement
Lompoc, CA
cressa.nursement@gmail.com
June 17, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Cressa Nursement (Customer), and I am writing as a customer and community supporter of Dare 2 Dream Farms to respectfully ask the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to grant full relief — or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest — on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

I have been a customer of Dare 2 Dream Farms through their farm stand and buying our chicks as well as chicken coop/ run from them. For me and my family, this farm represents something increasingly rare: a local, working agricultural operation that makes fresh, honestly grown food genuinely accessible to our community.

We absolutely love this farm and what it represents to our small community. Our kids love visiting the animals and exploring the food growing. After already being customers, we were able to get to know the Raff family through a mutual extracurricular sport our children are in together. They are some of the most caring, kind and giving people we've ever met who just want to make a difference in our community and provide what they can for everyone in it.

Dare 2 Dream Farms has been serving customers like me since 2013, when they first opened their farm to the community through agricultural exchange programs and tours. What makes this even more extraordinary is that Dare 2 Dream Farms is the first CSA in Santa Barbara County to accept SNAP Online payments — listed on the USDA's own federal website — so that food stamp recipients can order fresh local produce online for delivery or pickup. During COVID-19, the farm grew its CSA to 500% of previous capacity to serve as a community food emergency operation. Every month it donates excess vegetables to Veggie Rescue to feed families in need. One of the things that has always set this farm apart is that it keeps its gates open to the entire community — sunup to sundown, every day — welcoming anyone who wants to visit the animals, walk

the garden, or see firsthand where their food comes from. This is not a hotel. It is a working farm that has chosen to be genuinely accessible to the people it serves. Over the years they have grown their impact considerably — operating a CSA produce box subscription service, a farm stand, and participating in the Route One Farmers Market, all while employing 5–6 full-time local workers and hosting hundreds of agricultural exchange visitors from around the world.

I understand that Santa Barbara County is now retroactively assessing approximately $65,000 in Transient Occupancy Tax, penalties, and interest against this farm for a period when the County itself had no legal framework in place for farm-based lodging on agricultural properties. The County's own Supervisor Joan Hartmann stated at the December 2024 hearing that passed the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance that the goal was to help working farms "stabilize their income during the ups and downs of what is a very difficult way to make a living." A $65,000 retroactive penalty does the opposite — and ultimately affects not just the farm, but the customers and community members who depend on it.

I respectfully ask this Board to grant full forgiveness of the assessed amount, or at minimum to waive all penalties and interest that accumulated during the years when the County provided no legal compliance pathway.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Cressa Nursement
Customer
Lompoc, CA

Katherine Douglas

From: Marisa <hairandmakeup@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2026 2:47 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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Marisa McCoy
LaCrescenta, Ca 91214
hairandmakeup@yahoo.com
June 17, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Marisa McCoy (A visitor and friend), and I am writing as a customer and community supporter of Dare 2 Dream Farms to respectfully ask the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to grant full relief — or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest — on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

I have been a customer of Dare 2 Dream Farms through staying at their beautiful Airbnb's and shopping at their farm stand. For me and my family, this farm represents something increasingly rare: a local, working agricultural operation that makes fresh, honestly grown food genuinely accessible to our community.

I've taken my children here and it is a place they talk about all the time. The importance of them knowing where food comes from and being able to go into the field themselves and pick their veggies and fruits with the Raff kids was a very memorable experience for my kids, and they still continue to talk about it. This farm is a gem to the community and to anyone that comes from far and visits. Not only do we take away memories and produce from visiting, but we've also picked up new family members when we got some chickens.

Dare 2 Dream Farms has been serving customers like me since 2013, when they first opened their farm to the community through agricultural exchange programs and tours. What makes this even more extraordinary is that Dare 2 Dream Farms is the first CSA in Santa Barbara County to accept SNAP Online payments — listed on the USDA's own federal website — so that food stamp recipients can order fresh local produce online for delivery or pickup. During COVID-19, the farm grew its CSA to 500% of previous capacity to serve as a community food emergency operation. Every month it donates excess vegetables to Veggie Rescue to feed families in need. One of the things that has always set this farm apart is that it keeps its gates open to the entire community — sunup to sundown, every day — welcoming anyone who wants to visit the animals, walk the garden, or see firsthand where their food comes from. This is not a hotel. It is a working farm that has chosen to be genuinely accessible to the people it serves. Over the years they have grown their impact considerably — operating a CSA produce box subscription service, a farm stand, and participating in the Route One Farmers Market, all while employing 5–6 full-time local workers and hosting hundreds of agricultural exchange visitors from around the world.

I understand that Santa Barbara County is now retroactively assessing approximately $65,000 in Transient Occupancy Tax, penalties, and interest against this farm for a period when the County itself had no legal framework in place for farm-based lodging on agricultural properties. The County's own Supervisor Joan Hartmann stated at the December 2024 hearing that passed the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance that the goal was to help working farms "stabilize their income during the ups and downs of what is a very difficult way to make a living." A $65,000 retroactive penalty does the opposite — and ultimately affects not just the farm, but the customers and community members who depend on it.

I respectfully ask this Board to grant full forgiveness of the assessed amount, or at minimum to waive all penalties and interest that accumulated during the years when the County provided no legal compliance pathway.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Marisa McCoy
Visitor & friend
LaCrescenta, Ca 91214

Katherine Douglas

From: JoAnn Boortz <sunflowe0@icloud.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2026 3:06 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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Jo Ann Massicott
Lompo, Ca
joannmassicott@gmail.com
June 17, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Jo Ann Massicott, and I serve as Financial Advisor in Lompom. Ca. I am writing in strong support of Dare 2 Dream Farms and respectfully urge this Board to grant full relief — or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest — on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

I have had the privilege of working alongside Jeremy and Megan Raff through Chamber of Commerce, Route One Farmers Market, Lompoc Grange Hall, SBCFAN, food access boards, CSA, nonprofit events, farm tours and my own familiy staying with them for a week long. In my experience in this community, Dare 2 Dream Farms stands apart as one of the most genuinely committed contributors to the economic and social vitality of the Lompoc Valley.

Consider the breadth of their community involvement: active leadership in the revival of the Lompoc Grange Hall as a nonprofit community venue; board participation in the Santa Barbara County Food Action Network (SBCFAN), where Megan Raff serves as Board Chair; board membership on the Route One Farmers Market; participation in the Santa Barbara County Chamber of Commerce; free farm tours for schools, learning groups, and underserved communities; hosting of fundraiser dinners for local nonprofits at no charge; a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program and farm stand serving county residents; 5–6 full-time local employees; and over 500 WWOOF agricultural education participants hosted from across the U.S. and internationally.

This is not a short-term rental investor. This is a working family farm that keeps its gates open to the entire community — sunup to sundown, every day — welcoming anyone who wants to visit the animals, walk the garden, or simply experience where their food comes from. The farm stay accommodations that are now subject to retroactive assessment were always secondary to that open, community-rooted mission.

I am also concerned about the fundamental fairness of this situation. In 2019, Santa Barbara County actively ruled against drafting a legal framework for farm-based lodging on agricultural properties — leaving operators like Dare 2 Dream Farms with no path to compliance and no acknowledgment of how to move forward. Critically, Jeremy did not simply accept the situation: in 2019 Jeremy joined the County's Farmstay Advisory Committee — bringing his perspective as a working farmer to help find a common-sense solution — a group led by Planning Commissioner John Parke whose

recommendations became the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance. The County did not pass that ordinance until December 2024 — years past its own projected timeline. Retroactively assessing penalties and interest for that period sends a deeply troubling message to every small farm in Santa Barbara County that attempts to diversify revenue through agritourism.

I respectfully ask this Board to act with fairness and grant full forgiveness of the $65,000 assessment, or at the very least waive all penalties and interest that accrued during the years of regulatory uncertainty.

Thank you for your service to our community and for your thoughtful consideration of this appeal.

Sincerely,

Jo Ann Massicott
Financial Advisor
Lompo, Ca

Sent from my iPhone

Katherine Douglas

From: Amy Derryberry <amyderryberry101@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2026 3:35 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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Amy Derryberry
Ballard, CA, USA
amyderryberry101@gmail.com
June 17, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Amy Derryberry, and I serve as Community Member in Ballard, CA, USA. I am writing in strong support of Dare 2 Dream Farms and respectfully urge this Board to grant full relief — or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest — on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

I have had the privilege of working alongside Jeremy and Megan Raff through my role as the former ED of Veggie Rescue, a customer, purchasing chickens and produce, and a fellow Board member with Megan with SBCFAN. In my experience in this community, Dare 2 Dream Farms stands apart as one of the most genuinely committed contributors to the economic and social vitality of the Lompoc Valley.

Consider the breadth of their community involvement: active leadership in the revival of the Lompoc Grange Hall as a nonprofit community venue; board participation in the Santa Barbara County Food Action Network (SBCFAN), where Megan Raff serves as Board Chair; board membership on the Route One Farmers Market; participation in the Santa Barbara County Chamber of Commerce; free farm tours for schools, learning groups, and underserved communities; hosting of fundraiser dinners for local nonprofits at no charge; a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program and farm stand serving county residents; 5–6 full-time local employees; and over 500 WWOOF agricultural education participants hosted from across the U.S. and internationally.

This is not a short-term rental investor. This is a working family farm that keeps its gates open to the entire community — sunup to sundown, every day — welcoming anyone who wants to visit the animals, walk the garden, or simply experience where their food comes from. The farm stay accommodations that are now subject to retroactive assessment were always secondary to that open, community-rooted mission.

I am also concerned about the fundamental fairness of this situation. In 2019, Santa Barbara County actively ruled against drafting a legal framework for farm-based lodging on agricultural properties — leaving operators like Dare 2 Dream Farms with no path to compliance and no acknowledgment of how to move forward. Critically, Jeremy did not simply accept the situation: in 2019 Jeremy joined the County's Farmstay Advisory Committee — bringing his perspective as a working farmer to help find a common-sense solution — a group led by Planning Commissioner John Parke whose

recommendations became the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance. The County did not pass that ordinance until December 2024 — years past its own projected timeline. Retroactively assessing penalties and interest for that period sends a deeply troubling message to every small farm in Santa Barbara County that attempts to diversify revenue through agritourism.

I respectfully ask this Board to act with fairness and grant full forgiveness of the $65,000 assessment, or at the very least waive all penalties and interest that accrued during the years of regulatory uncertainty.

Thank you for your service to our community and for your thoughtful consideration of this appeal.

Sincerely,

Amy Derryberry
Community Member
Ballard, CA, USA

Sent from my iPhone

Katherine Douglas

From: s.rodriguez_financial <s.rodriguez_financial@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2026 3:35 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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Shawntae Rodriguez
Lompoc, Ca
s.rodriguez_financial@yahoo.com
June 17, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Shawntae Rodriguez, and I serve as Owner of EmpoweredU Financial Services, LLC in Lompoc, Ca. I am writing in strong support of Dare 2 Dream Farms and respectfully urge this Board to grant full relief on the unfair retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

I have had the privilege of working alongside Jeremy and Megan Raff through Chamber of Commerce, Route One Farmers Market, and nonprofit events. In my experience in this community, Dare 2 Dream Farms stands apart as one of the most genuinely committed contributors to the economic and social vitality of the Lompoc Valley.

Consider the breadth of their community involvement: active leadership in the revival of the Lompoc Grange Hall as a nonprofit community venue; board participation in the Santa Barbara County Food Action Network (SBCFAN), where Megan Raff serves as Board Chair; board membership on the Route One Farmers Market; participation in the Santa Barbara County Chamber of Commerce; free farm tours for schools, learning groups, and underserved communities; hosting of fundraiser dinners for local nonprofits at no charge; a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program and farm stand serving county residents; 5–6 full-time local employees; and over 500 WWOOF agricultural education participants hosted from across the U.S. and internationally.

This is not a short-term rental investor. This is a working family farm that keeps its gates open to the entire community — sunup to sundown, every day — welcoming anyone who wants to visit the animals, walk the garden, or simply experience where their food comes from. The farm stay accommodations that are now subject to retroactive assessment were always secondary to that open, community-rooted mission.

I am also concerned about the fundamental fairness of this situation. In 2019, Santa Barbara County actively

ruled against drafting a legal framework for farm-based lodging on agricultural properties — leaving operators like Dare 2 Dream Farms with no path to compliance and no acknowledgment of how to move forward. Critically, Jeremy did not simply accept the situation: in 2019 Jeremy joined the County's Farmstay Advisory Committee — bringing his perspective as a working farmer to help find a common-sense solution — a group led by Planning Commissioner John Parke whose recommendations became the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance. The County did not pass that ordinance until December 2024 — years past its own projected timeline. Retroactively assessing penalties and interest for that period sends a deeply troubling message to every small farm in Santa Barbara County that attempts to diversify revenue through agritourism.

I respectfully ask this Board to act with fairness and grant full forgiveness of the $65,000 assessment.

Thank you for your service to our community and for your thoughtful consideration of this appeal.

Sincerely,

Shawntae Rodriguez
Financial Coach and Public Speaker
EmpoweredU Financial Services, LLC
805-430-9901
https://dot.cards/empoweredu_financial

Katherine Douglas

From: Sarah Banks <sarah.amore.82@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2026 7:04 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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Sarah Harper
Lompoc Ca USA
sarah.amore.82@gmail.com
June 17, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Sarah Harper (Customer), and I am writing as a customer and community supporter of Dare 2 Dream Farms to respectfully ask the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to grant full relief — or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest — on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

I have been a customer of Dare 2 Dream Farms through their farmstand, and willingness to help the community. For me and my family, this farm represents something increasingly rare: a local, working agricultural operation that makes fresh, honestly grown food genuinely accessible to our community.

As a family we have walked the farm, enjoyed the scenery, enjoyed the ani.als, and the pleasentness of have locally sourced produce.

Dare 2 Dream Farms has been serving customers like me since 2013, when they first opened their farm to the community through agricultural exchange programs and tours. What makes this even more extraordinary is that Dare 2 Dream Farms is the first CSA in Santa Barbara County to accept SNAP Online payments — listed on the USDA's own federal website — so that food stamp recipients can order fresh local produce online for delivery or pickup. During COVID-19, the farm grew its CSA to 500% of previous capacity to serve as a community food emergency operation. Every month it donates excess vegetables to Veggie Rescue to feed families in need. One of the things that has always set this farm apart is that it keeps its gates open to the entire community — sunup to sundown, every day — welcoming anyone who wants to visit the animals, walk the garden, or see firsthand where their food comes from. This is not a hotel. It is a working farm that has chosen to be genuinely accessible to the people it serves. Over the years they have grown their impact considerably — operating a CSA produce box subscription service, a farm stand, and participating in the Route

One Farmers Market, all while employing 5–6 full-time local workers and hosting hundreds of agricultural exchange visitors from around the world.

I understand that Santa Barbara County is now retroactively assessing approximately $65,000 in Transient Occupancy Tax, penalties, and interest against this farm for a period when the County itself had no legal framework in place for farm-based lodging on agricultural properties. The County's own Supervisor Joan Hartmann stated at the December 2024 hearing that passed the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance that the goal was to help working farms "stabilize their income during the ups and downs of what is a very difficult way to make a living." A $65,000 retroactive penalty does the opposite — and ultimately affects not just the farm, but the customers and community members who depend on it.

I respectfully ask this Board to grant full forgiveness of the assessed amount, or at minimum to waive all penalties and interest that accumulated during the years when the County provided no legal compliance pathway.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sarah Harper
Customer
Lompoc
Lompoc Ca USA

Katherine Douglas

From: Casey Brady <emtelissa@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2026 8:16 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Casey Brady, and I am writing as a customer, supporter of Dare 2 Dream Farms, and a fifth-generation Lompocian to respectfully ask the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to grant full relief—or at minimum waive penalties and interest—on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

Growing up in Lompoc and raising my family here, I have watched our community change over the years. Places like Dare 2 Dream Farms make a real difference. They are more than a farm—they are part of what makes our community feel connected, local, and accessible.

Dare 2 Dream Farms has created opportunities for people to experience agriculture firsthand through open access to the farm, educational experiences, free field trips for local schools and preschools, and community engagement that helps children understand where their food comes from. They have also worked to make fresh, locally grown produce accessible to families who need it most, becoming the first CSA in Santa Barbara County to accept SNAP online payments so people using food assistance can still access healthy local food.

During times of need—including COVID—they expanded their operations to serve more families and continue donating excess produce to support community food access.

What concerns me is not simply the amount being assessed, but the retroactive nature of the charge. Assessing approximately $65,000 in taxes, penalties, and interest as a single lump sum for prior years—rather than collecting or enforcing requirements over time when no clear compliance pathway existed—feels fundamentally unfair and inconsistent with the County's stated goal of supporting agricultural enterprises. To many community members, imposing such a large retroactive burden after the fact raises concerns of equity and good governance.

Working farms already operate on narrow margins. Financial penalties of this scale do not only affect the business—they affect employees, customers, local families, and the community programs that farms like this provide.

I respectfully ask the Board to consider the broader community impact and grant full forgiveness of the assessed amount, or at minimum waive all penalties and interest.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and service to Santa Barbara County.

Sincerely,

Casey Brady
Fifth-Generation Lompocian
Customer and Supporter of Dare 2 Dream Farms
Lompoc, California

Katherine Douglas

From: Michelle <misshwelll31@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2026 8:56 PM
To: sbcob
Cc: jraff@dare2dreamfarms.com
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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Michelle Cardenas
Lompoc, Ca
misshwelll31@gmail.com
June 17, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Michelle Cardenas (Farmer's Market Go-er), and I am writing as a customer and community supporter of Dare 2 Dream Farms to respectfully ask the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to grant full relief — or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest — on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

I have been a customer of Dare 2 Dream Farms through Route One Farmers Market. For me and my family, this farm represents something increasingly rare: a local, working agricultural operation that makes fresh, honestly grown food genuinely accessible to our community.

Locally sourced food grown with love by honest hard working farmer's is a valuable assets not only for the community but what feeds my family good quality food every. single. day.

Dare 2 Dream Farms has been serving customers like me since 2013, when they first opened their farm to the community through agricultural exchange programs and tours. What makes this even more extraordinary is that Dare 2 Dream Farms is the first CSA in Santa Barbara County to accept SNAP Online payments — listed on the USDA's own federal website — so that food stamp recipients can order fresh local produce online for delivery or pickup. During COVID-19, the farm grew its CSA to 500% of previous capacity to serve as a community food emergency operation. Every month it donates excess vegetables to Veggie Rescue to feed families in need. One of the things that has always set this farm apart is that it keeps its gates open to the entire community — sunup to sundown, every day — welcoming anyone who wants to visit the animals, walk the garden, or see firsthand where their food comes from. This is not a hotel. It is a working farm that has chosen to be genuinely accessible to the people it serves. Over the years they have grown their impact

considerably — operating a CSA produce box subscription service, a farm stand, and participating in the Route One Farmers Market, all while employing 5–6 full-time local workers and hosting hundreds of agricultural exchange visitors from around the world.

I understand that Santa Barbara County is now retroactively assessing approximately $65,000 in Transient Occupancy Tax, penalties, and interest against this farm for a period when the County itself had no legal framework in place for farm-based lodging on agricultural properties. The County's own Supervisor Joan Hartmann stated at the December 2024 hearing that passed the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance that the goal was to help working farms "stabilize their income during the ups and downs of what is a very difficult way to make a living." A $65,000 retroactive penalty does the opposite — and ultimately affects not just the farm, but the customers and community members who depend on it.

I respectfully ask this Board to grant full forgiveness of the assessed amount, or at minimum to waive all penalties and interest that accumulated during the years when the County provided no legal compliance pathway.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Michelle Cardenas
Farmer's Market
Lompoc
Lompoc, Ca

Katherine Douglas

From: Samantha Macias <cakebaby2003@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2026 9:51 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment %2�� TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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Samantha Macias Lompoc, ca, usa cakebaby2003@yahoo.com June 17, 2026 Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors County of Santa Barbara 105 E. Anapamu Street Santa Barbara, CA 93101 Re: Public Comment %2□□ TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors, My name is Samantha Macias (visitor and friend), and I am writing as a customer and community supporter of Dare 2 Dream Farms to respectfully ask the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to grant full relief %2□□ or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest %2□□ on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you. I have been a customer of Dare 2 Dream Farms through farmer'smarket and personal visits with my grandkids to the farm. To walk the gardens and most recently to see the new baby pigs. They also love feeding the goats. For me and my family, this farm represents something increasingly rare: a local, working agricultural operation that makes fresh, honestly grown food genuinely accessible to our community. Our family love's that they can see baby animals, grown animals and the gardens where food they eat and enjoy comes from. It is something truly rare and wonderful to have so close to home. Dare 2 Dream Farms has been serving customers like me since 2013, when they first opened their farm to the community through agricultural exchange programs and tours. What makes this even more extraordinary is that Dare 2 Dream Farms is the first CSA in Santa Barbara County to accept SNAP Online payments %2□□ listed on the USDA's own federal website %2□□ so that food stamp recipients can order fresh local produce online for delivery or pickup. During COVID-19, the farm grew its CSA to 500% of previous capacity to serve as a community food emergency operation. Every month it donates excess vegetables to Veggie Rescue to feed families in need. One of the things that has always set this farm apart is that it keeps its gates open to the entire community %2□□ sunup to sundown, every day %2□□ welcoming anyone who wants to visit the animals, walk the garden, or see firsthand where their food comes from. This is not a hotel. It is a working farm that has chosen to be genuinely accessible to the people it serves. Over the years they have grown their impact considerably %2□□ operating a CSA produce box subscription service, a farm stand, and participating in the Route One Farmers Market, all while employing 5%2□□6 full-time local workers and hosting hundreds of agricultural exchange visitors from around the world. I understand that Santa Barbara County is now retroactively assessing approximately $65,000 in Transient Occupancy Tax, penalties, and interest against this farm for a period when the County itself had no legal framework in place for farm-based lodging on agricultural properties. The County's own Supervisor Joan Hartmann stated at the December 2024 hearing that passed the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance that the goal was to help working farms "stabilize their income during the ups and downs of what is a very difficult way to make a living." A $65,000 retroactive penalty does the opposite %2□□ and ultimately affects not just the farm, but the customers and community members who depend on it.

I respectfully ask this Board to grant full forgiveness of the assessed amount, or at minimum to waive all penalties and interest that accumulated during the years when the County provided no legal compliance pathway. Thank you for your consideration. Sincerely,

Samantha Macias visitor and friend lompoc Lompoc, ca, usa

Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer

Katherine Douglas

From: Molly Good <mollyb.0425@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2026 10:49 PM
To: sbcob
Cc: jraff@dare2dreamfarms.com
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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Molly Good
Lompoc, CA USA
mollyb.0425@gmail.com
June 17, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Molly Good (Customer), and I am writing as a customer and community supporter of Dare 2 Dream Farms to respectfully ask the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to **grant full relief — or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest —** on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

I have been a customer of Dare 2 Dream Farms through the farm stand, Route One Farmers Market, and a farm tour. For me and my family, this farm represents something increasingly rare: a local, working agricultural operation that makes fresh, honestly grown food genuinely accessible to our community.

I have enjoyed Dare 2 Dream Farms fresh produce many times from their farm stand and at our neighborhood farmers market. My daughter and I had an amazing time on a field trip farm tour. The Lompoc Moms' Club was lead through fields and around barns meeting chickens, chicks, cows, goats, and dogs. Our club is all about building connections and community; our day at the farm perfectly aligned with that mission. Mr. Raff welcomed a big group of moms, babies, toddlers, and kids to his farm that he eagerly shares with his community.

Dare 2 Dream Farms has been serving customers like me since 2013, when they first opened their farm to the community through agricultural exchange programs and tours. What makes this even more extraordinary is that Dare 2 Dream Farms is the first CSA in Santa Barbara County to accept SNAP Online payments — listed on the USDA's own federal website — so that food stamp recipients can order fresh local produce online for delivery or pickup. During COVID-19, the farm grew its CSA to 500% of previous capacity to serve as a community food emergency operation. Every month it donates excess vegetables to Veggie Rescue to feed

families in need. One of the things that has always set this farm apart is that it keeps its gates open to the entire community — sunup to sundown, every day — welcoming anyone who wants to visit the animals, walk the garden, or see firsthand where their food comes from. This is not a hotel. It is a working farm that has chosen to be genuinely accessible to the people it serves. Over the years they have grown their impact considerably — operating a CSA produce box subscription service, a farm stand, and participating in the Route One Farmers Market, all while employing 5–6 full-time local workers and hosting hundreds of agricultural exchange visitors from around the world.

I understand that Santa Barbara County is now retroactively assessing approximately $65,000 in Transient Occupancy Tax, penalties, and interest against this farm for a period when the County itself had no legal framework in place for farm-based lodging on agricultural properties. The County's own Supervisor Joan Hartmann stated at the December 2024 hearing that passed the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance that the goal was to help working farms "stabilize their income during the ups and downs of what is a very difficult way to make a living." A $65,000 retroactive penalty does the opposite — and ultimately affects not just the farm, but the customers and community members who depend on it.

I respectfully ask this Board to grant full forgiveness of the assessed amount, or at minimum to waive all penalties and interest that accumulated during the years when the County provided no legal compliance pathway.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Molly Good
Customer
Mission Club, Santa Barbara County
Lompoc, CA USA

Katherine Douglas

From: LVCC Executive Director <executivedirector@lompoc.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2026 6:13 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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.

Melanie Lindley-Zambrano
Lompoc
executivedirector@lompoc.com
June 18, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Melanie Lindley-Zambrano, and I serve as Executive Director of Lompoc Valley Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Bureau in Lompoc. I am writing in strong support of Dare 2 Dream Farms and respectfully urge this Board to grant full relief — or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest — on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

I have had the privilege of working alongside Jeremy and Megan Raff through the Chamber. In my experience in this community, Dare 2 Dream Farms stands apart as one of the most genuinely committed contributors to the economic and social vitality of the Lompoc Valley.

Consider the breadth of their community involvement: active leadership in the revival of the Lompoc Grange Hall as a nonprofit community venue; board participation in the Santa Barbara County Food Action Network (SBCFAN), where Megan Raff serves as Board Chair; board membership on the Route One Farmers Market; participation in the Santa Barbara County Chamber of Commerce; free farm tours for schools, learning groups, and underserved communities; hosting of fundraiser dinners for local nonprofits at no charge; a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program and farm stand serving county residents; 5–6 full-time local employees; and over 500 WWOOF agricultural education participants hosted from across the U.S. and internationally.

This is not a short-term rental investor. This is a working family farm that keeps its gates open to the entire community — sunup to sundown, every day — welcoming anyone who wants to visit the animals, walk the garden, or simply experience where their food comes from. The farm stay accommodations that are now subject to retroactive assessment were always secondary to that open, community-rooted mission.

I am also concerned about the fundamental fairness of this situation. In 2019, Santa Barbara County actively ruled against drafting a legal framework for farm-based lodging on agricultural properties — leaving operators like Dare 2 Dream Farms with no path to compliance and no acknowledgment of how to move forward. Critically, Jeremy did not simply accept the situation: in 2019 Jeremy joined the County's Farmstay Advisory Committee — bringing his perspective as a working farmer to help find a common-sense solution — a group led by Planning Commissioner John Parke whose recommendations became the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance. The County did not pass that ordinance until December 2024 — years past its own projected timeline. Retroactively assessing penalties and interest for that period sends a deeply troubling message to every small farm in Santa Barbara County that attempts to diversify revenue through agritourism.

I respectfully ask this Board to act with fairness and grant full forgiveness of the $65,000 assessment, or at the very least waive all penalties and interest that accrued during the years of regulatory uncertainty. While I understand the county position here, I ask for fairness and a path forward that would allow the farm to continue the work it does in our community.

Thank you for your service to our community and for your thoughtful consideration of this appeal.

Sincerely,

Melanie Lindley-Zambrano
Executive Director
Lompoc Valley Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Bureau
Lompoc

Get Outlook for iOS

Katherine Douglas

From: Jennifer Sazani <jsaz67@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2026 8:05 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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Jennifer Sazani
Lompoc, Ca, USA
jsaz67@gmail.com
June 18, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

To the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors,

I am writing as a resident of Lompoc in support of Dare 2 Dream Farms and their appeal.

In a world where so many organizations focus solely on profit, Dare 2 Dream Farms has consistently invested in community. They have provided local food, educational opportunities, farm access, and a welcoming place where families can connect with agriculture and better understand where their food comes from. Their honor-system farm stand and community-focused programs demonstrate a commitment to service that extends far beyond a typical business model.

During difficult times for our community, including the challenges many local families faced during the pandemic, Dare 2 Dream Farms expanded food access and worked with other local farmers to help strengthen our local food system. Their efforts supported food resilience and helped make fresh, local food more accessible to residents throughout Northern Santa Barbara County.

I respectfully ask the Board to consider not only the technical aspects of this case, but also the positive impact this farm has had on our community. Small family farms that dedicate themselves to education, accessibility, and community service are rare and valuable. I hope you will allow Dare 2 Dream Farms to continue the work they have done for Lompoc and Santa Barbara County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jennifer M Sazani
Lompoc, California

Sent from my iPhone

Katherine Douglas

From: Joanna Newell <jnoodle1@icloud.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2026 10:24 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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Joanna Newell
California
jnoodle1@gmail.com
June 18, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Joanna Newell and I am writing as a customer and community supporter of Dare 2 Dream Farms to respectfully ask the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to grant full relief — or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest — on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

I have been a customer of Dare 2 Dream Farms through just living in Lompoc being a customer. For me and my family, this farm represents something increasingly rare: a local, working agricultural operation that makes fresh, honestly grown food genuinely accessible to our community.

I love that o can get locally sourced vegetable and also gain knowledge about the food and the farm that it comes from.

Dare 2 Dream Farms has been serving customers like me since 2013, when they first opened their farm to the community through agricultural exchange programs and tours. What makes this even more extraordinary is that Dare 2 Dream Farms is the first CSA in Santa Barbara County to accept SNAP Online payments — listed on the USDA's own federal website — so that food stamp recipients can order fresh local produce online for delivery or pickup. During COVID-19, the farm grew its CSA to 500% of previous capacity to serve as a community food emergency operation. Every month it donates excess vegetables to Veggie Rescue to feed families in need. One of the things that has always set this farm apart is that it keeps its gates open to the entire community — sunup to sundown, every day — welcoming anyone who wants to visit the animals, walk the garden, or see firsthand where their food comes from. This is not a hotel. It is a working farm that has chosen to be genuinely accessible to the people it serves. Over the years they have grown their impact considerably — operating a CSA produce box subscription service, a farm stand, and participating in the Route One Farmers Market, all while employing 5–6 full-time local workers and hosting hundreds of agricultural exchange visitors from around the world.

I understand that Santa Barbara County is now retroactively assessing approximately $65,000 in Transient Occupancy Tax, penalties, and interest against this farm for a period when the County itself had no legal framework in place for farm-based lodging on agricultural properties. The County's own Supervisor Joan Hartmann stated at the December 2024 hearing that passed the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance that the goal was to help working farms "stabilize their income

during the ups and downs of what is a very difficult way to make a living." A $65,000 retroactive penalty does the opposite — and ultimately affects not just the farm, but the customers and community members who depend on it.

I respectfully ask this Board to grant full forgiveness of the assessed amount, or at minimum to waive all penalties and interest that accumulated during the years when the County provided no legal compliance pathway.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Joanna Newell
Customer
Lompoc
California

Sent from my iPhone

Katherine Douglas

From: Diane Aro <arodiane@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2026 12:16 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: TOT Appeal

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Diane Aro
Palm Desert
arodiane@hotmail.com
June 18, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Diane Aro (former LUSD teacher/supporter of farm), and I am writing as a customer and community supporter of Dare 2 Dream Farms. I am asking that you reconsider the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment. If there is anyplace that has earned its keep, it is this farm and its hard working, civic-minded owners.

Dare to Dream farm has meant a lot to me, from its very beginning.Although I moved from Lompoc a few years ago, I've always felt a connection and pride in that farm because of the way it offered so much to the community. I've taken out of town friends on farm tours, have shopped at the farm stand, and have loved seeing how efficiently it is run, and how much respect the owners have for the residents of Lompoc. Jeremy and Megan have invested their heart, soul, and labor into Dare to Dream Farm. They have endless enthusiasm and energy and are such a benefit to Lompoc that I can't imagine why they are being, in essence, penalized, after all their generous contribution to the families of the community, which has benefited tremendously from their efforts. Lompoc will lose one of its truly unique and healthy enterprises - a working farm, accessible to the community - an educational opportunity for families - and a source of locally grown food, cultivated with love and care.

Dare 2 Dream Farms has been serving customers like me since 2013, when they first opened their farm to the community through agricultural exchange programs and tours. What makes this even more extraordinary is that Dare 2 Dream Farms is the first CSA in Santa Barbara County to accept SNAP Online payments — listed on the USDA's own federal website — so that food stamp recipients can order fresh local produce online for delivery or pickup. During COVID-19, the farm grew its CSA to 500% of previous capacity to serve as a community food emergency operation. Every month it donates excess vegetables to Veggie Rescue to feed families in need. One of the things that has always set this farm apart is that it keeps its gates open to the

entire community — sunup to sundown, every day — welcoming anyone who wants to visit the animals, walk the garden, or see firsthand where their food comes from. This is not a hotel. It is a working farm that has chosen to be genuinely accessible to the people it serves. Over the years they have grown their impact considerably — operating a CSA produce box subscription service, a farm stand, and participating in the Route One Farmers Market, all while employing 5–6 full-time local workers and hosting hundreds of agricultural exchange visitors from around the world.

I understand that Santa Barbara County is now retroactively assessing approximately $65,000 in Transient Occupancy Tax, penalties, and interest against this farm for a period when the County itself had no legal framework in place for farm-based lodging on agricultural properties. The County's own Supervisor Joan Hartmann stated at the December 2024 hearing that passed the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance that the goal was to help working farms "stabilize their income during the ups and downs of what is a very difficult way to make a living." A $65,000 retroactive penalty does the opposite — and ultimately affects not just the farm, but the customers and community members who depend on it.

I respectfully ask this Board to grant full forgiveness of the assessed amount, or at minimum to waive all penalties and interest that accumulated during the years when the County provided no legal compliance pathway.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Diane Aro
former LUSD teacher and supporter of farm
Palm Desert

Katherine Douglas

From: Rebekka and Nathanael Gonzales-Siemens <gonzalessiemens@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2026 1:23 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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Rebekka Siemens
Wasco, CA
gonzalessiemens@gmail.com
June 18, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Rebekka Siemens, and I serve as Farm Manager of Gonzales Siemens Family Farm based in Wasco, CA and as a Small Farmer Needs Researcher (Consultant) for CAFF. I am writing in strong support of Dare 2 Dream Farms and respectfully urge this Board to grant full relief — or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest — on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

It has been my joy to work alongside Jeremy and Megan Raff through farmers markets, as neighbors when we farmed in Lompoc, and now as a supplier of sustainably farmed grains for their animal feed. In my experience of the farmer networks across California, Dare 2 Dream Farms stands apart as one of the most genuinely committed contributors to the economic and social vitality of the Lompoc Valley and brings great value to Santa Barbara county residents.

Consider the breadth of their community involvement: active leadership in the revival of the Lompoc Grange Hall as a nonprofit community venue; board participation in the Santa Barbara County Food Action Network (SBCFAN), where Megan Raff serves as Board Chair; board membership on the Route One Farmers Market; participation in the Santa Barbara County Chamber of Commerce; free farm tours for schools, learning groups, and underserved communities; hosting of fundraiser dinners for local nonprofits at no charge; a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program and farm stand serving county residents; 5–6 full-time local employees; and over 500 WWOOF agricultural education participants hosted from across the U.S. and internationally.

This is not a short-term rental investor. This is a working family farm that keeps its gates open to the entire community — sunup to sundown, every day — welcoming anyone who wants to visit the animals, walk the garden, or simply experience where their food comes from. The farm stay accommodations that are now subject to retroactive assessment were always secondary to that open, community-rooted mission.

I am also concerned about the fundamental fairness of this situation. In 2019, Santa Barbara County actively ruled against drafting a legal framework for farm-based lodging on agricultural properties — leaving operators like Dare 2 Dream Farms with no path to compliance and no acknowledgment of how to move forward. Critically, Jeremy did not simply accept the situation: in 2019 Jeremy joined the County's Farmstay Advisory Committee — bringing his perspective as a working farmer to help find a common-sense solution — a group led by Planning Commissioner John Parke whose recommendations became the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance. The County did not pass that ordinance until December 2024 — years past its own projected timeline. Retroactively assessing penalties and interest for that period sends a deeply troubling message to every small farm in Santa Barbara County that attempts to diversify revenue through agritourism.

I respectfully ask this Board to act with fairness and grant full forgiveness of the $65,000 assessment, or at the very least waive all penalties and interest that accrued during the years of regulatory uncertainty.

Thank you for your service to our community and for your thoughtful consideration of this appeal.

Sincerely,

Rebekka Siemens
Farm Manager and Small Farmer Needs Researcher (Consultant)
Gonzales Siemens Family Farm and CAFF
Wasco, CA

Katherine Douglas

From: Lisa Northrup <frenchy42159@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2026 1:30 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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Lisa Northrup
Solvang, CA. USA
frenchy42159@gmail.com
June 18, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Lisa Northrup (Customer for buying chickens and produce), and I am writing as a customer and community supporter of Dare 2 Dream Farms to respectfully ask the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to grant full relief — or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest — on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

I have been a customer of Dare 2 Dream Farms by making purchases locally for years. For me, this farm represents something increasingly rare: a local, working agricultural operation that makes fresh, honestly grown food genuinely accessible to our community.

Dare 2 Dream Farms has been serving customers like me for over 10 years, when they first opened their farm to the community through agricultural exchange programs and tours. What makes this even more extraordinary is that Dare 2 Dream Farms is the first CSA in Santa Barbara County to accept SNAP Online payments — listed on the USDA's own federal website — so that food stamp recipients can order fresh local produce online for delivery or pickup. During COVID-19, the farm grew its CSA to 500% of previous capacity to serve as a community food emergency operation. Every month it donates excess vegetables to Veggie Rescue to feed families in need. One of the things that has always set this farm apart is that it keeps its gates open to the entire community — sunup to sundown, every day — welcoming anyone who wants to visit the animals, walk the garden, or see firsthand where their food comes from. This is not a hotel. It is a working farm that has chosen to be genuinely accessible to the people it serves. Over the years they have grown their impact considerably — operating a CSA produce box subscription service, a farm stand, and participating in the Route One Farmers Market, all while employing 5–6 full-time local workers and hosting hundreds of agricultural exchange visitors from around the world.

I understand that Santa Barbara County is now retroactively assessing approximately $65,000 in Transient Occupancy Tax, penalties, and interest against this farm for a period when the County itself had no legal framework in place for farm-based lodging on agricultural properties. The County's own Supervisor Joan Hartmann stated at the December 2024 hearing that passed the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance that the goal was to help working farms "stabilize their income during the ups and downs of what is a very difficult way to make a living." A $65,000 retroactive penalty does the opposite — and ultimately affects not just the farm, but the customers and community members who depend on it.

I respectfully ask this Board to grant full forgiveness of the assessed amount, or at minimum to waive all penalties and interest that accumulated during the years when the County provided no legal compliance pathway.

Because really.. What is your goal here?

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Lisa Northrup
Customer for buying chickens and produce
Solvang
Solvang, CA. USA

Katherine Douglas

From: Clark, Nikki R <nikki_clark@wsu.edu>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2026 2:45 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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Nikki Clark
PULLMAN, WA
nikki_clark@wsu.edu
June 18, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Nikki Clark , and I am writing as a customer and community supporter of Dare 2 Dream Farms to respectfully ask the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to grant full relief — or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest — on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

I have visited Dare 2 Dream Farms in the past and I absolutely love this place and the people who run it. What a rare gem they have, a true asset to this community. Everytime we are back in the area, we make it a point to stop by and see what is happening.

I love that I could actually see where the produce was coming from, my kids loved playing there and we always left with so much more than just produce. An experience like no other! My family was invited to a farm to table dinner once and we could not stop telling everyone how amazing it was.

Dare 2 Dream Farms has been serving customers like me since 2013, when they first opened their farm to the community through agricultural exchange programs and tours. What makes this even more extraordinary is that Dare 2 Dream Farms is the first CSA in Santa Barbara County to accept SNAP Online payments — listed on the USDA's own federal website — so that food stamp recipients can order fresh local produce online for delivery or pickup. During COVID-19, the farm grew its CSA to 500% of previous capacity to serve as a community food emergency operation. Every month it donates excess vegetables to Veggie Rescue to feed families in need. One of the things that has always set this farm apart is that it keeps its gates open to the entire community — sunup to sundown, every day — welcoming anyone who wants to visit the animals, walk the garden, or see firsthand where their food comes from. This is not a hotel. It is a working farm that has chosen to be genuinely accessible to the people it serves. Over the years they have grown their impact considerably — operating a CSA produce box subscription service, a farm stand, and participating in the Route

One Farmers Market, all while employing 5–6 full-time local workers and hosting hundreds of agricultural exchange visitors from around the world.

I understand that Santa Barbara County is now retroactively assessing approximately $65,000 in Transient Occupancy Tax, penalties, and interest against this farm for a period when the County itself had no legal framework in place for farm-based lodging on agricultural properties. The County's own Supervisor Joan Hartmann stated at the December 2024 hearing that passed the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance that the goal was to help working farms "stabilize their income during the ups and downs of what is a very difficult way to make a living." A $65,000 retroactive penalty does the opposite — and ultimately affects not just the farm, but the customers and community members who depend on it.

I respectfully ask this Board to grant full forgiveness of the assessed amount, or at minimum to waive all penalties and interest that accumulated during the years when the County provided no legal compliance pathway.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Nikki Clark
PULLMAN, WA

Katherine Douglas

From: Donna Marier <dlmarier@pm.me>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2026 3:19 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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Donna L Marier
Lompoc, CA USA
dlmarier@pm.me
June 18, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Donna L Marier (monthly produce box subscriber), and I am writing as a customer and community supporter of Dare 2 Dream Farms to respectfully ask the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to grant full relief — or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest — on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

I have been a customer of Dare 2 Dream Farms through their monthly produce subscription box. For me and my family, this farm represents something increasingly rare: a local, working agricultural operation that makes fresh, honestly grown food genuinely accessible to our community.

They produce organic produce at a very reasonable rate which is vital to the health of the community. Produce prepared without harmful pesticides and herbicides is vitally important. Many illnesses have a direct cause of food grown using these harmful treatments. Eating clean produce grown without these chemicals has had a proven effect reversing medical conditions. Dare 2 Dream Farms sells their organic produce at reasonable rates that people can afford.

Dare 2 Dream Farms has been serving customers like me since 2013, when they first opened their farm to the community through agricultural exchange programs and tours. What makes this even more extraordinary is that Dare 2 Dream Farms is the first CSA in Santa Barbara County to accept SNAP Online payments — listed on the USDA's own federal website — so that food stamp recipients can order fresh local produce online for delivery or pickup. During COVID-19, the farm grew its CSA to 500% of previous capacity to serve as a community food emergency operation. Every month it donates excess vegetables to Veggie Rescue to feed families in need. One of the things that has always set this farm apart is that it keeps its gates open to the entire community — sunup to sundown, every day — welcoming anyone who wants to visit the animals, walk

the garden, or see firsthand where their food comes from. This is not a hotel. It is a working farm that has chosen to be genuinely accessible to the people it serves. Over the years they have grown their impact considerably — operating a CSA produce box subscription service, a farm stand, and participating in the Route One Farmers Market, all while employing 5–6 full-time local workers and hosting hundreds of agricultural exchange visitors from around the world.

I understand that Santa Barbara County is now retroactively assessing approximately $65,000 in Transient Occupancy Tax, penalties, and interest against this farm for a period when the County itself had no legal framework in place for farm-based lodging on agricultural properties. The County's own Supervisor Joan Hartmann stated at the December 2024 hearing that passed the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance that the goal was to help working farms "stabilize their income during the ups and downs of what is a very difficult way to make a living." A $65,000 retroactive penalty does the opposite — and ultimately affects not just the farm, but the customers and community members who depend on it.

I respectfully ask this Board to grant full forgiveness of the assessed amount, or at minimum to waive all penalties and interest that accumulated during the years when the County provided no legal compliance pathway.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Donna L Marier
monthly produce box subscriber
Lompoc
Lompoc, CA USA

Donna L Marier

"Live Free or Die: Death is not the worst of evils"
General John Stark, July 31, 1809

Katherine Douglas

From: Brittany Ruhland <brittany.ruhland@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2026 4:21 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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.

Brittany Ruhland
Seattle, WA / USA
brittany.ruhland@gmail.com
June 18, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Brittany Ruhland, and I am writing from Seattle, WA / USA to express my strong support for Dare 2 Dream Farms in their appeal before your Board. I participated in the WWOOF (World Wide Opportunities on Organic Farms) agricultural work-exchange program at Dare 2 Dream Farms in Winter 2013 and Summer 2015, and the experience has had a lasting impact on me. The value that this farm and these people provide to their local community is immeasurable.

The WWOOF program is a non-commercial, educational work-exchange: participants contribute their labor to the farm and receive housing, meals, and immersive hands-on agricultural education in return. It is not a commercial lodging arrangement. Dare 2 Dream Farms has welcomed over 500 WWOOF participants from across the United States and internationally — sharing California's Central Coast agricultural traditions, sustainable farming practices, and genuine rural community with people from around the world. I was grateful to be one of them.

I learned so much at the farm about compassionate animal care, sustainable growing techniques, carpentry, cooking skills, and exchanging stories and advice with not only Megan and Jeremy but other domestic and international WWOOFers in this supportive environment they've created. Megan and Jeremy are the kindest, most community-oriented people I've ever met. In addition to what I learned about farming, they also model how to live in a more integrated way and bring gratitude to everything you do. I can't say enough good things about them. They are so selfless and giving, and I think it's incredibly unfair for them to be in this situation given how much work they do to give back and better their community. I keep up with how the farm has been doing in the 11 years since I've last been there because of how impactful it was on my life, and I'm so impressed by all the effort they've put in to: educate people in and beyond Lompoc, get healthy sustainable food to people who need it, and provide transformative working experience to WWOOFers from around the

world.

The kind of authentic agricultural education and cultural exchange that Dare 2 Dream Farms provides cannot be replicated by a commercial operation. The farm has always kept its gates open sunup to sundown to anyone who wants to visit — to see the animals, walk the garden, and connect with where their food comes from. It is a farm that has chosen openness as a core value, not a business model. I urge this Board to recognize the extraordinary value this farm represents — locally, nationally, and internationally — and to grant full relief from the retroactive TOT assessment. At minimum, I ask that you waive the penalties and interest that accumulated during the years when the County not only provided no legal pathway forward, but actively ruled against creating one — despite good-faith efforts by Jeremy and others, who in 2019 joined the County's Farmstay Advisory Committee — bringing his perspective as a working farmer to help find a common-sense solution — whose recommendations became the foundation of the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance, finally passed in December 2024.

Thank you for considering this perspective from someone whose life was enriched by this farm.

Sincerely,

Brittany Ruhland, PhD
Science Teacher
Seattle, WA / USA

Katherine Douglas

From: Vic Castan <castanv@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2026 5:37 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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Victoria Castan
Lompoc, santa barbara county
Castanv68@gmail.com
June 18, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Victoria Castan (I buy produce from them), and I am writing as a customer and community supporter of Dare 2 Dream Farms to respectfully ask the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to grant full relief — or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest — on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

I have been a customer of Dare 2 Dream Farms at a time when I couldn't afford full price fruits and vegetables, I was able to feed my family by visiting Dare 2 Dream farm stand. For me and my family, this farm represents something increasingly rare: a local, working agricultural operation that makes fresh, honestly grown food genuinely accessible to our community.
My grandson wasn't into eating fruits or vegetables until I started taking him on my visits to the farm. He would be curious as to where fruits and vegetables came from, That it wasn't just from grocery stores. That it grew in the dirt!
After our visits he started to grow his own tomatoes and became interested in the whole process.

Dare 2 Dream Farms has been serving customers like me since 2013, when they first opened their farm to the community through agricultural exchange programs and tours. What makes this even more extraordinary is that Dare 2 Dream Farms is the first CSA in Santa Barbara County to accept SNAP Online payments — listed on the USDA's own federal website — so that food stamp recipients can order fresh local produce online for delivery or pickup. During COVID-19, the farm grew its CSA to 500% of previous capacity to serve as a community food emergency operation. Every month it donates excess vegetables to Veggie Rescue to feed families in need. One of the things that has always set this farm apart is that it keeps its gates open to the entire community — sunup to sundown, every day — welcoming anyone who wants to visit the animals, walk the garden, or see firsthand where their food comes from. This is not a hotel. It is a working farm that has

chosen to be genuinely accessible to the people it serves. Over the years they have grown their impact considerably — operating a CSA produce box subscription service, a farm stand, and participating in the Route One Farmers Market, all while employing 5–6 full-time local workers and hosting hundreds of agricultural exchange visitors from around the world.

I understand that Santa Barbara County is now retroactively assessing approximately $65,000 in Transient Occupancy Tax, penalties, and interest against this farm for a period when the County itself had no legal framework in place for farm-based lodging on agricultural properties. The County's own Supervisor Joan Hartmann stated at the December 2024 hearing that passed the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance that the goal was to help working farms "stabilize their income during the ups and downs of what is a very difficult way to make a living." A $65,000 retroactive penalty does the opposite — and ultimately affects not just the farm, but the customers and community members who depend on it.

I respectfully ask this Board to grant full forgiveness of the assessed amount, or at minimum to waive all penalties and interest that accumulated during the years when the County provided no legal compliance pathway.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Victoria Castan
I buy produce from them
Lompoc
Lompoc, santa barbara county

Katherine Douglas

From: Borden Coulter <bmc4@att.net>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2026 6:08 PM
To: sbcob
Cc: jraff@dare2dreamfarms.com
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting"

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Borden Coulter
Riverside
bmc4@att.net
June 18, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Borden Coulter (Friends and family), and I am writing as a customer and community supporter of Dare 2 Dream Farms to respectfully ask the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to grant full relief — or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest — on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

I have been a customer of Dare 2 Dream Farms through farm stand purchases, CSA produce purchases, chicken purchases, coups, eggs, farm tours. For me and my family, this farm represents something increasingly rare: a local, working agricultural operation that makes fresh, honestly grown food genuinely accessible to our community.

We have been coming to the farm since 2010, visiting the Raffs, helping to build and plant, feed and harvest, it's been a family tradition. Family is important, and they are family to the community. Our kids have been a part of this farm since they were babies. They love this place.

Dare 2 Dream Farms has been serving customers like me since 2013, when they first opened their farm to the community through agricultural exchange programs and tours. What makes this even more extraordinary is that Dare 2 Dream Farms is the first CSA in Santa Barbara County to accept SNAP Online payments — listed on the USDA's own federal website — so that food stamp recipients can order fresh local produce online for delivery or pickup. During COVID-19, the farm grew its CSA to 500% of previous capacity to serve as a community food emergency operation. Every month it donates excess vegetables to Veggie Rescue to feed families in need. One of the things that has always set this farm apart is that it keeps its gates open to the entire community — sunup to sundown, every day — welcoming anyone who wants to visit the animals, walk

the garden, or see firsthand where their food comes from. This is not a hotel. It is a working farm that has chosen to be genuinely accessible to the people it serves. Over the years they have grown their impact considerably — operating a CSA produce box subscription service, a farm stand, and participating in the Route One Farmers Market, all while employing 5–6 full-time local workers and hosting hundreds of agricultural exchange visitors from around the world.

I understand that Santa Barbara County is now retroactively assessing approximately $65,000 in Transient Occupancy Tax, penalties, and interest against this farm for a period when the County itself had no legal framework in place for farm-based lodging on agricultural properties. The County's own Supervisor Joan Hartmann stated at the December 2024 hearing that passed the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance that the goal was to help working farms "stabilize their income during the ups and downs of what is a very difficult way to make a living." A $65,000 retroactive penalty does the opposite — and ultimately affects not just the farm, but the customers and community members who depend on it.

I respectfully ask this Board to grant full forgiveness of the assessed amount, or at minimum to waive all penalties and interest that accumulated during the years when the County provided no legal compliance pathway.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Borden Coulter
Friends and family
Riverside

Sent from AT&T Yahoo Mail for iPhone

Katherine Douglas

From: autumnnoe@gmail.com
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2026 1:12 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public comment Dare to Dream Farms

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Autumn Noe
Santa Barbara
autumnnoe@gmail.com
June 19, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Autumn Noe (Customer), and I am writing as a customer and community supporter of Dare 2 Dream Farms to respectfully ask the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to grant full relief — or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest — on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

I have been a customer of Dare 2 Dream Farms through buying chicks from them for the last past few years. For me and my family, this farm represents something increasingly rare: a local, working agricultural operation that makes fresh, honestly grown food genuinely accessible to our community.

Purchasing chicks locally from a family farm is inline with my beliefs in terms of acquiring chickens and the alternative is purchasing them online and the birds being delivered through the mail. Locally sources food matters and it's a shame that these farms continue to take hits and ultimately have to sell. Keep local farms on the central coast.

Dare 2 Dream Farms has been serving customers like me since 2013, when they first opened their farm to the community through agricultural exchange programs and tours. What makes this even more extraordinary is that Dare 2 Dream Farms is the first CSA in Santa Barbara County to accept SNAP Online payments — listed on the USDA's own federal website — so that food stamp recipients can order fresh local produce online for delivery or pickup. During COVID-19, the farm grew its CSA to 500% of previous capacity to serve as a community food emergency operation. Every month it donates excess vegetables to Veggie Rescue to feed families in need. One of the things that has always set this farm apart is that it keeps its gates open to the entire community — sunup to sundown, every day — welcoming anyone who wants to visit the animals, walk the garden, or see firsthand where their food comes from. This is not a hotel. It is a working farm that has

chosen to be genuinely accessible to the people it serves. Over the years they have grown their impact considerably — operating a CSA produce box subscription service, a farm stand, and participating in the Route One Farmers Market, all while employing 5–6 full-time local workers and hosting hundreds of agricultural exchange visitors from around the world.

I understand that Santa Barbara County is now retroactively assessing approximately $65,000 in Transient Occupancy Tax, penalties, and interest against this farm for a period when the County itself had no legal framework in place for farm-based lodging on agricultural properties. The County's own Supervisor Joan Hartmann stated at the December 2024 hearing that passed the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance that the goal was to help working farms "stabilize their income during the ups and downs of what is a very difficult way to make a living." A $65,000 retroactive penalty does the opposite — and ultimately affects not just the farm, but the customers and community members who depend on it.

I respectfully ask this Board to grant full forgiveness of the assessed amount, or at minimum to waive all penalties and interest that accumulated during the years when the County provided no legal compliance pathway.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Autumn Noe
Customer
Santa Barbara

Katherine Douglas

From: Anita Galli <agalli@olmc.vic.edu.au>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2026 2:12 AM
To: sbcob
Cc: jraff@dare2dreamfarms.com
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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Anita Galli
Australia
apgalli@gmail.com
June 20, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Anita Galli (Customer), and I am writing as a customer and community supporter of Dare 2 Dream Farms to respectfully ask the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to grant full relief — or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest — on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

I have been a customer of Dare 2 Dream Farms through [describe your connection — farm stand, CSA produce box subscription, Route One Farmers Market, farm tour, or other]. For me and my family, this farm represents something increasingly rare: a local, working agricultural operation that makes fresh, honestly grown food genuinely accessible to our community.

[Add your personal experience — why locally sourced food matters to you, what the farm's products have meant to your household, what it would mean to lose this resource in our community. If you have visited the farm informally — brought your kids to see the animals, walked the garden, or stopped by the farm stand — mention that too.]

Dare 2 Dream Farms has been serving customers like me since 2013, when they first opened their farm to the community through agricultural exchange programs and tours. What makes this even more extraordinary is that Dare 2 Dream Farms is the first CSA in Santa Barbara County to accept SNAP Online payments — listed on the USDA's own federal website — so that food stamp recipients can order fresh local produce online for delivery or pickup. During COVID-19, the farm grew its CSA to 500% of previous capacity to serve as a community food emergency operation. Every month it donates excess vegetables to Veggie Rescue to feed families in need. One of the things that has always set this farm apart is that it keeps its gates open to the

entire community — sunup to sundown, every day — welcoming anyone who wants to visit the animals, walk the garden, or see firsthand where their food comes from. This is not a hotel. It is a working farm that has chosen to be genuinely accessible to the people it serves. Over the years they have grown their impact considerably — operating a CSA produce box subscription service, a farm stand, and participating in the Route One Farmers Market, all while employing 5–6 full-time local workers and hosting hundreds of agricultural exchange visitors from around the world.

I understand that Santa Barbara County is now retroactively assessing approximately $65,000 in Transient Occupancy Tax, penalties, and interest against this farm for a period when the County itself had no legal framework in place for farm-based lodging on agricultural properties. The County's own Supervisor Joan Hartmann stated at the December 2024 hearing that passed the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance that the goal was to help working farms "stabilize their income during the ups and downs of what is a very difficult way to make a living." A $65,000 retroactive penalty does the opposite — and ultimately affects not just the farm, but the customers and community members who depend on it.

I respectfully ask this Board to grant full forgiveness of the assessed amount, or at minimum to waive all penalties and interest that accumulated during the years when the County provided no legal compliance pathway.

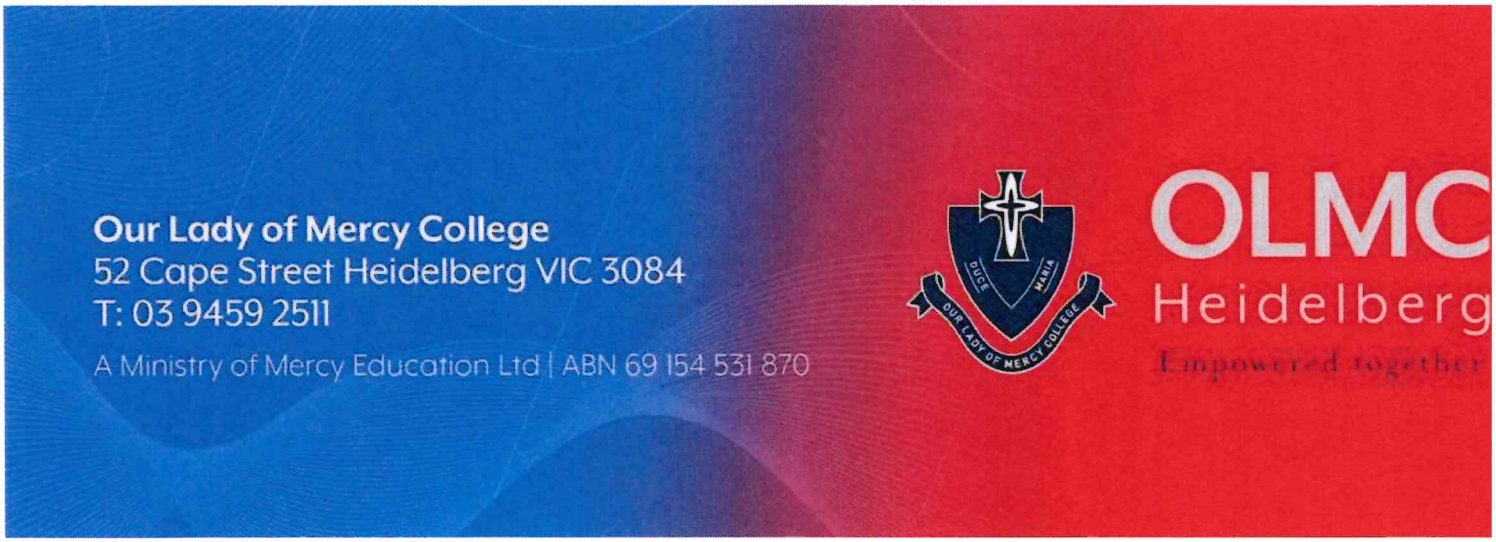
Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Anita Galli
Customer
Melbourne
Australia

Anita Galli
Social Justice Coordinator
Our Lady of Mercy College Heidelberg
A Ministry of Mercy Education Ltd

T: 03 9459 2511
E: agalli@olmc.vic.edu.au



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by the negligence of the sender or not. The content and opinions in this email are not necessarily those of the College.

Katherine Douglas

From: Cortney Lorca <cortneylorca@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2026 12:04 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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Cortney Lorca
Lompoc, CA/ USA
cortneylorca@gmail.com
June 17, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Cortney Lorca, and I am writing as a customer and community supporter of Dare 2 Dream Farms to respectfully ask the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to grant full relief — or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest — on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

I have been a customer of Dare 2 Dream Farms — farm stand, CSA produce box subscription, Route One Farmers Market, and farm tour. For me and my family, this farm represents something increasingly rare: a local, working agricultural operation that makes fresh, honestly grown food genuinely accessible to our community.

I have personally enjoyed walking around this farm, visiting the animals, choosing locally sourced fresh veggies and eggs for my family, and saying hello to the Raff family and farm workers. This farm is so special to the Lompoc community and no one wants this to change!

Dare 2 Dream Farms has been serving customers like me since 2013, when they first opened their farm to the community through agricultural exchange programs and tours. What makes this even more extraordinary is that Dare 2 Dream Farms is the first CSA in Santa Barbara County to accept SNAP Online payments — listed on the USDA's own federal website — so that food stamp recipients can order fresh local produce online for delivery or pickup. During COVID-19, the farm grew its CSA to 500% of previous capacity to serve as a community food emergency operation. Every month it donates excess vegetables to Veggie Rescue to feed families in need. One of the things that has always set this farm apart is that it keeps its gates open to the entire community — sunup to sundown, every day — welcoming anyone who wants to visit the animals, walk the garden, or see firsthand where their food comes from. This is not a hotel. It is a working farm that has

chosen to be genuinely accessible to the people it serves. Over the years they have grown their impact considerably — operating a CSA produce box subscription service, a farm stand, and participating in the Route One Farmers Market, all while employing 5–6 full-time local workers and hosting hundreds of agricultural exchange visitors from around the world.

I understand that Santa Barbara County is now retroactively assessing approximately $65,000 in Transient Occupancy Tax, penalties, and interest against this farm for a period when the County itself had no legal framework in place for farm-based lodging on agricultural properties. The County's own Supervisor Joan Hartmann stated at the December 2024 hearing that passed the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance that the goal was to help working farms "stabilize their income during the ups and downs of what is a very difficult way to make a living." A $65,000 retroactive penalty does the opposite — and ultimately affects not just the farm, but the customers and community members who depend on it.

I respectfully ask this Board to grant full forgiveness of the assessed amount, or at minimum to waive all penalties and interest that accumulated during the years when the County provided no legal compliance pathway.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Cortney Lorca
Customer
Lompoc, CA/ USA

Katherine Douglas

From: Mary Kober <rkober3013@aol.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2026 8:10 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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Mary Kober
La Crescenta Ca USA
rkober3013@aol.com
June 21, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Mary Kober (Parent of a farm hand), and I am writing as a customer and community supporter of Dare 2 Dream Farms to respectfully ask the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to grant full relief — or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest — on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

I have been a customer of Dare 2 Dream Farms through [describe your connection — farm stand, CSA produce box subscription, Route One Farmers Market, farm tour, or other]. For me and my family, this farm represents something increasingly rare: a local, working agricultural operation that makes fresh, honestly grown food genuinely accessible to our community.

[Add your personal experience — why locally sourced food matters to you, what the farm's products have meant to your household, what it would mean to lose this resource in our community. If you have visited the farm informally — brought your kids to see the animals, walked the garden, or stopped by the farm stand — mention that too.]

Dare 2 Dream Farms has been serving customers like me since 2013, when they first opened their farm to the community through agricultural exchange programs and tours. What makes this even more extraordinary is that Dare 2 Dream Farms is the first CSA in Santa Barbara County to accept SNAP Online payments — listed on the USDA's own federal website — so that food stamp recipients can order fresh local produce online for delivery or pickup. During COVID-19, the farm grew its CSA to 500% of previous capacity to serve as a community food emergency operation. Every month it donates excess vegetables to Veggie Rescue to feed families in need. One of the things that has always set this farm apart is that it keeps its gates open to the entire community — sunup to sundown, every day — welcoming anyone who wants to visit the animals, walk the garden, or see firsthand where their food comes from. This is not a hotel. It is a working farm that has chosen to be genuinely accessible to the people it serves. Over the years they have grown their impact considerably — operating a CSA produce box subscription service, a farm stand, and participating in the Route One Farmers Market, all while employing 5–6 full-time local workers and hosting hundreds of agricultural exchange visitors from around the world.

I understand that Santa Barbara County is now retroactively assessing approximately $65,000 in Transient Occupancy Tax, penalties, and interest against this farm for a period when the County itself had no legal framework in place for farm-based lodging on agricultural properties. The County's own Supervisor Joan Hartmann stated at the December 2024 hearing that passed the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance that the goal was to help working farms "stabilize their income during the ups and downs of what is a very difficult way to make a living." A $65,000 retroactive penalty does the opposite — and ultimately affects not just the farm, but the customers and community members who depend on it.

I respectfully ask this Board to grant full forgiveness of the assessed amount, or at minimum to waive all penalties and interest that accumulated during the years when the County provided no legal compliance pathway.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mary Kober
Parent of a farm hand
La Crescenta Ca USA

Sent from my iPhone

Katherine Douglas

From: Gymnastics North <gymnorth@msn.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2026 9:05 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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Lori McClain
Lompoc CA USA
gymnorth@msn.com
June 21, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Lori McClain, and I serve as Owner of Gymnastics North, Nova Dance Company and Rocket Town Playground in Lompoc CA USA. I am writing in strong support of Dare 2 Dream Farms and respectfully urge this Board to grant full relief — or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest — on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

I have had the privilege of working alongside Jeremy and Megan Raff through many various community events. I myself shop at the Farmstand. Their family has also been a big supporter of my business. In my experience in this community, Dare 2 Dream Farms stands apart as one of the most genuinely committed contributors to the economic and social vitality of the Lompoc Valley.

Consider the breadth of their community involvement: active leadership in the revival of the Lompoc Grange Hall as a nonprofit community venue; board participation in the Santa Barbara County Food Action Network (SBCFAN), where Megan Raff serves as Board Chair; board membership on the Route One Farmers Market; participation in the Santa Barbara County Chamber of Commerce; free farm tours for schools, learning groups, and underserved communities; hosting of fundraiser dinners for local nonprofits at no charge; a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program and farm stand serving county residents; 5–6 full-time local employees; and over 500 WWOOF agricultural education participants hosted from across the U.S. and internationally.

This is not a short-term rental investor. This is a working family farm that keeps its gates open to the entire community — sunup to sundown, every day — welcoming anyone who wants to visit the animals, walk the garden, or simply experience where their food comes from. The farm stay accommodations that are now subject to retroactive assessment were always secondary to that open, community-rooted mission.

I am also concerned about the fundamental fairness of this situation. In 2019, Santa Barbara County actively ruled against drafting a legal framework for farm-based lodging on agricultural properties — leaving operators like Dare 2 Dream Farms with no path to compliance and no acknowledgment of how to move forward. Critically, Jeremy did not simply accept the situation: in 2019 Jeremy joined the County's Farmstay Advisory Committee — bringing his perspective as a working farmer to help find a common-sense solution — a group led by Planning Commissioner John Parke whose recommendations became the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance. The County did not pass that ordinance until December 2024 — years past its own projected timeline. Retroactively assessing penalties and interest for that period sends a deeply troubling message to every small farm in Santa Barbara County that attempts to diversify revenue through agritourism.

I respectfully ask this Board to act with fairness and grant full forgiveness of the $65,000 assessment, or at the very least waive all penalties and interest that accrued during the years of regulatory uncertainty.

Thank you for your service to our community and for your thoughtful consideration of this appeal.

Sincerely,

Lori McClain
Owner
Gymnastics North, Nova Dance Company and Rocket Town Playground
Lompoc CA USA

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone
Get Outlook for Android

Katherine Douglas

From: Marisa Brenninkmeyer <Marisa@brenninkmeyer.net>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2026 8:06 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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Marisa Brenninkmeyer
Santa Barbara, CA
marisa@brenninkmeyer.net
June 22, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Marisa Brenninkmeyer, and I am writing as a customer and community supporter of Dare 2 Dream Farms to respectfully ask the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to grant full relief — or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest — on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

I have been a customer of Dare 2 Dream Farms through visits to the farmstand but mostly through their education and support as I embraced being a chicken mom. For me and my family, this farm represents something increasingly rare: a local, working agricultural operation that makes fresh, honestly grown food genuinely accessible to our community. Growing chicks to hens was an amazing process for us and gave my children a tangible connection with animals as they charted their growth- fed- cleaned and listened to their squeaks as they happily laid eggs. - the chickens not the kids.

Dare 2 Dream Farms has been serving customers like me since 2013, when they first opened their farm to the community through agricultural exchange programs and tours. What makes this even more extraordinary is that Dare 2 Dream Farms is the first CSA in Santa Barbara County to accept SNAP Online payments — listed on the USDA's own federal website — so that food stamp recipients can order fresh local produce online for delivery or pickup. During COVID-19, the farm grew its CSA to 500% of previous capacity to serve as a community food emergency operation. Every month it donates excess vegetables to Veggie Rescue to feed families in need. One of the things that has always set this farm apart is that it keeps its gates open to the entire community — sunup to sundown, every day — welcoming anyone who wants to visit the animals, walk the garden, or see firsthand where their food comes from. This is not a hotel. It is a working farm that has chosen to be genuinely accessible to the people it serves. Over the years they have grown their impact considerably — operating a CSA produce box subscription service, a farm stand, and participating in the Route One Farmers Market, all while employing 5–6 full-time local workers and hosting hundreds of agricultural exchange visitors from around the world.

I understand that Santa Barbara County is now retroactively assessing approximately $65,000 in Transient Occupancy Tax, penalties, and interest against this farm for a period when the County itself had no legal framework in place for

farm-based lodging on agricultural properties. The County's own Supervisor Joan Hartmann stated at the December 2024 hearing that passed the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance that the goal was to help working farms "stabilize their income during the ups and downs of what is a very difficult way to make a living." A $65,000 retroactive penalty does the opposite — and ultimately affects not just the farm, but the customers and community members who depend on it.

As a business owner myself- I would like you to consider what this bill/ordinance really means to everyone. This business has been supporting the region for over 10 years- a farm long before that- it already pays taxes- they are active community members who are giving programs to local schools and supporting charitable causes. This a long standing business at risk- and possibly not the only ones. Farms are extremely hard to manage and make big gains- it is for the love of the land and maybe that is hard for you to understand. If you have never worked outside an office the black and white rules of a tax ordinance make sense- but really Who really wins here? If this new ordinance shutters a few farms - Santa Barbara county loses. We lose local food, we lose the taxes, we lose the opportunity for education, for support and outreach.

I respectfully ask this Board to grant full forgiveness of the assessed amount, or at minimum to waive all penalties and interest that accumulated during the years when the County provided no legal compliance pathway.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Marisa Brenninkmeyer
Customer and avid supporter
Santa Barbara, CA

Sent from my iPhone

Katherine Douglas

From: Aidan Heckaman <heckamanmnt@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2026 11:15 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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Aidan heckaman
Aurora, Colorado
aidanzuriel@gmail.com
June 22, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Aidan heckaman, and i am writing today to speak about a place that is very dear to me.
I came to Dare 2 Dream farms in late 2015 on the recommendation of a former neighbor and mutual friend of Jeremy & Megan Raff. I had recently therebefore lost my grandfather and with it the security of a place to live. In truth , I was a bit lost as a young man without any support system would be. Multiple other farms, where i lived and worked, had taken advantage of my unstable situation and found it easy to exploit my time and labor.
This all changed when I met the Raff family for the first time. They we fair, honest and endlessly generous. Without hesitation , I was taken into a community farm that felt more like a family than a business. However , Dare 2 Dream Farms is in fact a business. And businesses need income!

During my nearly five years in the employment of Dare 2 Dream Farms, i experienced first-hand how multiple setbacks and difficult times were unable to deter the Raff family from the commitment to the community that had built up around them.
The motto which guides the philosophy of this Farm " be the change you wish to see" has been proven and been a benefit to myself, my former colleagues, the neighbors and friends of Dare 2 Dream, the people of the city of Lompoc, the people of Santa Barbara County, and even California as a whole.
However, this assessment will change everything. What's at risk is not some profit margin of a soulless corporation, but the steadfastness of a cornerstone of a fragile community. If Dare 2 Dream Farms suffers, we all suffer in turn. But if the farm is given grace to thrive, we will all prosper immeasurably more.

Thank you for your time and your service to our community.

Sincerely,

Aidan heckaman
Delivery driver, farm hand
Aurora, Colorado

Katherine Douglas

From: Amanda Martin <mandypantz24@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2026 8:43 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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Amanda Diaz
paso robles
Mandypantz24@gmail.com
June 22, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Amanda Diaz (A customer and friend), and I am writing as a customer and community supporter of Dare 2 Dream Farms to respectfully ask the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to grant full relief — or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest — on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

I have been a customer of Dare 2 Dream Farms when Jeremy's grandfather was still alive and it was a dream becoming a reality. This farm has been a pillar in the community and has shown me and my family what a true working farm is all about. Farm to table healthy food frown and served for us to truly see the difference in what we are putting into our bodies.

Dare 2 Dream Farms has been serving customers like me since 2013, when they first opened their farm to the community through agricultural exchange programs and tours. What makes this even more extraordinary is that Dare 2 Dream Farms is the first CSA in Santa Barbara County to accept SNAP Online payments — listed on the USDA's own federal website — so that food stamp recipients can order fresh local produce online for delivery or pickup. During COVID-19, the farm grew its CSA to 500% of previous capacity to serve as a community food emergency operation. Every month it donates excess vegetables to Veggie Rescue to feed families in need. One of the things that has always set this farm apart is that it keeps its gates open to the entire community — sunup to sundown, every day — welcoming anyone who wants to visit the animals, walk the garden, or see firsthand where their food comes from. This is not a hotel. It is a working farm that has chosen to be genuinely accessible to the people it serves. Over the years they have grown their impact considerably — operating a CSA produce box subscription service, a farm stand, and participating in the Route One Farmers Market, all while employing 5–6 full-time local workers and hosting hundreds of agricultural exchange visitors from around the world.

I understand that Santa Barbara County is now retroactively assessing approximately $65,000 in Transient Occupancy Tax, penalties, and interest against this farm for a period when the County itself had no legal framework in place for farm-based lodging on agricultural properties. The County's own Supervisor Joan Hartmann stated at the December 2024 hearing that passed the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance that the goal was to help working farms "stabilize their income during the ups and downs of what is a very difficult way to make a living." A $65,000 retroactive penalty does the opposite — and ultimately affects not just the farm, but the customers and community members who depend on it.

I respectfully ask this Board to grant full forgiveness of the assessed amount, or at minimum to waive all penalties and interest that accumulated during the years when the County provided no legal compliance pathway.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Amanda Diaz
A customer and friend
Paso Robles

Katherine Douglas

From: Tony Amaya <tojoamaya@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 23, 2026 7:51 AM
To: sbcob
Cc: Jeremy Raff
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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Tony Amaya
London, UK
tojoamaya@gmail.com

June 23, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Tony Amaya (Overnight Guest - Farm & Space enthusiast), and I am writing as a customer and community supporter of Dare 2 Dream Farms to respectfully ask the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to grant full relief — or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest — on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

I have been a customer of Dare 2 Dream Farms through Jeremy and Meg who hosted me and my wife whilst we were driving from San Diego to San Luis Obispo on our visit from the UK. For me and my family, this farm represents something increasingly rare: a local, working agricultural operation that makes fresh, honestly grown food genuinely accessible to our communities.

Living in a city like London, access to green grocers is something we take seriously because of what they represent in our communities in comparison to big box supermarkets. They use less packaging, less waste, and benefit farmers beyond our comprehension. To have the ability to stay on such a beautiful property 6,000 miles from our home was something we couldn't have done if not for the short stay option that D2D farms offered. To then have SpaceX launching above our heads unexpectedly at 7:30 am was enough to bring me to tears at the beauty of humanity's ability - Farming organic produce on a beautiful farmstead and achieving space travel all in Santa Barbara County. The irony that SpaceX is now publicly traded and is one of the top-10 valued companies on the planet, and Dare 2 Dreams is having a tax placed on it sends a signal to your food growers and constituents about your priorities.

Dare 2 Dream Farms has been serving customers like me since 2013, when they first opened their farm to the community through agricultural exchange programs and tours. What makes this even more extraordinary is

that Dare 2 Dream Farms is the first CSA in Santa Barbara County to accept SNAP Online payments — listed on the USDA's own federal website — so that food stamp recipients can order fresh local produce online for delivery or pickup. During COVID-19, the farm grew its CSA to 500% of previous capacity to serve as a community food emergency operation. Every month it donates excess vegetables to Veggie Rescue to feed families in need. One of the things that has always set this farm apart is that it keeps its gates open to the entire community — sunup to sundown, every day — welcoming anyone who wants to visit the animals, walk the garden, or see firsthand where their food comes from. This is not a hotel. It is a working farm that has chosen to be genuinely accessible to the people it serves. Over the years they have grown their impact considerably — operating a CSA produce box subscription service, a farm stand, and participating in the Route One Farmers Market, all while employing 5–6 full-time local workers and hosting hundreds of agricultural exchange visitors from around the world.

I understand that Santa Barbara County is now retroactively assessing approximately $65,000 in Transient Occupancy Tax, penalties, and interest against this farm for a period when the County itself had no legal framework in place for farm-based lodging on agricultural properties. The County's own Supervisor Joan Hartmann stated at the December 2024 hearing that passed the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance that the goal was to help working farms "stabilize their income during the ups and downs of what is a very difficult way to make a living." A $65,000 retroactive penalty does the opposite — and ultimately affects not just the farm, but the customers and community members who depend on it.

I respectfully ask this Board to grant full forgiveness of the assessed amount, or at minimum to waive all penalties and interest that accumulated during the years when the County provided no legal compliance pathway.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Tony Amaya
Overnight Guest - Farm & Space enthusiast
London, UK

Katherine Douglas

From: Kristi Forsyth <forsyth.kristina@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 24, 2026 11:31 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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Kristina Forsyth
Lompoc
forsyth.kristina@gmail.com
June 24, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Kristina Forsyth, and I am writing as a customer and community supporter of Dare 2 Dream Farms to respectfully ask the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to grant full relief — or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest — on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

I have been a customer of Dare 2 Dream Farms through their farm stand, CSA produce box subscription, and the Route One Farmers Market. For me and my family, this farm represents something increasingly rare: a local, working agricultural operation that makes fresh, honestly grown food genuinely accessible to our community.

Locally sourced food matters to me because as a homeschooling mom of 4, teaching my kids how food gets to their plate is important. We strive to eat as much local produce as we can, to keep the sacred connection between land and body strong. The CSA boxes are a great way to try new recipes and expand our horizons to things we haven't eaten before, and the farm stand is a convenient way to grab a few needed items. My kids have also been invited over by their friends, the Raff children. They've been given the VIP treatment, at no cost to us. They've seen baby chicks, young pigs, rows and rows of vegetables, and fed the goats. Having that welcoming environment to experience the animals and pick fresh veggies to snack on is so important for them, and it means everything that the Raff family would be so open and inviting.

Dare 2 Dream Farms has been serving customers like me since 2013, when they first opened their farm to the community through agricultural exchange programs and tours. What makes this even more extraordinary is that Dare 2 Dream Farms is the first CSA in Santa Barbara County to accept SNAP Online payments — listed on the USDA's own federal website — so that food stamp recipients can order fresh local produce online for

delivery or pickup. During COVID-19, the farm grew its CSA to 500% of previous capacity to serve as a community food emergency operation. Every month it donates excess vegetables to Veggie Rescue to feed families in need. One of the things that has always set this farm apart is that it keeps its gates open to the entire community — sunup to sundown, every day — welcoming anyone who wants to visit the animals, walk the garden, or see firsthand where their food comes from. This is not a hotel. It is a working farm that has chosen to be genuinely accessible to the people it serves. Over the years they have grown their impact considerably — operating a CSA produce box subscription service, a farm stand, and participating in the Route One Farmers Market, all while employing 5–6 full-time local workers and hosting hundreds of agricultural exchange visitors from around the world.

I understand that Santa Barbara County is now retroactively assessing approximately $65,000 in Transient Occupancy Tax, penalties, and interest against this farm for a period when the County itself had no legal framework in place for farm-based lodging on agricultural properties. The County's own Supervisor Joan Hartmann stated at the December 2024 hearing that passed the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance that the goal was to help working farms "stabilize their income during the ups and downs of what is a very difficult way to make a living." A $65,000 retroactive penalty does the opposite — and ultimately affects not just the farm, but the customers and community members who depend on it.

I respectfully ask this Board to grant full forgiveness of the assessed amount, or at minimum to waive all penalties and interest that accumulated during the years when the County provided no legal compliance pathway.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kristina Forsyth
Customer
Vandenberg Village
Lompoc

Katherine Douglas

From: Nancy Calvert <nancyandbillc@msn.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 25, 2026 12:56 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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Nancy Calvert
Lompoc, California
nancyandbillc@gmail.com
June 25, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Nancy Calvert (Long loyal customer), and I am writing as a customer and community supporter of Dare 2 Dream Farms to respectfully ask the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to grant full relief — or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest — on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

I have been a customer of Dare 2 Dream Farms through lucky happenstance first from discovering the farm stand and later with the csa box. For me and my family, this farm represents something increasingly rare: a local, working agricultural operation that makes fresh, honestly grown food genuinely accessible to our community.

I feel so fortunate to be able to go to the farm anytime and get fresh seasonal organic vegetables, eggs etc Say hi to the goats and get help if I have any questions. I've steered a lot of friends to the farm and they are always so pleasantly surprised by how much they offer and how easy and convenient it is. My out of town family even stayed for a weekend and the kids had such a great time and learned so much.
Dare 2 Dream Farms has been serving customers like me since 2013, when they first opened their farm to the community through agricultural exchange programs and tours. What makes this even more extraordinary is that Dare 2 Dream Farms is the first CSA in Santa Barbara County to accept SNAP Online payments — listed on the USDA's own federal website — so that food stamp recipients can order fresh local produce online for delivery or pickup. During COVID-19, the farm grew its CSA to 500% of previous capacity to serve as a community food emergency operation. Every month it donates excess vegetables to Veggie Rescue to feed families in need. One of the things that has always set this farm apart is that it keeps its gates open to the entire community — sunup to sundown, every day — welcoming anyone who wants to visit the animals, walk the garden, or see firsthand where their food comes from. This is not a hotel. It is a working farm that has chosen to be genuinely accessible to the people it serves. Over the years they have grown their impact considerably — operating a CSA produce box subscription service, a farm stand, and participating in the Route One Farmers Market, all while employing 5–6 full-time local workers and hosting hundreds of agricultural exchange visitors from around the world.

I understand that Santa Barbara County is now retroactively assessing approximately $65,000 in Transient Occupancy Tax, penalties, and interest against this farm for a period when the County itself had no legal framework in place for

farm-based lodging on agricultural properties. The County's own Supervisor Joan Hartmann stated at the December 2024 hearing that passed the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance that the goal was to help working farms "stabilize their income during the ups and downs of what is a very difficult way to make a living." A $65,000 retroactive penalty does the opposite — and ultimately affects not just the farm, but the customers and community members who depend on it.

I respectfully ask this Board to grant full forgiveness of the assessed amount, or at minimum to waive all penalties and interest that accumulated during the years when the County provided no legal compliance pathway.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Nancy Calvert
Long loyal customer
Central Coast
Lompoc, California

Sent from my iPhone

Katherine Douglas

From: Tina Johnston <tina@dbaengineers.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 25, 2026 1:42 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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Tina Johnston
Orcutt, CA
tina@dbaengineers.com
June 25, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Tina Johnston (Community Member), and I am writing as a customer and community supporter of Dare 2 Dream Farms to respectfully ask the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to grant full relief — or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest — on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

I have been a customer of Dare 2 Dream Farms. For me and my family, this farm represents something increasingly rare: a local, working agricultural operation that makes fresh, honestly grown food genuinely accessible to our community.

Our family visited the farm informally — we brought our kids to see the animals, walked the garden, and stopped by the farm stand. It was certainly a unique experience and area. It is an asset to our local community.

Dare 2 Dream Farms has been serving customers like me since 2013, when they first opened their farm to the community through agricultural exchange programs and tours. What makes this even more extraordinary is that Dare 2 Dream Farms is the first CSA in Santa Barbara County to accept SNAP Online payments — listed on the USDA's own federal website — so that food stamp recipients can order fresh local produce online for delivery or pickup. During COVID-19, the farm grew its CSA to 500% of previous capacity to serve as a community food emergency operation. Every month it donates excess vegetables to Veggie Rescue to feed families in need. One of the things that has always set this farm apart is that it keeps its gates open to the entire community — sunup to sundown, every day — welcoming anyone who wants to visit the animals, walk the garden, or see firsthand where their food comes from. This is not a hotel. It is a working farm that has chosen to be genuinely accessible to the people it serves. Over the years they have grown their impact

considerably — operating a CSA produce box subscription service, a farm stand, and participating in the Route One Farmers Market, all while employing 5–6 full-time local workers and hosting hundreds of agricultural exchange visitors from around the world.

I understand that Santa Barbara County is now retroactively assessing approximately $65,000 in Transient Occupancy Tax, penalties, and interest against this farm for a period when the County itself had no legal framework in place for farm-based lodging on agricultural properties. The County's own Supervisor Joan Hartmann stated at the December 2024 hearing that passed the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance that the goal was to help working farms "stabilize their income during the ups and downs of what is a very difficult way to make a living." A $65,000 retroactive penalty does the opposite — and ultimately affects not just the farm, but the customers and community members who depend on it.

I respectfully ask this Board to grant full forgiveness of the assessed amount, or at minimum to waive all penalties and interest that accumulated during the years when the County provided no legal compliance pathway. It is an unfair burden you are imposing on this family farm.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Tina Johnston
Community Member
Orcutt, CA

Katherine Douglas

From: Lisa Ponsor <lisa.ponsor@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 25, 2026 5:17 PM
To: sbcob; jraff@dare2dreamfarms.com
Subject: "Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting"

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Lisa Ponsor
Lompoc. CA
lisa.ponsor@yahoo.com
June 25, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Lisa Ponsor and I am writing as a customer and community supporter of Dare 2 Dream Farms to respectfully ask the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to grant full relief — or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest — on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

I have been a customer of Dare 2 Dream Farms via their farm stand, their CSA produce box subscription, and at Route One Farmers Market since 2021. For me and my family, this farm represents something very precious: a local, working agricultural operation that makes fresh, regeneratively grown food accessible to our community.

The family that owns the farm are amazing people: generous, hospitable, and kind. The type of people you want to see succeed. This crippling tax would be such a slap in the face to people who genuinely want to do the right thing. As a taxpayer myself, it is terrifying to think taxes could be assessed well after the relevant time period has passed. Assessing this tax penalty on them would send a message to the county that no one is safe from surprise taxes and that farmers are not valued.

I understand that Santa Barbara County is now retroactively assessing approximately $65,000 in Transient Occupancy Tax, penalties, and interest against this farm for a period when the County itself had no legal framework in place for farm-based lodging on agricultural properties. The County's own Supervisor Joan Hartmann stated at the December 2024 hearing that passed the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance that the goal was to help working farms "stabilize their income during the ups and downs of what is a very difficult way to make a living."

A $65,000 retroactive penalty does the opposite — and ultimately hurts not just the farm, but the customers and community members who depend on it.

As a resident and taxpayer of Santa Barbara County, I respectfully ask this Board to grant full forgiveness of the assessed amount, or at minimum to waive all penalties and interest that accumulated during the years when the County provided no legal compliance pathway.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Lisa Ponsor
Customer

Lompoc. CA

Katherine Douglas

From: Crystal Whitelaw <cwhitelaw@ucanr.edu>
Sent: Thursday, June 25, 2026 6:28 PM
To: sbcob
Cc: Rachael Callahan
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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Crystal Whitelaw
Davis, CA
cwhitelaw@ucanr.edu

June 25, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Crystal Whitelaw, and I serve as Associate Director for Sustainable Food Economies of UC Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education Program (UC SAREP) at UC ANR in California. I am writing in strong support of Dare 2 Dream Farms and respectfully urge this Board to grant full relief — or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest — on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

I have had the privilege of supporting Jeremy and Megan Raff through the UC ANR's Agritourism program led by Rachael Callahan. In my experience in this community, Dare 2 Dream Farms stands apart as one of the most genuinely committed contributors to the economic and social vitality of the Lompoc Valley.

Consider the breadth of their community involvement: active leadership in the revival of the Lompoc Grange Hall as a nonprofit community venue; board participation in the Santa Barbara County Food Action Network (SBCFAN), where Megan Raff serves as Board Chair; board membership on the Route One Farmers Market; participation in the Santa Barbara County Chamber of Commerce; free farm tours for schools, learning groups, and underserved communities; hosting of fundraiser dinners for local nonprofits at no charge; a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program and farm stand serving county residents; 5–6 full-time local employees; and over 500 WWOOF agricultural education participants hosted from across the U.S. and internationally.

This is not a short-term rental investor. This is a working family farm that keeps its gates open to the entire community — sunup to sundown, every day — welcoming anyone who wants to visit the animals, walk the garden, or simply experience where their food comes from. The farm stay accommodations that are now subject to retroactive assessment were always secondary to that open, community-rooted mission.

I am also concerned about the fundamental fairness of this situation. In 2019, Santa Barbara County actively ruled against drafting a legal framework for farm-based lodging on agricultural properties — leaving operators like Dare 2 Dream Farms with no path to compliance and no acknowledgment of how to move forward. Critically, Jeremy did not simply accept the situation: in 2019 Jeremy joined the County's Farmstay Advisory Committee — bringing his perspective as a working farmer to help find a common-sense solution — a group led by Planning Commissioner John Parke whose recommendations became the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance. The County did not pass that ordinance until December 2024 — years past its own projected timeline. Retroactively assessing penalties and interest for that period sends a deeply troubling message to every small farm in Santa Barbara County that attempts to diversify revenue through agritourism.

I respectfully ask this Board to act with fairness and grant full forgiveness of the $65,000 assessment, or at the very least waive all penalties and interest that accrued during the years of regulatory uncertainty.

Thank you for your service to our community and for your thoughtful consideration of this appeal.

Sincerely,

Crystal Whitelaw
Associate Director for Sustainable Food Economies
UC Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program (SAREP)
2801 Second St., Davis, CA 95618
cwhitelaw@ucanr.edu

UC Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education Program
University of California
Agriculture & Natural Resources

sarep.ucanr.edu

Katherine Douglas

From: Niki Brosnan <knbrosnan@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 26, 2026 5:07 PM
To: sbcob
Cc: jraff@dare2dreamfarms.com
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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Niki Brosnan
Vancouver BC Canada
knbrosnan@gmail.com
June 26, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

We are the Brosnans,
(Travelers, friends and supporters of the farm and it's mission; Chris, Niki, Fionn and Kieva),

We are writing in wholehearted support of Dare to Dream Farm and respectfully ask that you consider the extraordinary value this hardworking family brings to their community when making your decision regarding tax status.

We discovered Dare to Dream Farm while traveling through the United States, and what we expected to be a simple visit became one of the most memorable experiences of our entire trip. We had the privilege of spending real time with Jeremy, Megan, and their amazing kids, experiencing firsthand the vision, dedication, and heart behind who they are and what they have created.

Dare to Dream Farm is so much more than a farm. It is a place of vision, hope, education, healing, and connection.

Walking the property, it was impossible not to feel the intention behind every detail. Their commitment to regenerative farming, caring for the land without relying on harsh chemicals, and producing healthy, nutrient-rich food is not only admirable it is essential.

At a time when so many families are searching for healthier, more sustainable ways to nourish their children, Dare to Dream Farm is actively providing a solution while demonstrating what responsible stewardship looks like.

Equally inspiring is their commitment to inclusion and their local community. They have created a place where people feel welcomed, valued, connected, and above all, safe. Not only to each other but to the land itself. In today's world, spaces like theirs are increasingly rare and incredibly important.

Organizations that dedicate themselves to improving public health, educating future generations, protecting the environment, and strengthening communities should be encouraged, not burdened. The work being done at Dare to Dream Farm benefits far more than those who walk through its gates; it contributes to healthier families, healthier ecosystems, and a stronger community as a whole.

For these reasons, we strongly believe Dare to Dream Farm deserves every opportunity to continue its mission without the unnecessary financial strain of additional taxation. The resources they have should remain invested in growing ethical food, educating children, caring for the land, and expanding the impact of their work, not diverted away from a mission that clearly serves the public good.

Our family feels incredibly fortunate to have experienced Dare to Dream Farm firsthand, and we will always remember the warmth, generosity, and inspiration we found there. It is a place that leaves a lasting impression and reminds us of what is possible when people choose to care for both the earth and one another.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration. We respectfully urge you to support Dare to Dream Farm and allow this remarkable organization to continue the invaluable work it's doing for generations to come.

Sincerely,
The Brosnan Family
Chris & Niki (dad&mom) Fionn (16) & Kieva (11)
Travelers, friends, and supporters of the farm and its mission
Vancouver BC Canada

Katherine Douglas

From: Colleen Peczek <colleentorok@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 27, 2026 9:48 AM
To: sbcob
Cc: jraff@dare2dreamfarms.com
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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Colleen Peczek
Lompoc, CA
colleentorok@gmail.com

June 27, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Colleen Peczek, and I am writing as a current employee of Dare 2 Dream Farms in Lompoc. I have worked at the farm as Farm Hand (2022-current), and I am asking the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to grant full relief — or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest — on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

Dare 2 Dream Farms is not a corporation or an absentee investor. It is a working family farm owned and operated by Jeremy and Megan Raff on La Salle Canyon Road — land Jeremy's family has owned since 1970, which he returned to in 2008 to care for his grandfather and rebuild into what it is today. The farm has always kept its gates open to anyone in the community who wants to come out and visit the animals, walk the garden, or take a stroll through the property, sunup to sundown. It has provided stable, meaningful employment to full-time local workers like me, as well as part-time and seasonal staff. For many of us, this is not just a job — it is livelihood rooted in a community we care deeply about.

I understand that the farm has operated WWOOF agricultural exchange participants since 2013, farm tours since 2014, and Airbnb farm stay accommodations since 2017, and that in 2019, Santa Barbara County actively ruled against drafting a legal framework for farm-based lodging on agricultural properties, leaving our operation with no path to compliance. in 2019 Jeremy joined the County's Farmstay Advisory Committee — bringing his perspective as a working farmer to help find a common-sense solution — a group led by Planning Commissioner John Parke whose recommendations became the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance — not passed until December 2024, years past its projected timeline. Retroactively penalizing a small family farm for a compliance gap the County itself created — and took five years to resolve — is fundamentally unjust, and I respectfully urge this Board to exercise its discretion accordingly.

The Raffs have contributed to this community in ways that go far beyond their farm operations — employing local workers, hosting over 500 agricultural exchange visitors from across the country and internationally, supporting the revival of the Lompoc Grange Hall, participating in local food access boards and the Route One Farmers Market, and offering free farm tours to schools and underserved communities. A $65,000 retroactive assessment threatens all of it.

I ask that you protect this farm, the jobs it provides, and the community programs it sustains — by granting What makes this situation even more striking is the documented community impact of this farm during the very years now subject to retroactive audit. In 2024, Dare 2 Dream became the first CSA in Santa Barbara County to accept SNAP Online payments — listed on the USDA's own federal website — making fresh local produce accessible to food stamp recipients online for the first time. During COVID-19, the farm grew its CSA to 500% of previous capacity as an emergency food access operation. Every month it donates produce to Veggie Rescue. It supplies the Route One Mobile Market serving food-insecure families with EBT/CalFresh. The County's own tourism arm, Explore Lompoc, promotes it as "a highlight of your Lompoc experience." This is a community food institution — and the County is retroactively taxing it for a compliance gap the County created.

I respectfully ask this Board to grant full forgiveness of the assessed amount, or at minimum waiving the penalties and interest that accumulated during the years of regulatory uncertainty.

Thank you for your time and your service to our community.

Sincerely,

Colleen Peczek
Farm Hand
Lompoc, CA

Katherine Douglas

From: James and Doreen Junious <thejuniousfamily@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 27, 2026 10:41 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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Doreen Junious
Lompoc, CA
thejuniousfamily@yahoo.com
June 27, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Doreen Junious, and I am writing as a former employee of Dare 2 Dream Farms in Lompoc. I worked at the farm as Customer Service Manager from 2017 to 2021, and I respectfully ask the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to grant full relief, or at minimum waive the penalties and interest, on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

Dare 2 Dream Farms is not a corporation or an absentee investor. It is a working family farm owned and operated by Jeremy and Megan Raff on La Salle Canyon Road, land Jeremy's family has owned since 1970. He returned to the property in 2008 to care for his grandfather and rebuild it into what it is today. The farm has always welcomed the community, keeping its gates open for visitors to enjoy the animals, gardens, and property from sunup to sundown. It has provided stable, meaningful employment to full-time local workers like me, as well as part-time and seasonal staff. For many of us, this was more than a job. It was a livelihood rooted in a community we deeply care about.

I understand that the farm has hosted WWOOF agricultural exchange participants since 2013, offered farm tours since 2014, and operated Airbnb farm stay accommodations since 2017. In 2019, Santa Barbara County chose not to establish a legal framework for farm-based lodging on agricultural properties, leaving operations like Dare 2 Dream Farms with no clear path to compliance. That same year, Jeremy joined the County's Farmstay Advisory Committee, contributing his perspective as a working farmer to help develop a practical solution. The committee, led by Planning Commissioner John Parke, ultimately produced recommendations that became the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance, which was not adopted until December 2024, years later than anticipated. Retroactively penalizing a small family farm for a compliance gap created by the County's own regulatory delay is fundamentally unfair, and I respectfully urge the Board to exercise its discretion accordingly.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, I had the privilege of working at Dare 2 Dream Farms and witnessed firsthand the tremendous need that emerged throughout our community. While so much of the world slowed down, Megan and Jeremy did the opposite. They poured themselves into the farm, working tirelessly and selflessly to ensure families continued to have access to fresh produce, eggs, and locally raised chicken during a time of uncertainty and food shortages. I watched them expand operations to meet growing demand, often putting the needs of the community ahead of their own. Their commitment was never about profit. It was about making sure people had access to fresh, local food when they needed it most. That experience showed me the character, generosity, and dedication that continue to define this family and their farm.

Everything I have shared about the farm's response during the COVID-19 pandemic comes from my own firsthand experience working there every day and witnessing the sacrifices Jeremy and Megan made to serve our community.

The Raffs have contributed to this community in ways that extend far beyond farming. They have employed local workers, hosted more than 500 agricultural exchange visitors from across the United States and around the world, supported the revival of the Lompoc Grange Hall, participated in local food access organizations and the Route One Farmers Market, and provided free educational farm tours for schools and underserved communities. A $65,000 retroactive assessment threatens all of these contributions.

What makes this situation even more concerning is that the years now subject to retroactive assessment are the very years during which the farm served as a critical community resource. In 2024, Dare 2 Dream Farms became the first CSA in Santa Barbara County to accept SNAP Online payments, making fresh local produce accessible to food assistance recipients through online ordering. During the pandemic, the farm expanded its CSA to 500% of its previous capacity to help meet emergency food needs. It continues to donate produce each month to Veggie Rescue, supplies the Route One Mobile Market serving food-insecure families through EBT and CalFresh, and is promoted by Explore Lompoc as "a highlight of your Lompoc experience." This is far more than a business. It is a community institution that has consistently invested in the people of Santa Barbara County.

I respectfully ask the Board to protect this farm, the livelihoods it supports, and the community programs it sustains by granting full forgiveness of the assessed amount or, at minimum, waiving the penalties and interest that accumulated during years of regulatory uncertainty.

Thank you for your time, your consideration, and your service to our community.

Sincerely,

Doreen Junious

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

Katherine Douglas

From: Rick Coulter <rickcoulter2@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 28, 2026 12:17 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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Rick Coulter
La Crescenta CA
rickcoulter2@gmail.com
June 28, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Rick Coulter (Family), and I am writing as a customer and community supporter of Dare 2 Dream Farms to respectfully ask the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to grant full relief — or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest — on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

I have been a customer of Dare 2 Dream Farms through [describe your connection — farm stand, CSA produce box subscription, Route One Farmers Market, farm tour, or other]. For me and my family, this farm represents something increasingly rare: a local, working agricultural operation that makes fresh, honestly grown food genuinely accessible to our community.

[Add your personal experience — why locally sourced food matters to you, what the farm's products have meant to your household, what it would mean to lose this resource in our community. If you have visited the farm informally — brought your kids to see the animals, walked the garden, or stopped by the farm stand — mention that too.]

Dare 2 Dream Farms has been serving customers like me since 2013, when they first opened their farm to the community through agricultural exchange programs and tours. What makes this even more extraordinary is that Dare 2 Dream Farms is the first CSA in Santa Barbara County to accept SNAP Online payments — listed on the USDA's own federal website — so that food stamp recipients can order fresh local produce online for delivery or pickup. During COVID-19, the farm grew its CSA to 500% of previous capacity to serve as a community food emergency operation. Every month it donates excess vegetables to Veggie Rescue to feed families in need. One of the things that has always set this farm apart is that it keeps its gates open to the entire community — sunup to sundown, every day — welcoming anyone who wants to visit the animals, walk the garden, or see firsthand where their food comes from. This is not a hotel. It is a working farm that has chosen to be genuinely accessible to the people it serves. Over the years they have grown their impact considerably — operating a CSA produce box subscription service, a farm stand, and participating in the Route One Farmers Market, all while employing 5–6 full-time local workers and hosting hundreds of agricultural exchange visitors from around the world.

I understand that Santa Barbara County is now retroactively assessing approximately $65,000 in Transient Occupancy Tax, penalties, and interest against this farm for a period when the County itself had no legal framework in place for farm-based lodging on agricultural properties. The County's own Supervisor Joan Hartmann stated at the December 2024 hearing that passed the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance that the goal was to help working farms "stabilize their income during the ups and downs of what is a very difficult way to make a living." A $65,000 retroactive penalty does the opposite — and ultimately affects not just the farm, but the customers and community members who depend on it.

I respectfully ask this Board to grant full forgiveness of the assessed amount, or at minimum to waive all penalties and interest that accumulated during the years when the County provided no legal compliance pathway.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Rick Coulter
Family
La Crescenta CA

Sent from my iPad

Katherine Douglas

From: B Imano <bemail.bi@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 28, 2026 9:32 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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Beverly Imano
Lompoc, CA/ USA
bemail.bi@gmail.com
June 28, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Beverly Imano (CSA Subscriber, Community member), and I am writing as a customer and community supporter of Dare 2 Dream Farms to respectfully ask the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to grant full relief — or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest — on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

I have been a customer of Dare 2 Dream Farms through their farm stand, CSA produce box subscription, and a customer at Route One Farmers Market, . For me and my family, this farm represents something increasingly rare: a local, working agricultural operation that makes fresh, honestly grown food genuinely accessible to our community.

Locally sourced food improves community health. The Dare to dream farm has actively worked to make local farming available as an educational experience and reliable food source for the Lompoc community. Regular delivery of a weekly CSA box has improved our vegetable intake as a family and gives us a tangible link to our community's agriculture.

Dare 2 Dream Farms has been serving customers like me since 2013, when they first opened their farm to the community through agricultural exchange programs and tours. What makes this even more extraordinary is that Dare 2 Dream Farms is the first CSA in Santa Barbara County to accept SNAP Online payments — listed on the USDA's own federal website — so that food stamp recipients can order fresh local produce online for delivery or pickup. During COVID-19, the farm grew its CSA to 500% of previous capacity to serve as a community food emergency operation. Every month it donates excess vegetables to Veggie Rescue to feed families in need. One of the things that has always set this farm apart is that it keeps its gates open to the entire community — sunup to sundown, every day — welcoming anyone who wants to visit the animals, walk

the garden, or see firsthand where their food comes from. This is not a hotel. It is a working farm that has chosen to be genuinely accessible to the people it serves. Over the years they have grown their impact considerably — operating a CSA produce box subscription service, a farm stand, and participating in the Route One Farmers Market, all while employing 5–6 full-time local workers and hosting hundreds of agricultural exchange visitors from around the world.

I understand that Santa Barbara County is now retroactively assessing approximately $65,000 in Transient Occupancy Tax, penalties, and interest against this farm for a period when the County itself had no legal framework in place for farm-based lodging on agricultural properties. The County's own Supervisor Joan Hartmann stated at the December 2024 hearing that passed the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance that the goal was to help working farms "stabilize their income during the ups and downs of what is a very difficult way to make a living." A $65,000 retroactive penalty does the opposite — and ultimately affects not just the farm, but the customers and community members who depend on it.

I respectfully ask this Board to grant full forgiveness of the assessed amount, or at minimum to waive all penalties and interest that accumulated during the years when the County provided no legal compliance pathway.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Beverly Imano
CSA Subscriber, Community member
Lompoc
Lompoc, CA/ USA

Katherine Douglas

From: Jessie Alfaro <mrs.alfaro90@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 29, 2026 12:07 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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Jessie Alfaro Lompoc CA USA mrs.alfaro90@gmail.com June 29, 2026 Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors County of Santa Barbara 105 E. Anapamu Street Santa Barbara, CA 93101 Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors, My name is Jessie Alfaro (Consumer), and I am writing as a customer and community supporter of Dare 2 Dream Farms to respectfully ask the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to grant full relief — or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest — on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you. I have been a customer of Dare 2 Dream Farms through [describe your connection — farm stand, CSA produce box subscription, Route One Farmers Market, farm tour, or other]. For me and my family, this farm represents something increasingly rare: a local, working agricultural operation that makes fresh, honestly grown food genuinely accessible to our community. [Add your personal experience — why locally sourced food matters to you, what the farm's products have meant to your household, what it would mean to lose this resource in our community. If you have visited the farm informally — brought your kids to see the animals, walked the garden, or stopped by the farm stand — mention that too.] Dare 2 Dream Farms has been serving customers like me since 2013, when they first opened their farm to the community through agricultural exchange programs and tours. What makes this even more extraordinary is that Dare 2 Dream Farms is the first CSA in Santa Barbara County to accept SNAP Online payments — listed on the USDA's own federal website — so that food stamp recipients can order fresh local produce online for delivery or pickup. During COVID-19, the farm grew its CSA to 500% of previous capacity to serve as a community food emergency operation. Every month it donates excess vegetables to Veggie Rescue to feed families in need. One of the things that has always set this farm apart is that it keeps its gates open to the entire community — sunup to sundown, every day — welcoming anyone who wants to visit the animals, walk the garden, or see firsthand where their food comes from. This is not a hotel. It is a working farm that has chosen to be genuinely accessible to the people it serves. Over the years they have grown their impact considerably — operating a CSA produce box subscription service, a farm stand, and participating in the Route One Farmers Market, all while employing 5–6 full-time local workers and hosting hundreds of agricultural exchange visitors from around the world. I understand that Santa Barbara County is now retroactively assessing approximately $65,000 in Transient Occupancy Tax, penalties, and interest against this farm for a period when the County itself had no legal framework in place for farm-based lodging on agricultural properties. The County's own Supervisor Joan Hartmann stated at the December 2024 hearing that passed the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance that the goal was to help working farms "stabilize their income during the ups and downs of what is a very difficult way to make a living." A $65,000 retroactive penalty does the opposite — and ultimately affects not just the farm, but the customers and community members who depend on it. I respectfully ask this Board to grant full forgiveness of the assessed amount, or at minimum to waive all penalties and interest that accumulated during the years when the County provided no legal compliance pathway. Thank you for your consideration. Sincerely, Jessie Alfaro Consumer Lompoc Lompoc CA USA

Thank You,

Jessie Alfaro
Lompoc, CA 93436
mrs.alfaro90@gmail.com

Katherine Douglas

From: Ceri Smith <ceri@biondivino.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2026 2:17 PM
To: sbcob
Cc: Mraff@dare2dreamfarms.com
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: Public Comment

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Ceri L Smith
California
ceri@biondivino.com
smith.ceri@gmail.com
June 17, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Ceri L Smith , and I am writing as a customer and community supporter of Dare 2 Dream Farms to respectfully ask the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to grant full relief — or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest — on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

Dare to Dream Farms was a little piece of heaven during Covid. My Father, Arthur Smith Jr, a retired local pharmacist and business owner in Lompoc (for over 70 years) and I would look forward every week to drive to the farm to pick up our subscription box. It was the highlight of the week for a 95+ years old man. Not only was the visit to the farm wonderful but the organic and HEALTHY fruits and vegetables were essential and provided better quality meals for my Dad. I have been a customer of Dare 2 Dream Farms through out the years and continue my subscription immediately when I return to my family home in Lompoc. I have a business in San Francisco, Ca in the food and wine industry and have recommended Dare to Dream Farms to colleagues in the restaurant industry in the Bay Area for their eggs and chicken runs and supplies. For me and my family, this farm represents something increasingly rare: a local, working agricultural operation that makes fresh, honestly grown food genuinely accessible to the community.

Locally sourced food is crucial to health and well being. Knowing that there are farmers in the community who care and wouldn't put harmful chemicals and pesticides into their land and on the produce that they grow is essential to a towns well being.
To hinder this farms growth, all the work they have put into growing and educating the community and providing a much needed healthy source of food for the local area would be heartbreaking and detrimental to an area that desperately needs more like minded farmers and individuals such as Megan and Jeremy and their family.

Dare 2 Dream Farms has been serving customers like me since 2013, when they first opened their farm to the community through agricultural exchange programs and tours. What makes this even more extraordinary is that Dare 2 Dream Farms is the first CSA in Santa Barbara County to accept SNAP Online payments — listed on the USDA's own federal website — so that food stamp recipients can order fresh local produce online for delivery or pickup. During COVID-19, the farm grew its CSA to 500% of previous capacity to serve as a community food emergency operation. Every month it donates excess vegetables to Veggie Rescue to feed families in need. One of the things that has always set this farm apart is that it keeps its gates open to the entire community — sunup to sundown, every day — welcoming anyone who wants to visit the animals, walk the garden, or see firsthand where their food comes from. This is not a hotel. It is a working farm that has chosen to be genuinely accessible to the people it serves. Over the years they have grown their impact considerably — operating a CSA produce box subscription service, a farm stand, and participating in the Route One Farmers Market, all while employing 5–6 full-time local workers and hosting hundreds of agricultural exchange visitors from around the world.

I understand that Santa Barbara County is now retroactively assessing approximately $65,000 in Transient Occupancy Tax, penalties, and interest against this farm for a period when the County itself had no legal framework in place for farm-based lodging on agricultural properties. The County's own Supervisor Joan Hartmann stated at the December 2024 hearing that passed the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance that the goal was to help working farms "stabilize their income during the ups and downs of what is a very difficult way to make a living." A $65,000 retroactive penalty does the opposite — and ultimately affects not just the farm, but the customers and community members who depend on it.

I respectfully ask this Board to grant full forgiveness of the assessed amount, or at minimum to waive all penalties and interest that accumulated during the years when the County provided no legal compliance pathway.

Thank you for your consideration
Ceri L Smith

ccs | ceri smith selections: @css_cerismithselections
biondivino wine boutique: biondivino.com
Phone US: +1 917 370 2341
Phone Italy: +39 347 056 2905

Katherine Douglas

From: Ceri Smith <ceri@biondivino.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 1, 2026 12:14 AM
To: sbcob
Cc: Mraff@dare2dreamfarms.com; Ceri Smith
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

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Ceri L Smith
California
ceri@biondivino.com
smith.ceri@gmail.com
June 17, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

I submitted my support letter in regards to Date to Dream Farms earlier today and would like to include an addendum to my support to grant full relief on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

It occurred to me after I submitted my letter of support, that a perfect example of Dare to Dream Farms integrity stands in how they run their farmstand business aside from their CSA subscription boxes.

Dare to Dream (Megan and Jeremy) work on the honor system for selling their produce.

The "honor system" focuses on, instilling and building community TRUST and is very clear that the farm is not based or focused solely on profit or greed...
I run my business in San Francisco, Ca. I couldn't leave large, heavy decorative plants in front of my business without them being a) vandalized or b) stolen.

The first time I saw how they operated I was happily shocked and it filled me with a sense of old fashioned community, warmth and trust.

At the same time, I feared for them that they would be cheated by people not paying for their goods but also understood the underlaying message of their system, trust.

Surely they have lost potential income from working this way. I like to think that others (myself included) actually round up their totals to cover others that have not been able to pay full amounts for healthy nutrition.

Dare to Dream Farms provides organic healthy *Nutrition*. Nutrition and the simple art of eating well with clean ingredients ultimately improves the community on multiple levels (health, productivity, wellness) and ultimately can reduce costs on the community overall.

For this Farm to be penalized would be a huge detriment not only to the Raff Family and Dare to Dream Farms but also to the entire community and those that know and rely on a local source of farm grown goods.

I respectfully ask this Board to grant full forgiveness of the assessed amount, or at minimum to waive all penalties and interest that accumulated during the years when the County provided no legal compliance pathway.

Thank you for your time and consideration
Ceri L Smith

ccs | ceri smith selections: @css_cerismithselections
biondivino wine boutique: biondivino.com
Phone US: +1 917 370 2341
Phone Italy: +39 347 056 2905

Katherine Douglas

From: Dylan Timsit <dylan.timsit@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 1, 2026 12:37 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

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.

Dylan Timsit
Madison WI
dylan.timsit@gmail.com
July 1, 2026

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7, 2026 Board Meeting

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Dylan Timsit, and I am writing as a current or former employee of Dare 2 Dream Farms in Lompoc. I have worked at the farm as Wwoofer, garden manager, coop builder, delivery driver, (2014-2018 2020-2021), and I am asking the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to grant full relief — or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest — on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

Dare 2 Dream Farms is not a corporation or an absentee investor. It is a working family farm owned and operated by Jeremy and Megan Raff on La Salle Canyon Road — land Jeremy's family has owned since 1970, which he returned to in 2008 to care for his grandfather and rebuild into what it is today. The farm has always kept its gates open to anyone in the community who wants to come out and visit the animals, walk the garden, or take a stroll through the property, sunup to sundown. It has provided stable, meaningful employment to full-time local workers like me, as well as part-time and seasonal staff. For many of us, this is not just a job — it is livelihood rooted in a community we care deeply about.

I understand that the farm has operated WWOOF agricultural exchange participants since 2013, farm tours since 2014, and Airbnb farm stay accommodations since 2017, and that in 2019, Santa Barbara County actively ruled against drafting a legal framework for farm-based lodging on agricultural properties, leaving our operation with no path to compliance. in 2019 Jeremy joined the County's Farmstay Advisory Committee — bringing his perspective as a working farmer to help find a common-sense solution — a group led by Planning Commissioner John Parke whose recommendations became the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance — not passed until December 2024, years past its projected timeline. Retroactively penalizing a small family farm for a compliance gap the County itself created — and took five years to resolve — is fundamentally unjust, and I respectfully urge this Board to exercise its discretion accordingly.

The Raffs have contributed to this community in ways that go far beyond their farm operations — employing local workers, hosting over 500 agricultural exchange visitors from across the country and internationally, supporting the revival of the Lompoc Grange Hall, participating in local food access boards and the Route One Farmers Market, and offering free farm tours to schools and underserved communities. A $65,000 retroactive assessment threatens all of it.

I ask that you protect this farm, the jobs it provides, and the community programs it sustains — by granting What makes this situation even more striking is the documented community impact of this farm during the very years now subject to retroactive audit. In 2024, Dare 2 Dream became the first CSA in Santa Barbara County to accept SNAP Online payments — listed on the USDA's own federal website — making fresh local produce accessible to food stamp recipients online for the first time. During COVID-19, the farm grew its CSA to 500% of previous capacity as an emergency food access operation. Every month it donates produce to Veggie Rescue. It supplies the Route One Mobile Market serving food-insecure families with EBT/CalFresh. The County's own tourism arm, Explore Lompoc, promotes it as "a highlight of your Lompoc experience." This is a community food institution — and the County is retroactively taxing it for a compliance gap the County created.

I respectfully ask this Board to grant full forgiveness of the assessed amount, or at minimum waiving the penalties and interest that accumulated during the years of regulatory uncertainty.

Thank you for your time and your service to our community.

Sincerely,

Dylan Timsit
Wwoofer, garden manager, coop builder, delivery driver, Madison WI

Sent from my iPhone