

de la Guerra, Sheila



#3

From: fnemerson <fnemerson@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, March 11, 2019 11:25 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Board of Supervisors meeting, 3/12/19, Hoop Structure Ordinance
Attachments: WEW BOS Hoopreformatted 03-08-19.docx

Categories: Public Comment

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.

Good morning.

May I please have Figure 24, Santa Ynez Valley Community Plan Design Control Overlay on the screen when I speak tomorrow at the hearing on the Hoop Structure Ordinance?

I have attached a memo from WE Watch Santa Ynez Valley. I am sending it to the individual supervisors, also.

Thank you.

Nancy Emerson
WE Watch Santa Ynez Valley



March 11, 2019

TO: Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
FROM: Nancy Emerson, President, WE Watch, Santa Ynez Valley
RE: Hoop Structure Ordinance Amendments

Our thanks to the Planning Commission for recognizing that “one size does not always fit all,” recommending slope protection and asking consideration of Design Overlay protection in the Santa Ynez Valley. We recognize that some Valley issues may be important in other regions of our County, too.

Those outside the Santa Ynez Valley may not realize that it took years to hammer out compromise among competing interests that is our Community Plan and that its EIR was carefully vetted. Its Design Overlay areas include portions of the three highways crossing the Valley plus Alamo Pintado Road- the scenic roadways most heavily traveled by residents and the 1.5 million tourists who visit our Valley annually.

We ask that other interests respect the fact that tourism, including our wineries, is vital to our Valley’s economy. Reading our tourism websites makes it clear that the rural, scenic vistas are an important part of our tourism experience. Some regulation of hoop structures is necessary, which the EIR recognizes.

1. The intent of the Design Overlays is to protect the view corridors visible from the Valley’s most used roadways and we ask you to find a way to honor that intent. Design review is one very useful tool. The Community Plan requires it for agricultural support structures of 1,000 or more square feet visible from the roadways. Much of the land in the Overlay areas is smaller parcels used for “personal agriculture,” e.g. 4-H animals, a horse.

2. Our Valley’s hillsides are an important part of its visual beauty. Hoop structures reflect sunlight and on slopes that causes glare problems for neighbors near and farther away, and visitors. **We continue to ask that only hillsides with a 10% or less slope be exempt from review as it will significantly mitigate the problems inherent in hoop structures on steeper slopes.**

3. **We support prohibiting lighting in hoop and shade structures** to protect views of the night sky, prevent light trespass problems for neighbors and protect wildlife.

4. **Please honor the Community Plan setbacks for riparian areas** (50’ in Urban-Inner Rural zones, 100’ in Rural zones, 200’ from Santa Ynez River). Underflow requires significant protection from fertilizer, pesticide and herbicide runoff.

5. **Please protect our high fire hazard areas** by including **propane** in the prohibited utilities list in C.3.a.(2) Structural Elements.

6. We are very concerned about unintended consequences in this ordinance. Please include a statement that makes it clear that **hoops associated with cannabis are not exempt from permits.**

Thank you.