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Katherine Douglas

Appellant Supplemental Packet

From: Megan Raff <mraff@dare2dreamfarms.com>
Sent: Friday, July 3, 2026 12:00 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Dare 2 Dream Appeal Jul 7 - Supplemental Packet
Attachments: Public Comment Aggregation.docx; Dare2Dream_Supplemental Packet.pdf; Dare2Dream_Public_Comment_Summary.pdf

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MEGAN RAFF

Co-Founder & Chief Chick
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Jeremy Ball
Lompoc, CA
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July 3, 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 Jeremy Ball, and I am a proud citizen of Lompoc. While I have the privilege of serving our local community, today I am writing simply as a neighbor and friend to ask for your thoughtful consideration regarding the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment placed on Dare 2 Dream Farms. I have known Jeremy and Megan Raff for over ten years. They are good, hardworking people raising four young kids while running a community-centered family farm. Whether it has been expanding their CSA boxes to bring fresh local produce to local families (especially during uncertain times), helping to grow the Route One Farmers Market, or advocating for healthy families and local food access, the Ruffs have consistently poured their hearts back into Lompoc.

I ask you to put yourselves in their boots for a moment. Imagine you are a small business owner raising four young children, and you suddenly receive a \$65,000 bill tied to years when the rules and expectations were anything but clear. The very system intended to help small working farms become more sustainable is now threatening to pull critical working capital away from one of those farms. If enforced as-is, this assessment will place a massive strain on their business, limit their ability to serve the community, and likely force them to cut services, raise rates, or redirect resources away from the local work that makes Dare 2 Dream Farms so valuable to our region.

I understand that local governments face real financial pressures, and I respect the difficult decisions this Board must make. But this Board also has the jurisdiction, discretion, and responsibility to treat individual cases with fairness and good judgment. From a practical standpoint, it makes far more sense to bring these hardworking local farmers into compliance and keep them in business so they can continue contributing to our community and generating tax revenue naturally over time. The ripple effects of enforcing this full assessment right now will be felt well beyond this one farm.

I respectfully urge this Board to grant full forgiveness of the \$65,000 assessment, or at the absolute minimum, waive all penalties and interest that accrued during years of regulatory uncertainty. Let's get behind the local farmers who do so much good for our region. Let's keep them in business, keep them serving families, and show that government can still act with common sense, compassion, and fairness.

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

Sincerely,

Jeremy Ball
Lompoc, CA

July 3, 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 Shakira Miracle, and I serve as Executive Director of Santa Barbara County Food Action Network (SBCFAN). 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 – of the retractive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you. I advocate for this action not because the SBCFAN seeks special treatment for a specific farm, but rather to seek relief for all local farmers from the Transient Occupancy Tax.

Dare 2 Dream's situation is an example for the need to update the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance so it no longer includes language authorizing retroactive audits and possible taxes and penalties going back three years. No farm in this county should have to be penalized for an ordinance that does not regulate for time prior to its adoption.

Dare 2 Dream Farms stands apart as one of the most genuinely committed contributors to the economic and social vitality of the Lompoc Valley, as well as the regional food system of Santa Barbara County overall.

What's more, Dare 2 Dream Farms not only feeds many of our most marginalized communities, but was an active participant in co-design of the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance. Regulations should serve as a means of maintaining community safety, prevention from legal overreach and/or self dealing, and in this case protection of our natural resources (Le. farmland). The inclusion and enforcement of such a tax penalty is not only unfair, but will ultimately dissuade community engagement in the regulatory development process in the future.

We need our citizens to be able to trust their government and its processes, not become cynical and abstain from engagement. This is a democracy.

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. In addition, I ask that the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax be removed from the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance. Let us not simply execute a regulation when we understand that laws and actions can have unintended consequences. If tax revenue needs to be raised, this is not the way to do it. Let us as community members attempt to do no harm in the creation and enforcement of our laws.

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

Sincerely,
Shakira Miracle
Executive Director
Santa Barbara County Food Action Network

Myron Peczek
Lompoc, California / USA
peczek.myron@yahoo.com
July 2, 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 Myron Peczek, and I currently work at Dare 2 Dream Farms. I am writing as someone who is actively part of this farm community and respectfully ask you to consider granting full relief—or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest—on the Transient Occupancy Tax assessment under appeal.

This farm is not just my workplace. It is where my family lives and grows together.

My wife and I live here on the farm with our daughter, Lila. While my wife used to work here as well, she is still very much part of this place and our daily life here. Our daughter is being raised in this environment—growing up in the garden, around the animals, and alongside the people who make this farm what it is. This is not separate from our life; it is our home and our community.

Working here has given me more than employment. It has given my family stability, purpose, and a place where we can build our life in a meaningful way. I see every day the care and intention that Jeremy and Megan put into this farm—not only as a business, but as a place that feeds people, educates visitors, and welcomes the community.

From my perspective as someone working here now, it is difficult to understand how a family farm that has contributed so much could be facing a retroactive financial burden tied to a period of regulatory uncertainty. My understanding is that clear compliance pathways for farm stays and agricultural lodging were not established for many years while county policy was still evolving. It feels unfair that a small family farm is now being penalized for something that was not clearly defined or consistently enforceable at the time.

What I experience daily is the impact this farm has on the community. It provides local jobs, hosts visitors from around the world, donates food to people in need, and gives children and families the chance to connect with agriculture in a real and meaningful way. It is a working farm, but also a community space.

I am not speaking from a distance. I am here every day, raising my daughter here, and building my life here. I have seen firsthand the effort it takes to keep this place running and the genuine commitment behind everything it does for others.

I respectfully ask the Board to consider the human impact alongside the regulatory history. I ask that you grant full forgiveness of the assessed amount, or at minimum waive the penalties and interest that accumulated during the years of regulatory uncertainty.

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

Sincerely,
Myron Peczek

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

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Ceri L Smith
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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 Dare 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

Michelle Lee Ball
Lompoc, CA
michelle@bottlebranding.com
July 2, 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,

As a small business owner in Lompoc, CA, I am writing in strong support of Dare 2 Dream Farms. I respectfully urge this Board to grant full relief—or, at a minimum, a complete waiver of all penalties and interest—on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) assessment currently before you.

I have had the privilege of working alongside Jeremy and Megan Raff for over a decade. When we first met in 2013, they were a young couple with big dreams of transforming their grandfather's property into something meaningful. Back then, they were simply selling backyard chickens, but their vision inspired us. Over the last decade, they have grown Dare 2 Dream Farms into a vital community hub. They are consistently the first to step up for a local fundraiser, support a neighbor in need, or back a community initiative. They are two of the hardest-working individuals I have ever met, with hearts to match.

In my experience, Dare 2 Dream Farms stands apart as one of the most genuinely committed contributors to the economic and social vitality of the Lompoc Valley. Their community involvement is exceptionally broad, spanning active leadership in reviving the Lompoc Grange Hall as a nonprofit venue, and extensive board participation, including Megan Raff's role as Board Chair for the Santa Barbara County Food Action Network (SBCFAN) and their board membership with the Route One Farmers Market. They are active members of the Santa Barbara County Chamber of Commerce, provide free farm tours for schools and underserved youth, and have hosted over 500 agricultural education participants through the WWOOF program. Furthermore, they sustain our local economy by operating a thriving CSA program, hosting complimentary fundraising dinners for local nonprofits, and providing stable, full-time employment for local residents.

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

I am deeply concerned about the fundamental fairness of this assessment. In 2019, Santa Barbara County actively chose not to draft a clear legal framework for farm-based lodging on agricultural properties. This left operators like Dare 2 Dream Farms with no viable path to compliance and no regulatory clarity.

Crucially, Jeremy did not just sit back. In 2019, he joined the County's Farmstay Advisory

Committee—a group led by Planning Commissioner John Parke—bringing his perspective as a working farmer to help craft a common-sense solution. Those very recommendations ultimately became the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance. However, the County did not pass that ordinance until December 2024, years behind its own projected timeline

Penalizing a small business for a lack of regulatory framework during a period when they were actively volunteering to help the County write those very rules is fundamentally unfair. Retroactively assessing penalties and interest for this period sends a deeply chilling message to every small farm in Santa Barbara County attempting to responsibly diversify their revenue through agritourism.

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

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

Sincerely,

Michelle Lee Ball
Small Business Owner
Lompoc, CA

Michelle Ball

Designer & Freelance Writer, WSET Level III
805.245.9359 | BottleBranding.com
P.O. Box 2905, Lompoc CA 93438

Jo Ann Massicott
Lompoc, 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 Lompoc, 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 family 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

Janette Aldape
Germantown, IL
janette22@gmail.com
July 3, 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,

Hello. My name is Janette Aldape, and my husband, Eric and I am writing this letter as intermittent employees of Dare 2 Dream Farms in Lompoc. We have worked at the farm as doing a little bit of everything possible from 2018 to present. We found the farm in 2018 through WWOOF. Our stay there was life changing and we have returned every year to our 'secondary home' partly for the work but mainly for Megan and Jeremy Raff and the community and life they have built in Lompoc. This places means the world to us. The skills we have learned there have ranged from technical skills of successfully gardening to remodeling to welding to customer service. But those skills do not hold a candle to the soft interpersonal skills that Jeremy and Megan exhibit everyday. We have learned to welcome people into our lives, to take care of anyone and everyone and to give them a safe and judgement free space to be safe in. Although on paper it is easy to say these skill are obvious and obtainable, we know this is not true in real life. I have personally seen many WWOOF volunteers come through Megan and Jeremy's farm and leave different people. When you know you have a safe place with a loving and caring family who will teach and support you, life can look a little less lonely and overwhelming. Dare 2 Dream Farms is a SACRED place for me, for my husband, and for hundreds of people who were as lucky as us to stumble upon this little farm and this big hearted family.

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 Ruffs 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,

Janette Aldape
Farm hand
Germantown, IL

Heather Kline
Lompoc
heatherk@heatherkline.org
July 3, 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 Heather Kline, 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.

I want to emphasize how much Megan and Jeremy Raff have contributed to the Lompoc community over the years. They have created far more than a working farm—they have built a community resource that provides fresh local food, educational opportunities, agricultural experiences, and a welcoming place where people of all ages can connect with farming. Their commitment to expanding food access, supporting local families, creating jobs, and opening their farm to the public demonstrates a longstanding investment in the well-being of our community.

This case also appears to be unlike any ordinary Transient Occupancy Tax assessment. Dare 2 Dream Farms operated during a period when the County had not yet established a legal framework for farm-based lodging, and rather than ignoring the issue, the Ruffs participated in the County's own advisory process to help develop one. The Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance was ultimately adopted to help working farms stabilize their income, yet applying a substantial retroactive assessment for the years before that framework existed undermines the very purpose of the ordinance. Because of these unique circumstances, I respectfully believe the Board has an opportunity to exercise its discretion in a way that is both fair and consistent with its stated goal of supporting local agriculture.

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,

--

Heather Kline, MSW, ASW

Lompoc, CA

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Asger Norup Damgaard
Aalborg, Denmark
asinasger@gmail.com
July 3, 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 Asger Norup Damgaard, and I am writing from Aalborg, Denmark 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 2014, 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.

The visit to Dare2dream farm was such a eye-opening experience for me, when I visited with my girlfriend in 2014. I learned first hand what difference it makes on your life and on your relations to others, to get up and spend your energy on something that matters; producing food in a sustainable way and a way that respects people and animals. My time in Lompoc inspired me to grow my own food and maybe also keep chickens. To build a sustainable life for your family is hard work anywhere, and only achieved with the help of community. I hope that the board of supervisors will acknowledge Megan and Jeramy's hard work to create such a community, centered around farming.

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,

Asger Norup Damgaard
Kindergarten teacher
Aalborg Municipality
Aalborg, Denmark

Fra: Solveig Marie Norup Damgaard <solmnj@gmail.com>

Dato: fre. 3. jul. 2026 kl. 11.33

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

Til: <sbcob@countyofsb.org>

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Solveig Marie Norup Damgaard, and I am writing from Aalborg, Denmark 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 Autumn 2014, 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.

WOOFing at Dare2Dream taught me a valuable lesson in how a smaller farm can provide organic produce for a whole community. I learnt how teamwork can move mountains and how communicating clearly is key to making this happen. Skills I use daily in my daily work as microbiologist in a large pharmaceutical company.

Megan and Jeremy opened their home to us WOOFers. We were never short of anything: directions and knowledge about farming, a fully stocked fridge, great talks about life in America vs Europe and countless hugs and laughter.

After returning from dare2dream my husband and I bought our own lot of land and applied the principles we learnt at dare2dream. I am forever grateful for the experience and the skills I gained from my stay at dare2dream.

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,

Solveig Marie Norup Damgaard
Microbiologist, cand. techn. al
Novo Nordisk
Aalborg, Denmark
+45 40720177

Cheyenne Combs
Florida
cheyenne.c.combs17@gmail.com
July 2, 2026

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

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

I am honored to write this letter in support of Dare 2 Dream Farms and the family behind it.

To many people, it may look like a beautiful farm. To those of us who know it personally, it is a place that has become a cornerstone of the community. It is a place where families gather, children learn, friendships are formed, and people leave feeling more connected—to one another, to the land, and to the importance of supporting local agriculture.

The farm provides fresh, locally grown food that nourishes our community while helping people understand where their food comes from. In a time when so much of our food is produced far from home, Dare 2 Dream Farms has given families the opportunity to experience farming firsthand and appreciate the work, care, and dedication that goes into feeding others.

What makes this farm truly remarkable is the heart behind it. The family has built something that goes far beyond agriculture. They have created a place that teaches responsibility, stewardship, hospitality, and compassion. Children are encouraged to explore, ask questions, and learn. Adults are reminded to slow down, enjoy the simple things, and reconnect with one another. Every visitor is welcomed with genuine kindness.

One of the most unique parts of the farm is its involvement with WWOOF volunteers. People come from around the world to learn about sustainable farming, experience life on the farm, and become part of something bigger than themselves. They don't simply leave with farming knowledge—they leave having experienced a family that values generosity, service, and community. Those relationships often extend far beyond their time on the farm.

Our own family has been blessed by Dare 2 Dream Farms in countless ways. It has given our children experiences they simply could not have anywhere else. They have learned about animals, gardening, hard work, and caring for God's creation while making memories that will stay with them for the rest of their lives.

The family behind Dare 2 Dream Farms has invested years of hard work, sacrifice, and love into creating something that benefits so many people. Their impact cannot be measured only by what they grow, but by the lives they touch, the lessons they teach, the food they provide, and the community they continue to strengthen.

I wholeheartedly support Dare 2 Dream Farms and hope they are given the opportunity to continue serving our community for generations to come. Places like this are becoming increasingly rare, and the positive difference they make is truly immeasurable.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Cheyenne Combs

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

Kristina Coleman
Minneapolis, MN
kristinarcollection@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

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

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

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

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

Michelle Cardenas
Lompoc, Ca
misshwel131@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

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

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 Ruffs, 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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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 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 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 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 market, always a hello at the stand. My kids always feel like they 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 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 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,

Flor Macias Martinez Orcutt, Ca / Santa Barbara County

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

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

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

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

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 %20 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 %20 or at minimum a waiver of penalties and interest %20 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 %20 listed on the USDA's own federal website %20 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 %20 sunup to sundown, every day %20 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 %20 operating a CSA produce box subscription service, a farm stand, and participating in the Route One Farmers Market, all while employing 5%206 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 %2D 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

Shawntae Rodriguez
Lompoc, Ca
s.rodriquez_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

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 Barbara 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

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

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

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

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 I can get locally sourced vegetables 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

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

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

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

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

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
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

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

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

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 shuts 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

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

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

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 grown 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

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

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

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

Niki Brosnan
Vancouver BC Canada
knbroshnan@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

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

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 Ruffs 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

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 Ruffs 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

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

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

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

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 Ruffs 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

Homer Snyder
Lompoc, California / United States
himynameishomer@live.com
July 2, 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 Homer Snyder, and I am writing as a current or former employee of Dare 2 Dream Farms in Lompoc. I have worked at the farm as farm hands, shop manager, (2014-2026), 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 Ruffs 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,

Homer Snyder
farm hands, shop manager,
lompoc, California / united state

Jasmine Sundquist
Oceano, Ca
jasminepsundquist@hotmail.com
July 2, 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 Jasmine Sundquist, 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 and visitor of Dare 2 Dream Farms throughout the last two years, this farm represents something increasingly rare: a local, working agricultural operation that makes fresh, honestly grown food genuinely accessible to our community.

During my many visits to the farm I am continuing impressed with not only the food that is grown in the vegetable garden but with the Ruffs love for the community. This family and farm is exceptionally special, they are always thinking of others and ways they can be of service. Every visit is greeted with hugs and smiles, and feels like coming home. Whether I am walking the garden or purchasing from the farm stand I can see the love and hard work that is taking place here.

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,

Jasmine Sundquist
Customer
Oceano, Ca

Laná Huyck
Ca
charbie21@hotmail.com
July 2, 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 Laná Huyck (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,

Laná Huyck
Customer
Lompoc
Ca

Beth Gillesby
Peoria, Arizona
live4mykids@hotmail.com
July 2, 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 Beth Gillesby, and I serve as Family friend in Peoria, Arizona. I was born and raised in Lompoc for 50 years. 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 watching Jeremy grow up from a little boy to a great son, man, father, friend and grandson. I was lucky enough to know, Mike and Betty Raff (Jeremy's grandparents) and his mom. I spent many of days and evenings on the Raff farm growing up myself and raising fair pigs behind the Raff house. 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,

Beth Gillesby
Family friend
Peoria, Arizona

Tamara Pierce Lompoc, Ca tastingroomtamara@yahoo.com July 2, 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 Tamara Pieve (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, Tamara Pieve Customer Lompoc Lompoc, Ca

Zuri Catalan
Lompoc, CA United States
zcatalan27@gmail.com
July 2, 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 Zuri Catalan , 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 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.

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,

Zuri Catalan
Lompoc
Lompoc, CA United States

Courtney King Oakland, CA courtneysking@gmail.com July 3, 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 Courtney King (My friend lived and worked at Dare 2 Dream Farms for a few years), 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 supporter of Dare 2 Dream Farms since learning about the farm and the family who runs it through my friend who lived and worked there. It helped to turn his life around and support him during a very hard time; I hope others will continue to have this opportunity through Dare 2 Dream Farms.

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.

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, Courtney King

My friend lived and worked at Dare 2 Dream farms for a few years
Oakland, CA

Brian J Nelson
SACRAMENTO
nelsonsinkbottle@gmail.com
July 3, 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 Brian J Nelson , 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,

Brian J Nelson
SACRAMENTO

Pete Martinez CA petemartinez4@gmail.com July 3, 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 Pete Martinez (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, Pete Martinez Customer Santa Barbra CA

Alexis Adams
Greenville NY
lifeisgoodforalexis@gmail.com
July 3, 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 Alexis Adams (No relation at all), and I am writing as a 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 an onlooker of Dare 2 Dream Farms through social media and through a mutual friend who works and lives there named Homer Snyder. 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.

Not only is this farm a thriving business with loyal customers and all of the other beautiful reasons you already know of. But dare 2 Dreaming is exactly what its namesake says, it's a place where community and family and sometimes local strays like my friend Homer can go there and dare to dream, they can live and work and contribute to their communities while finding their way in life. There are so few safe places like this left in our country. I believe that is worth protecting.

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,

Alexis Adams
No relation at all
Greenville NY

Cynthia Andrade
Lompoc, Ca
Syndeelu7@gmail.com
July 2, 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 Cynthia Andrade, and I am writing as a current or former employee of Dare 2 Dream Farms in Lompoc. I have worked at the farm as Caregiver (2017-2019). The Raffs pour their hearts out for the community. They impact people and their community in a way that makes them become family, and I am lucky to have become lifelong friends, and family, with the Raffs. If someone ever asked me who has been the most kind, generous, and authentic people I've ever met, I'd always end up talking about them. 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,

Cynthia Andrade
Caregiver
Lompoc, Ca

Dare 2 Dream Farms

Transient Occupancy Tax Appeal Supporting Documents

Request for Board Relief from the 2022–2025 Audit Assessment

Submitted to: Clerk of the Board, Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors

Submitted by: Megan and Jeremy Raff, Dare 2 Dream Farms, Lompoc, California

Hearing date: July 7, 2026

Requested action:

Full relief from the assessed base Transient Occupancy Tax, penalties, and interest; in the alternative, partial relief; at minimum, abatement of penalties and interest, credit for prior payments, and a reasonable payment plan for any remaining balance.

Jul 2, 2026

Clerk of the Board
Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
105 East Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Dare 2 Dream Farms TOT Appeal — Request for Relief from the 2022–2024 Audit Assessment

Honorable Members of the Board of Supervisors:

We respectfully submit this appeal of the Transient Occupancy Tax assessment issued to Dare 2 Dream Farms for the 2022–2025 audit period, totaling approximately \$65,000 in base tax, penalties, and interest.

We are not asking the Board to set aside tax compliance going forward. We are asking the Board to recognize a specific circumstance: the assessment reaches back into a period before the County adopted the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance that now governs AG-II farm stays. During those years, operators like us were required to register and remit this tax while the framework meant to govern our use did not yet exist. We took part in the County's own effort to build that framework — Jeremy served on the ad hoc Farm Stay Ordinance Committee — because we believed then, as we do now, that farm stays can help sustain small farms while serving the community, and ultimately, the county of Santa Barbara.

This is also not a case where we can pay and move on. The assessment is more than twenty times our prior year's net income. The farm is separately facing the loss of roughly \$6,000 per month in LFPA-supported food purchasing revenue that helped fund our food distribution work and infrastructure. Payment would not come from profit. It would come from cutting the programs that serve Lompoc — our CSA and farm boxes, the honor-system farm stand, free farm access for families and schools, WWOOF and internship training, and our partnerships with other local producers.

We are committed to full compliance going forward. To remove any future ambiguity, we recommend the county adopt the use the automatic tax collection and remittance built into Airbnb's booking platform, and an online portal to pay taxes via other platforms, so the tax is collected and remitted at the point of booking without relying on manual tracking.

We respectfully request full relief from the assessed base tax, penalties, and interest so the farm can come into compliance under the current framework and continue serving the community. If full relief is not possible, we request significant partial relief. At minimum, we request abatement of penalties and interest, credit for prior payments, and a reasonable payment plan for any remaining balance.

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

Respectfully,

Megan and Jeremy Raff

Dare 2 Dream Farms, Lompoc, California

Packet Contents

1. Executive Summary
2. Why This Matters Beyond One Farm
3. Expanded Civic Leadership and County Policy Alignment
4. Timeline of Regulatory Context and Enforcement
5. No Existing Precedent and the Need for Board Direction
6. Photo Exhibits
7. Letters of Support with Summary (attached)

Executive Summary

This appeal is not about whether Transient Occupancy Tax should be collected going forward. It is about whether enforcing an assessment for a period before the County adopted its current farm-stay framework should come at the cost of a working farm that advances the County's own food system goals.

What happened

Dare 2 Dream Farms is a 42.5-acre AG-II property in Lompoc. The County assessed approximately \$65,000 in base tax, penalties, and interest for the 2022–2025 audit period — a period predating the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance framework that now governs AG-II farm stays and agritourism. During those years, operators were required to register and remit the tax while that framework did not yet exist. The farm does not dispute compliance going forward. It disputes an assessment that reaches back into an unsettled regulatory period despite the farm's open operation and good-faith participation in County policy work.

Why this case is unique

- County staff indicated they were not aware of another farm-stay or agricultural operator audited under these circumstances at the time of this audit.
- Jeremy Raff served on the County-sanctioned ad hoc Farm Stay Ordinance Committee to help develop a workable framework.
- The farm operated openly and did not conceal its activities or revenue.
- The owners have spent years advancing local food systems, agricultural education, and economic development in Lompoc and the County.

Why this belongs before the Board

County staff and Board members have indicated there may be no existing administrative precedent for relief in a case specifically involving tax relief for farms advancing county goals and serving . That is the reason for Board review. Staff administer existing policy; the Board sets policy where the existing framework does not yet fit the facts. This case gives the Board the opportunity to establish a fair transition approach for small AG-II operators who were active before the current ordinance, and advancing the county's own goals for agrotourism, food systems, and economic vitality of disadvantaged communities.

Financial reality

The assessment is more than twenty times the farm's prior year net income. The farm has also lost roughly \$6,000 per month in LFPA-supported food purchasing revenue. Payment would come from cutting programs, jobs, and community-serving work — not from profit.

What is at stake for the community

Reduced local food access; reduction of the honor-system, pay-what-you-can farm stand; reduced free farm access for families and children; reduced educational programming for schools, youth groups, and adults with special needs; the likely loss of two full-time positions; reduced WWOOF and internship

training; reduced market access for dozens of partner producers; and reduced sponsorships, donations, and civic service. These are detailed in “Why This Matters Beyond One Farm.”

Forward compliance

The farm is committed to full compliance going forward and advocates to use automatic collection and remittance at the point of booking to remove future ambiguity.

The request

Full relief from the assessed base tax, penalties, and interest; in the alternative, partial relief; at minimum, abatement of penalties and interest, credit for prior payments, and a reasonable payment plan.

Why This Matters Beyond One Farm

Enforcement of the assessment as issued would force program reductions. Those reductions would not stay inside the Raff family — they would be felt by Lompoc families, children, teachers, employees, partner producers, and local organizations.

Food access

- CSA subscriptions and farm boxes
- Honor-system, pay-what-you-can farm stand
- Farmers market participation
- Several hundred farm-stand transactions each month

Education and family access

- Roughly 250–300 school children visit each year
- Hundreds of homeschool students have participated over the years
- Free farm tours and free self-guided family visits
- Youth-group access, at-risk youth engagement, and special-needs adult access

Workforce development

- More than 500 WWOOF guests hosted from around the world
- Internship and apprenticeship-style experiences
- Hands-on training in agriculture, food systems, animal care, and sustainability
- A pipeline for people who go on to agriculture, soil science, food justice, environmental science, and nutrition

Local jobs

- CSA, farm stand, market, and WWOOF reductions would likely eliminate two full-time positions
- Year-round employment could drop to seasonal work
- In Lompoc, stable, values-aligned agricultural jobs are limited

Local producer network

- The farm works with dozens of partner farms, producers, and vendors
- The farm stand, boxes, CSA, and market participation help those producers reach customers
- This is not one farm; it is a small local food network

Community outreach and civic service

- Sponsorships for local events, youth programs, and school initiatives could be reduced or eliminated
- Donations of farm products and experiences to local causes could be reduced
- Volunteer leadership with the Route 1 Farmers Market, the Lompoc Grange, and local food-access work would likely shrink, because the owners would need to fill labor gaps left by staff reductions

What the community would actually lose

Lompoc might find another CSA or another farm stand. What it would lose is the one that functions as a free, hands-on point of connection between residents and working agriculture — a place at the intersection of education and access that families, schools, and youth groups rely on. The programs most at risk are the ones that generate little or no profit and exist because the farm chooses to provide them.

Expanded Civic Leadership and County Policy Alignment

Dare 2 Dream Farms' impact extends beyond the farm. Megan and Jeremy Raff have invested years of volunteer service in local food systems, agricultural education, economic development, and civic leadership:

- Santa Barbara County Food Action Network — Megan has served since 2022, including as Chair and Vice Chair.
- Route 1 Farmers Market Board — Megan and Jeremy have collectively served seven years.
- Lompoc City Economic Development Committee — Megan served two years.
- Lompoc Valley Chamber of Commerce — Megan served four years.
- Lompoc Grange — Jeremy helped revive it in 2023 and serves as Vice President. The entire family volunteers at annual week-long fireworks booth fundraisers and makes efforts to grow it's community impact.

This record shows the farm is not operating outside the County's goals. The owners have been actively working to advance them. The Santa Barbara County Food Action Plan emphasizes food access, local food systems, agricultural viability, education, workforce development, and community resilience — and the farm advances each through its daily operations.

County food system goal	Dare 2 Dream Farms contribution
Increase access to healthy local food	CSA, farm boxes, honor-system farm stand, pay-what-you-can access
Support small farm viability	Diversified income, agritourism, farm stand, market participation
Strengthen the local food economy	Partnerships with dozens of local producers and vendors, community partnerships for food access, and hyper local service area
Expand agricultural education	School visits, homeschool groups, self-guided tours, youth and special-needs access
Develop the future food-system workforce	WWOOF, interns, apprenticeships, training in agriculture and sustainability

Timeline of Regulatory Context and Enforcement

Date / period	Event
2008	Dare 2 Dream Farms begins as a family farm project while caring for Jeremy's grandfather at home.
Pre-2017	Farm stays and short-term rentals were not yet governed by the current AG-II farm-stay framework.
2017	County discussions created a pathway for some agricultural farm stays while AG-II issues remained unresolved.
2017–2024	AG-II operators navigated an unsettled regulatory environment while the County continued to require tax registration and remittance for transient occupancy activity.
2017–2024	Jeremy Raff participated in the ad hoc Farm Stay Ordinance Committee, chaired by John Park, to help develop a practical policy path.
December 2024	The Board adopted the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance framework governing farm stays and related agritourism uses.
January 2025	The current AG-II framework began implementation.
2025	Dare 2 Dream Farms received an audit assessment for the 2022–2024 period, before the current framework was in place.
July 7, 2026	Board of Supervisors appeal hearing.

No Existing Precedent and the Need for Board Direction

We understand County staff may not have an existing administrative precedent for relief from base tax, penalties, or interest in a case specifically like this – whereas the operator is not solely a short term rental operator but also a farm, whereas the operator’s primary business income is via agricultural work and programs, whereas the operator supports a marginalized community through their primary programs, whereas the operator was actively participating to help form policy around farm stays, whereas the operator actively works to advance county food action plan and agrotourism goals, whereas the operator was left in a regulatory gap during the audit period. That is precisely why the matter belongs before the Board.

This case arises from a regulatory transition. AG-II farm stays were later addressed through the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance, but the assessment applies to the period before that framework was adopted. Staff may not have authority to resolve that gap administratively. The Board is the County's policy-making body.

If the County wishes to support small farms, local food systems, agritourism, and the producer network advancing its Food Action Plan, it also needs a workable compliance transition for operators who were active before the ordinance. We are not asking the Board to ignore tax compliance. We are asking it to craft a fair response to a first-of-its-kind transitional case.

A case-specific resolution could help define a reasonable approach for similarly situated operators, guided by whether:

- the operator acted openly and without fraud;
- the use occurred during a County regulatory transition;
- the operator participated in good-faith policy development;
- strict enforcement would harm a local community; and
- relief would preserve future compliance rather than end the operation.

Relief here is narrow by design. It applies to operators who were active before the current framework, who genuinely operate as working farms, and whose programs serve high-need communities — not to the broad field of future applicants, who now have a clear path under the ordinance. Granting relief in this case does not open a door; it closes a gap that the ordinance has already closed for everyone who comes after.

Failing to preserve these kinds of small farms and operators threatens the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance, where large swaths of real estate are now advertised as falling under this policy, but no one includes in the advertisement that farming must be the primary driver of income for these properties.

Selected Photo Exhibits

The photos in the following pages illustrate the community-serving programs and access points described in our appeal.



Selected Photo Exhibit 1: School and youth group visits connect Lompoc children to working agriculture, food systems, and animals in a hands-on setting.



Selected Photo Exhibit 2: The honor-system farm stand and CSA pickup area provide families with fresh local food and free self-guided farm learning.



Selected Photo Exhibit 3: Farm boxes and on-farm pickup connect families directly with locally grown food.



Selected Photo Exhibit 4: CSA and farm box work supports local food access, employment, and hands-on agricultural learning.



Selected Photo Exhibit 5: Hands-on farm work and mentorship are central to Dare 2 Dream Farms' education and work-stay model.



Selected Photo Exhibit 6: Community and educational tours connect residents, leaders, and organizations to local agriculture.



Selected Photo Exhibit 7: The Raff family has long participated in local civic and youth-centered initiatives supporting Lompoc families and schools.



Selected Photo Exhibit 8: Farm visits provide accessible, hands-on experiences with animals and food systems for students and families.

Public Comment — Summary for the Board

Dare 2 Dream Farms TOT Appeal · Hearing July 7, 2026

This page summarizes the written public comment so the Board can review it quickly. Roughly 73 letters were submitted in support of relief. Full letters follow.

Who wrote in

Most writers are Santa Barbara County residents — from Lompoc and across the county, including Santa Ynez, Orcutt, Solvang, Ballard, and Santa Barbara. They are the people this farm feeds and serves: CSA members and farm-stand customers, farmers market shoppers, parents and homeschool families, a former Lompoc Unified teacher, current and former farm employees, and local business and civic leaders, including the Executive Director of the Santa Barbara County Food Action Network. Support also came from farther afield — WWOOF agricultural-exchange alumni and past guests from across the country and abroad — a measure of the farm's reach, but the core is local.

The shared request

Most letters make the same ask: grant full relief, or at minimum waive penalties and interest, on an assessment covering years before the County adopted the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance. Beyond that shared request, writers describe in their own words what the farm does for the community. Those threads are below.

What the letters describe

Food access and affordability. Writers describe a dependable source of fresh, local food — a CSA and farm stand that keep prices low, accept SNAP online, and donate surplus to families in need. Ceri Smith drove weekly with her 95-year-old father to pick up their produce box through COVID: *“the highlight of the week for a 95+ years old man.”* Flor Macias Martinez notes *“affordable prices with all of their products.”*

An open farm, not a closed business. The same detail recurs across dozens of letters: the gates stay open, sunup to sundown, to anyone who wants to walk the garden or meet the animals — at no cost. Many contrast this with a hotel or an absentee rental. Jo Ann Massicott, a Lompoc financial advisor, writes: *“This is not a short-term rental investor. This is a working family farm.”*

Kids and learning. The most common thread is children learning where food comes from. Molly Good's Lompoc Moms' Club toured the fields and barns; Marisa McCoy's children picked vegetables with the Raff kids and *“still continue to talk about it.”* Kristina Forsyth, a homeschooling mother of four, writes that teaching her children *“how food gets to their plate”* is central to her family — and the farm gave them that at no cost. Several parents describe the farm stand feeling like a field trip for their kids.

A career, not just a visit. For some, the farm shaped a life. Patrick Tolosky came as a WWOOF volunteer in 2017, found a passion for food and health, and is now a physician in preventive and lifestyle medicine focused on food insecurity. Solveig Damgaard came earlier, in 2014, from Denmark; she and her husband went on to buy their own land and farm it on what they learned here, and she now works as a microbiologist. A decade and an ocean apart, both trace their path back to this farm.

Local jobs and a place to live. For staff, the farm is more than a job. Myron Peczek works there and lives on the property with his wife and their daughter, Lila, who is growing up in the garden and around the animals — the farm is his family's home. Doreen Junious, who managed customer service through the pandemic, watched the family expand operations to keep families fed during food shortages. Colleen Peczek, a current farm hand, calls the work *“livelihood rooted in a community we care deeply about.”*

A place that changes people. Several writers describe the farm as somewhere people are cared for. Cynthia Andrade worked there from 2017 to 2019, helping look after the family and the farm alongside her work. Courtney King's friend lived and worked on the farm through a hard stretch, and it *"helped to turn his life around."* Janette Aldape, who found the farm through WWOOF in 2018 and has returned every year since, has watched volunteers arrive and *"leave different people"* — a safe place, she writes, that makes life *"a little less lonely and overwhelming."*

The compliance gap. Many writers understand the core of the appeal: the assessment covers years when the County had no permitting pathway for farm stays. They cite the stated goal from the December 2024 ordinance hearing — helping working farms *"stabilize their income during the ups and downs of what is a very difficult way to make a living"* — and note that a large retroactive assessment works against that goal.

Community service. Jeremy Ball, a Lompoc City Council member writing as a neighbor and friend of more than ten years, asks the Board to picture a family raising four young children handed a \$65,000 bill for years when the rules were unclear, and urges bringing the farm into compliance rather than pulling working capital from it. Michelle Lee Ball, a Lompoc business owner who has known the Raffs since 2013 — back when they were selling backyard chickens — writes that they are consistently first to step up for a fundraiser, a neighbor in need, or a community initiative, and calls them *"two of the hardest-working individuals I have ever met, with hearts to match."*

A regional food-system view. Shakira Miracle, Executive Director of the Santa Barbara County Food Action Network, writes not to seek special treatment for one farm but to raise a concern for every small farm in the county: an ordinance adopted in December 2024 should not carry authority to tax and penalize the years before it existed. She notes that this farm helped co-design that ordinance, and cautions that penalizing a farmer who engaged in good faith discourages the community participation the County relies on. Her request goes a step beyond the appeal — to remove the retroactive tax provision from the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance itself.

Letters worth reading in full

- **Shakira Miracle** — Executive Director, Santa Barbara County Food Action Network; the regional food-system case, and a call to fix the ordinance itself.
- **Jeremy Ball** — Lompoc City Council member, writing as a neighbor; asks the Board to bring the farm into compliance rather than pull capital from a family of six.
- **Patrick Tolosky, MD** — WWOOF alum, now a physician; the farm shaped his career in food and public health.
- **Ceri Smith** — customer and food-industry professional; her father's weekly box through COVID, and the honor-system farm stand.
- **Myron Peczek** — current farm worker raising his young daughter on the property; the farm as his family's home.
- **Doreen Junious** — former Customer Service Manager in Lompoc; firsthand account of the farm's COVID food-access response.
- **Jo Ann Massicott** — Lompoc financial advisor; on the farm's civic and economic role, and the fairness of the assessment.
- **Michelle Lee Ball** — Lompoc business owner of a decade; on the family's character and community service.
- **Dawn Valencia** — longtime Lompoc customer who grew up in the county's farming era; on penalizing a farm for doing what the County says it wants.
- **Kristina Forsyth** — homeschooling mother of four; the farm as a place of learning for her children.

- **Janette Aldape** — WWOOF alum and returning worker since 2018; on how the farm changes the people who pass through it.
- **Solveig Damgaard** — earliest WWOOF alum, from Denmark; went on to buy and farm her own land.