

Jeremy Ball
Lompoc, CA
jeremy4lompoc@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 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

To the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors,

Dare 2 Dream Farms represents the true heart of the Lompoc Valley.

A dedicated family, working the land, supporting themselves and building community around local agriculture, education, access to good food and stewardship of the land.

Jeremy and Megan have prioritized community service alongside the hard work of establishing and running a small family farm and raising a young family. They have tirelessly served on multiple community-based boards and committees dedicated to improving the local food system and advocating for the importance of a self reliant and resilient food system. As the Director of a food access nonprofit working to equitably increase our community's ability to access fresh locally grown quality food, Dare 2 Dream is a trusted partner and often the first I call when there's work to be done to serve our community.

The farm and farm stand is a safe, stable place that brings community together 7 days a week

and is Lompoc's only year round farm-stand.

A welcoming place to shop for fresh, hyper local produce, to connect with the land, and to see how food is grown in real time is a true asset to a community with almost no other public access to such resources.

At the start of the pandemic that farm-stand pivoted to host farmers and food goods that would otherwise have been wasted to due to restaurant and school closures, allowing other small food producers to maintain income that would have been lost.

As one of the only truly local CSA's (Community Supported Agriculture) in the Lompoc Valley they provide access to local fresh food to folks who may not have access to traditional grocery stores or farmers markets.

We must value and uphold folks who are doing the right things for the right reasons to build and care for our community. The world would be a truly dark place without them.

Dare 2 Dream Farm is a unique and treasured asset in the Lompoc Valley and if their operations are compromised it will be a true loss to a community that relies on them.

Please consider their appeal and work with them to innovate a solution that doesn't punish a family business for making it work because the regulations hadn't caught up yet.

Sincerely,

Shelby Wild
she/hers
Executive Director
Route One Farmers Market
805-588-9041

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

ccs | ceri smith selections: @css_cerismithselections

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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 underlying 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

To Whom It May Concern,

My family and I moved to Lompoc back in 2017. It took us some time to feel like we were part of the community given we did not know anyone in Lompoc. I used a lot of Instagram to find local things to do especially on a budget while my family settled in and I gained financial stability, as I had just graduated from UC Irvine. When I came across Dare2Dream Farms it became more than a place where we went for produce and goodies. It became a place where our family got together to do a common activity as we learned our new routine. It became a place that we showed off when we had visitors and a place that was requested by our returning visitors. It also became a place that continued to inspire me and motivate me to strive for my dream of owning a homestead. I now have my own orchard up north, and I continue to be inspired by Dare2Dream as I figure out the next steps for us to help our new local community. Navigating the niche world of homesteading and compliance with laws is something that I can understand can feel like an obstacle. That being said I am hoping you all see how vital this farm is. Not only are they a place that feeds your community, but a place that brings Lompoc to light to people who have no idea that Lompoc exists. They also serve as a place of unity and inspiration for your youth and community. And I hope you all reconsider making them pay back taxes that they never intentionally avoided as this would severely discourage so many of us who are just trying to bring more fresh food, resources, education to better our community. They clearly intend to comply and want to work with you all and continue to give the community a place to lean on.

Thank you,
Sheila Espinosa

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

Mayra Banuelos
Lompoc, California

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 Mayra Banuelos, and I am a community member from 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 waive the penalties and interest—on the retroactive Transient Occupancy Tax assessment currently before you.

I previously worked for the Lompoc Valley Chamber of Commerce, where I had the opportunity to work alongside Jeremy and Megan Raff through Chamber events and other community initiatives. During that time, Megan served as a Chamber Board member, and I saw firsthand her commitment to our community. Even after her Board service ended, she and her family continued to support Chamber events by volunteering their time, donating resources, and showing up whenever they were needed. They also opened Dare 2 Dream Farms by hosting Leadership Lompoc Valley tours, giving participants to learn about local agriculture. Their dedication to serving the Lompoc Valley has always extended far beyond their farm.

This is not a short-term rental investor seeking to maximize profits. This is a working family farm that has made community service, education, and agriculture its mission. The farm welcomes visitors every day to learn about farming, interact with animals, explore the gardens, and better understand where their food comes from. The farm stay accommodations were always secondary to that larger purpose of serving and educating the community.

I respectfully ask the Board to consider Dare 2 Dream Farms' longstanding record of community service and the unique circumstances surrounding this matter. I urge you to 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 Santa Barbara County and for your thoughtful consideration of this appeal.

Sincerely,

Mayra Banuelos
Program Director
FUTURE For Lompoc Youth
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

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

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

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

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
805-430-9963

www.heatherkline.org
www.rosetherapypractice.com
www.eastbaytherapy.org

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that the addressee/s be aware that e-mail communication can be relatively easily accessed by unauthorized people and hence can compromise the privacy and confidentiality of such communication. E-mails, in particular, are vulnerable to such unauthorized access, due to the fact that servers have unlimited and direct access to all e-mails that go through them. A non-encrypted e-mail, such as this, is even more vulnerable to unauthorized access. Please notify Heather Kline if you decide to avoid or limit, in any way, the use of e-mail. Unless I hear from you otherwise, I will continue to communicate with you via e-mail when necessary or appropriate. Please do not use e-mail for emergencies. While I check my phone messages during the day when I am in town, I do not always check my e-mails daily.

To: Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors (sbcob@countyofsb.org)
Subject: Public Comment — TOT Appeal, Dare 2 Dream Farms, July 7 Board Meeting

Dear Members of the Board,

I'm writing in support of Jeremy and Megan Raff and Dare 2 Dream Farms ahead of the July 7 hearing on their retroactive TOT assessment.

My son spent time working on that farm, and I can say without question it changed the direction of his life. Living the daily rhythm of farm work — the early mornings, the physical labor, the responsibility of caring for something living — gave him a sense of purpose and discipline that stuck with him. It also opened his eyes to a whole world of thinking about food and land he'd never encountered before. Through that experience, he discovered the writings of Joel Salatin, the well-known holistic farmer at Polyface Farm in Virginia, and became so inspired that he went on to complete a week-long working stay at Polyface itself. None of that happens for a young person who never first sets foot on a working farm like Dare 2 Dream. That farm was the door that opened onto everything after it.

That is what's actually at stake in this appeal. What Jeremy and Megan built has fed this community — including scaling their CSA to five times its normal size during COVID to keep families fed, and donating extra produce to Veggie Rescue every month since. It was the first CSA in Santa Barbara County to accept SNAP online. And through WWOOF and simple hands-on mentorship, it has given young people like my son real, formative experience with what it means to grow something and take care of it.

I also understand the facts of this appeal, and they matter. Dare 2 Dream Farms has hosted guests in good faith since 2013, years before any county framework for farm stays existed. The 2016 Board vote that unintentionally blocked that framework was later acknowledged by the County itself, and it took until December 2024 — more than eight years and multiple missed deadlines later — for the Agricultural Enterprise Ordinance to finally pass. That same ordinance, meant to help small farms like theirs, is now being used to retroactively tax them for the very years when no legal pathway to comply existed at all. A \$65,000 assessment for that gap would force real cuts to the CSA, farm stand hours, and seasonal staff, and would likely push the family toward long-term rentals instead of farm stays — ending the exact kind of farm-based hospitality the ordinance was written to protect.

I'm asking the Board to recognize that penalizing this family for a compliance gap the County itself created is not just, and to grant the relief this appeal requests. I've seen firsthand what this farm gives back to the people who pass through it. I hope you'll give them the chance to keep doing that.

Respectfully,

Kelly and Amy Combs

40 year resident of Santa Barbara County now living in Florida.

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

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

Kristina Coleman
Minneapolis, MN
kristinarcoleman@gmail.com
June 17, 2026

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

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

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

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

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

Kristina Coleman
Development Manager
Minneapolis, MN

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

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

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

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

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
misshwelll31@gmail.com
June 17, 2026

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

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

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

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

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

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

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

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

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

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Michelle Cardenas
Farmer's Market
Lompoc
Lompoc, Ca

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

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

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

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

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Borden Coulter
Friends and family
Riverside

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

Courtne 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 Courtne 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 Harmann 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,

Courtne 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

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 Harimann 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 thir farm stand, CSA produce box subscription and Route One Farmers Market. For me and my family, this farm represents something increasingly rare: a local, working agricultural operation that makes fresh, honestly grown food genuinely accessible to our community. My kids deserve the best and with Dare to Dream I've found that. Always amazingly delicious fruits and vegetables, fresh, local honey. With staff that goes above and beyond. Always a smiley face at the farmers maeket, always a hello at the stand. My kids always feel like the are on a field trip when we go to the stand. They have affordable prices with all of their products. Dare 2 Dream Farms has been serving customers like me since 2013, when they first opened their farm to the community through agricultural exchange programs and tours. What makes this even more extraordinary is that Dare 2 Dream Farms is the first CSA in Santa Barbara County to accept SNAP Online payments 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