#### SANTA BARBARA COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

Staff Report for the Appeal of Decker Greenhouse

Hearing Date: August 5, 2020 Staff Report Date: July 28, 2020 Case No.: 20APL-00000-00011 and

19LUP-00000-00469

**Environmental Document:** Exempt pursuant to

Section 15301, 15303, and 15304 of the State

**CEQA Guidelines** 

**Deputy Director:** Travis Seawards **Division:** Development Review **Supervising Planner:** Holly Owen

Supervising Planner Phone #: (805) 934-6297

Staff Contact: Ben Singer

**Staff Contact Phone #:** (805) 934-6587

#### **OWNER / APPLICANT:**

Steve Decker 988 Fredensborg Canyon Road Solvang, CA 93463 (805) 691-9449

#### APPELLANT:

Stephen Jacobs 1690 Fredensborg Way Solvang, CA 93463 (310) 488-6496

Land Use Approval: June 8, 2020 Appeal Filed: June 16, 2020



The site is identified as Assessor Parcel Number 137-140-033, located at 988 Fredensborg Canyon Road, in the Solvang Area, Third Supervisorial District

#### 1.0 REQUEST

Hearing on the request of Stephen Jacobs, Appellant, to consider Case No. 20APL-00000-00011 [application filed on June 16, 2020], an appeal the Director's approval of Case No. 19LUP-00000-00469, which authorized the construction of a 15,648 sq. ft. greenhouse for the cultivation of vegetables. The appeal was filed in compliance with Chapter 35.102 of the Land Use and Development Code. The subject property is zoned AG-I-5 and is located at 988 Fredensborg Canyon Road, Solvang area (Assessor Parcel No. 137-140-033), Third Supervisorial District.

Jacobs Appeal of Decker Greenhouse Case Nos. 20APL-00000-00011 & 19LUP-00000-00469 Hearing Date: August 5, 2020

Page 2

#### 2.0 RECOMMENDATION AND PROCEDURES

Follow the procedures outlined below, deny the appeal, Case No. 20APL-00000-00011, and affirm the decision of the Director to conditionally approve Case No. 19LUP-00000-00469 marked "Officially Accepted, County of Santa Barbara August 5, 2020, County Planning Commission Attachments A-G" based upon the project's consistency with the Comprehensive Plan, including the Santa Ynez Valley Community Plan, and based on the ability to make the required findings.

Your Commission's motion should include the following:

- 1. Deny the appeal, Case No. 20APL-00000-00011.
- 2. Make the required findings for approval of the project specified in Attachment A of this staff report, including California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) findings.
- 3. Determine the project is exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guideline Section 15301, Section 15303, and Section 15304 of CEQA, included as Attachment C.
- 4. Grant *de novo* approval of the project, Case No. 19LUP-00000-00469, subject to the conditions included as Attachment B.

Refer back to staff if the County Planning Commission takes other than the recommended action for appropriate findings and conditions.

#### 3.0 JURISDICTION

This project is being considered by the County Planning Commission based on Section 35.102.040.A.3. of County Land Use and Development Code, which states that "[a]ny decision of the Director to approve or deny an application for a Land Use Permit" may be appealed to the Commission. As the Land Use Permit was approved by the Director and subsequently appealed, the County Planning Commission is the decision maker.

#### 4.0 ISSUE SUMMARY

On June 8, 2020, the Director of the Planning and Development Department approved the Decker Greenhouse LUP application (Case No. 19LUP-00000-00469), finding the project to be consistent with the development standards for Land Use Permits (LUDC Section 35.82.110.E) and for Greenhouses (35.42.140.B.1).

The Appellant filed a timely appeal of the Director's approval on June 16, 2020. The Appellant cites the following issues as the basis of the appeal: incompatibility with the neighborhood, inadequate water supply, and non-compliance with LUDC Cannabis Ordinance. The Appellant's appeal issues are outlined in Section 6.1 of this staff report, below.

Hearing Date: August 5, 2020

Page 3

Staff reviewed the appeal and recommends that the Commission find that the proposed project is consistent with the Santa Barbara County Comprehensive Plan, the Santa Ynez Valley Community Plan (SYVCP), and the Land Use and Development Code, and *de novo* approve Case No. 19LUP-00000-00469.

#### 5.0 PROJECT INFORMATION

#### 5.1 Site Information

Site Information				
Comprehensive Plan Designation	A-I-5			
Ordinance, Zone	LUDC, AG-I-5			
Site Size	5.24			
Present Use & Development	Existing single-family dwelling and garage, pool,			
	guesthouse, existing greenhouses and storage structures			
	(to be removed as part of 19LUP-00000-00469)			
Surrounding Uses/Zone(s)	North: AG-I-5; single-family dwellings			
	South: City of Solvang; single-family dwellings			
	East: AG-I-5; single-family dwellings			
	West: AG-I-5; single-family dwellings, equestrian accessory			
	structures and riding areas			
Access	Existing driveway off Fredensborg Canyon Road			
Public Services	Water Supply: Shared private water system, proposed			
	private well			
	Sewage: Private onsite wastewater treatment system			
	Fire: County Fire			
	Police Services: County Sheriff			

## **5.2** Project Description

19LUP-00000-00469 was a request to authorize the construction of a 15,648 sq. ft. greenhouse for vegetable cultivation. The greenhouse would have a maximum height of 20 feet. The project includes the demolition/removal of 3,329 sq. ft. of existing development. A new fence is proposed around the greenhouse. Proposed grading is 3,200 cubic yards of cut and 3,106 cubic yards of fill. No tree or vegetation removal is proposed. Access would continue to be provided from an existing private driveway off of Fredensborg Canyon Road. Proposed parking includes 11 new spaces (1 ADA). Approximately 6 full-time employees will be working 8am - 5pm Mon-Fri

Jacobs Appeal of Decker Greenhouse Case Nos. 20APL-00000-00011 & 19LUP-00000-00469 Hearing Date: August 5, 2020 Page 4

and occasional Saturdays. The proposed project includes a new private septic system and 3,930 square feet of new landscaping. Water to the new greenhouse will be provided by a new agricultural water well.

#### 5.3 Background Information

The subject property is a 5.24 acre parcel that is shown as Lot C of Parcel Map 12, shown on Recorded Map Book 6, Pages 17-26 of the County of Santa Barbara Maps and Surveys, and also shown on Assessor's Map Book 137, Page 14. There is an existing 2,855 square-foot residence, 500 square foot guesthouse, pool, garage, and agriculture accessory structures.

On October 31, 2018, the Applicant submitted an application for a Land Use Permit for mixed-light cannabis cultivation (Case No. 18LUP-00000-00458). Following approval of this LUP on July 30, 2019, the Planning and Development Department received an appeal of the project on August 9, 2019 (Case No. 19APL-00000-00024).

On July 9, 2019 the Board of Supervisors adopted amendments to the Land Use Development Code that prohibited commercial cannabis cultivation on all inland area parcels Zoned AG-I that are 20 acres or less in size, and that required a Conditional Use Permit on lots zoned AG-I greater than 20 acres in size. These amendments became effective on August 9, 2019. The lot that is the subject of the proposed project is located within the Inland area of the county, has an AG-I zoning designation, and is only 5.24 acres in size. Therefore, the proposed cannabis cultivation project was not allowed. Both the LUP and appeal were withdrawn following these amendments becoming effective.

On November 1, 2019, the Applicant submitted an application for a Land Use Permit for a 15,648 sq. ft. greenhouse for vegetable cultivation (Case No. 19LUP-00000-00469). The Director approved the application on June 8, 2020. A timely appeal of the Director's approval (20APL-00000-00011) was filed by the Appellant on June 16, 2020 (Attachment D). The appeal issues and staff's responses are addressed in Section 6.1 of this staff report.

On November 13, 2019, a Zoning Violation was filed against the Applicant for a cannabis related odor on the property. Planning and Development Zoning Enforcement staff opened a zoning enforcement case (Case No. 19ZEV-00000-00425) and investigated the complaint. Zoning Enforcement Staff conducted a site visit and did not find any evidence of cannabis cultivation or a noticeable odor on the property. No evidence of a zoning violation was found, additional odor complaints were not received, and the enforcement case was closed on March 31, 2020.

Jacobs Appeal of Decker Greenhouse Case Nos. 20APL-00000-00011 & 19LUP-00000-00469 Hearing Date: August 5, 2020 Page 5

#### 6.0 PROJECT ANALYSIS

#### 6.1 Appeal Issues

The appeal issues raised by the Appellant are summarized below, followed by staff's analysis. Key concerns include neighborhood incompatibility, inadequate water supply, and non-compliance with LUDC Cannabis Ordinance. The Applicant has provided a response to the issues raised by the Appellant, which has been included as Attachment G to this staff report and is incorporated by reference.

#### Appeal Issue #1 - Neighborhood Incompatibility

The Appellant contends that the proposed project would result in a significant nuisance to surrounding properties related to increased traffic, operational noise, visual impact, and night lighting. The Applicant asserts that these would cause significant impacts and have a deleterious effect on the neighborhood character.

#### **Staff Response**

The subject property is located within the AG-I-5 zone district. Per Section 35.21.020.A. of the Santa Barbara County Land Use and Development Code "[t]he AG-I zone is applied to areas appropriate for agricultural use within Urban, Inner Rural, and Existing Developed Rural Neighborhood areas, as designated on the Comprehensive Plan maps. The intent is to provide standards that will support agriculture as a viable land use and encourage maximum agricultural productivity." Greenhouses are a permitted use in the AG-I zone district, allowing for up to 20,000 square feet to be permitted with a Land Use Permit.

The project is supported by the Santa Ynez Valley Community Plan and Santa Barbara County Comprehensive Plan Agricultural Element goals and policies that encourage the protection, expansion, and intensification of agricultural operations as follows:

- Policy I.B recognizes "the rights of operation, freedom of choice as to the methods of cultivation, choice of crops or types of livestock, rotation of crops and all other functions within the traditional scope of agricultural management decisions."
- Policy I.E recognizes "that the generation of noise, smoke, odor, and dust is a natural consequence of the normal agricultural practices provided that agriculturalists exercise reasonable measures to minimize such effects."
- Policy III.B states "it is a County priority to retain blocks of productive agriculture within Urban Areas where reasonable, to continue to explore programs to support that use, and to recognize the importance of the objectives of the County's Right to Farm Ordinance."

Hearing Date: August 5, 2020

Page 6

 Policy LUA-SYV-2 of the Santa Ynez Valley Community Plan states "land designated for agriculture within the Santa Ynez Valley shall be preserved and protected for agricultural use."

The proposal would increase the agricultural productivity of land that is zoned for agricultural purposes and would therefore be consistent with the goals and policies of the Santa Barbara County Comprehensive Plan.

The project is also consistent with the landscaping/screening requirements for greenhouses. In the AG-I-5 zone district, greenhouses of less than 20,000 square feet are required to be screened from adjacent public streets and parking areas are required to be screened from adjacent residential uses. The proposed greenhouse would not be visible from Fredensborg Canyon Road. Landscaping is proposed on the eastern and southern sides of the property consisting of 107 Catalina Cherry trees, which would reach 30 ft. in height at maturity. This would adequately screen the greenhouse from Ringsted Drive, which is not adjacent to the property. The associated parking area would be screened from adjacent residences by existing fences that meet the requirements of the LUDC as well as the proposed landscaping.

Proposed hours of operation for the project are 8am – 5pm, Monday – Friday and occasional Saturdays. These would be the primary hours of noise generation. The Applicant has provided sound calculations that show the maximum sound level would be 46.56 dB at the southern property line, which is well below the maximum allowable level of 65 dB. The project is required to conform with the County's noise ordinance. All proposed lighting of the project meets the requirements of the Santa Ynez Valley Community Plan, which requires lights to be full cut-off, downward facing, and dark sky compliant.

#### Appeal Issue #2 – Inadequate Water Supply.

The Appellant contends that the existing shared water well is not adequate for the proposed agricultural uses in addition to the existing residential uses that use the well. The Applicant also states that the proposed well has not yet been drilled, and as such adequate water supply is not available.

#### **Staff Response**

The project proposes to drill a new agricultural well, which is exempt from obtaining a permit from the Planning and Development Department. The Applicant proposes to drill this well to handle the water needs for the proposed agriculture. The proposed well was reviewed by the Environmental Health Services Department as part of the previous Land Use Permit application. It was deemed a feasible project design by Environmental Health Services at that time, and it remains a feasible design. Land Use approval can be granted prior to when a well has been drilled,

Jacobs Appeal of Decker Greenhouse Case Nos. 20APL-00000-00011 & 19LUP-00000-00469 Hearing Date: August 5, 2020 Page 7

or to when a well application has been approved, as long as Environmental Health Services confirms the well design is feasible.

#### Appeal Issue #3 - Non-Compliance with LUDC Cannabis Ordinance

The Appellant contends that the current LUP application (Case No. 19LUP-00000-00469) is fundamentally unchanged from the previous LUP application (Case No. 18LUP-00000-00458), which was withdrawn after the Board of Supervisors amended the Cannabis Ordinance, effective August 9, 2019. The Appellant states that the current LUP application is therefore not in compliance with the Santa Barbara County Land Use and Development Code.

#### **Staff Response**

No cannabis cultivation or processing is proposed as part of this Land Use Permit. The project is only a request to authorize the construction of a greenhouse for vegetable cultivation, and it is therefore not subject to the Cannabis Ordinance.

#### 6.2 Environmental Review

The proposed project is exempt from environmental review under CEQA pursuant to Section 15301 [Existing Facilities], Section 15303 [New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures], and Section 15304 [Minor Alterations to Land] of the State CEQA Guidelines. Section 15301 exempts the demolition and removal of accessory structures. Section 15303 exempts construction and locations of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures. Section 15304 exempts minor private alterations to the condition of land which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry or agricultural purposes. See the Notice of Exemptions (Attachment C) for a more detailed discussion of the CEQA exemption.

## 6.3 Comprehensive Plan Consistency

LAND USE DEVELOPMENT POLICIES				
REQUIREMENT	DISCUSSION			
Land Use Development Policy 4: Prior to	Consistent: The proposed project is consistent			
issuance of a development permit, the County	with policies that require the project is served			
shall make the finding, based on information	by adequate public and private services and			
provided by environmental documents, staff	resources. The following paragraphs discuss			
analysis, and the applicant, that adequate	the services available to the proposed			
public or private services and resources (i.e.	greenhouse development:			
water, sewer, roads, etc.) are available to serve				
the proposed development. The applicant shall	Water: A new well is proposed to be drilled as			
assume full responsibility for costs incurred in	a part of this project. Environmental Health			

Hearing Date: August 5, 2020

Page 8

service extensions or improvements that are required as a result of the proposed project. Lack of available public or private services or resources shall be grounds for denial of the project or reduction in the density otherwise indicated in the land use plan.

Services has deemed the project design to be feasible based upon a submitted percolation test.

Sewer: A new private wastewater treatment system is proposed as a part of this project. Environmental Health Services has deemed the project design to be feasible based upon a submitted percolation test and onsite wastewater treatment system (OWTS) design.

*Roads:* Access to the site would continue to be provided by an existing private driveway within a private easement from Fredensborg Canyon Road.

Fire & Police: Fire protection services would continue to be provided by the Santa Barbara County Fire Department, and Police Service would continue to be provided by the County Sheriff.

#### **HILLSIDE AND WATERSHED PROTECTION POLICIES**

Hillside and Watershed Protection Policy 1: Plans for development shall minimize cut and fill operations. Plans requiring excessive cutting and filling may be denied if it is determined that the development could be carried out with less alteration of the natural terrain.

Hillside and Watershed Protection Policy 2: All development shall be designed to fit the site topography, soils, geology, hydrology, and any other existing conditions and be oriented so that grading and other site preparation is kept to an absolute minimum. Natural features, landforms, and native vegetation, such as trees, shall be preserved to the maximum extent feasible. Areas of the site which are not suited to development because of known soil, geologic, flood, erosion or other hazards shall remain in open space.

Consistent: The project is consistent with watershed and hillside protection policies that require protection and maintenance of surrounding terrain. The project proposes 3,200 cu. yd. of cut and 3,106 cu. yd. of fill. No import or export of earth is proposed. The proposed project site has a maximum slope of six percent. No natural features or landforms would be significantly impacted. Native vegetation such as trees would not be impacted.

All proposed grading would occur on slopes of less than ten percent. No grading is proposed in a waterway and all project components are set back at least 100 feet from the mapped blue line creek (Adobe Canyon Creek). The project does not involve the removal of any healthy, mature, or scenic trees.

Hearing Date: August 5, 2020

Page 9

Hillside and Watershed Protection Policy 6: Provisions shall be made to conduct surface water to storm drains or suitable watercourses to prevent erosion. Drainage devices shall be designed to accommodate increased runoff resulting from modified soil and surface conditions as a result of development. Water runoff shall be retained onsite whenever possible to facilitate groundwater recharge.

**Policy FLD-SYV-2:** Short-term and long-term erosion associated with development should be minimized.

The project was reviewed by the Santa Barbara County Public Works Flood Control and Project Clean Water. Flood Control issued a condition letter for the project dated February 11, 2020 and confirmed that the project met all Flood Control requirements on June 5, 2020.

#### **VISUAL RESOURCES POLICIES**

**Visual Resource Policy 2:** In areas designated as rural on the land use plan maps, the height, scale, and design of structures shall be compatible with the character of the surrounding natural environment, except technical where requirements dictate otherwise. Structures shall be subordinate in appearance to natural landforms; shall be designed to follow the natural contours of the landscape; and shall be sited so as not to intrude into the skyline as seen from public viewing places.

**Policy VIS-SYV-1:** Development of property should minimize impacts to open space views as seen from public roads and viewpoints and avoid destruction of significant visual resources.

**Policy VIS-SYV-3:** The night sky of the Santa Ynez Valley shall be protected from excessive and unnecessary light associated with new development and redevelopment.

**Consistent:** The project is consistent with visual resources policies that require development preserve the natural environment and existing views. The project site is in a designated innerrural area. The greenhouse would be located on the downward slope of a hill, and would not be visible from Fredensborg Canyon Road to the west or intrude into the skyline as seen from public viewing places. The greenhouse would have a maximum height of 20 feet, and its placement would not significantly obstruct open space views. Neighboring properties have barns and agricultural accessory structures of a similar height and visibility. Landscaping is also proposed to lessen any visual impact that the greenhouse would have.

**Consistent:** All new exterior lighting as shown on the project plans would be downward facing, full cutoff, and dark sky compliant, thus meeting the requirements of the Santa Ynez Valley Community Plan. Additionally, the Applicant proposes to use light deprivation

Hearing Date: August 5, 2020

Page 10

curtains in the greenhouse to minimize the impact of the lighting necessary for the agricultural processes.

#### **NOISE POLICIES**

**Noise Element Policy 1:** In the planning of land use, 65 dB Day-Night Average Sound Level should be regarded as the maximum exterior noise exposure compatible with noise-sensitive uses unless noise mitigation features are included in project designs.

**Policy LUG-SYV-7:** The public shall be protected from noise that could jeopardize health and welfare.

Consistent: The project is consistent with noise policies that require noise exposure to be limited. The Applicant has provided calculations for the sound levels at the property lines for all proposed noise generating machines. Per the calculations listed on the Applicant's plans, the maximum sound level would be 46.56 dB at the southern property line. This is well below the required maximum of 65 dB.

#### 6.4 Zoning: Land Use and Development Code Compliance

The proposed project is located within the AG-I-5 zone district. The AG-I zone is applied to areas appropriate for agricultural use within Urban, Inner Rural, and Existing Developed Rural Neighborhood areas, as designated on the Comprehensive Plan maps. The intent is to provide standards that will support agriculture as a viable land use and encourage maximum agricultural productivity.

Pursuant to Table 2-1 of Section 35.21.030, which identifies permit requirements for greenhouses, the proposed project is an allowable use in the AG-I zone district with a Land Use Permit. Pursuant to Section 35.21.030.C.1, a Development Plan is required for development in the AG-I zone district that "when added to the gross floor area of existing structures on the lot, will equal or exceed 20,000 square feet." Additionally, Section 35.42.140 requires that a Development Plan be approved for greenhouses and greenhouse related development of 20,000 square feet or more. The greenhouse would be 15,648 which, when added to the existing 3,760 square foot single family dwelling and the 500 square foot guesthouse, would equal 19,908 square feet of total development, after the proposed removal of 3,329 sq. ft. of existing structures. This is less than 20,000 square feet and thus a Development Plan is not required.

The AG-I zone district requires side and rear setbacks of 20 feet from the property line. The proposed greenhouse development would be located approximately 32 feet from the rear property line, 24 feet from the south side property line, and over 100 feet from the north side property line, and is therefore consistent with all setback requirements. There is no maximum height for non-residential structures in the AG-I zone district.

Hearing Date: August 5, 2020

Page 11

Pursuant to Section 35.34.050, new greenhouse development is required to provide landscaping to screen the view of greenhouses from adjacent public streets, however, the proposed greenhouse would not be visible from adjacent public streets. The proposed greenhouse would be visible from Ringsted Drive, which is not an adjacent public street, and the applicant is proposing to voluntarily install 107 Catalina Cherry tree as screening.

Commercial greenhouses require two parking spaces per acre of land in use. The project would consist of 0.36-acres of greenhouse development and proposes 11 parking spots. Parking lots are required to be screened from residential uses pursuant to Section 35.34.100. An existing solid block wall and an existing wood fence, both at least 5 ft. tall, would adequately screen the parking lot from the neighboring residences, as well as the proposed landscaping.

Section 35.21.050.C gives additional development standards for agricultural structural development in the AG-I zone district. Standard C.1 requires that development avoid or minimize impacts to agriculture. The proposed greenhouse is not sited on prime soils and would not impact any existing productive agricultural land. Standard C.2 requires development to minimize impacts on natural features and resources, including a setback from environmental sensitive habitat areas. The project is outside of the required setback from any environmental sensitive habitat. Standard C.3 requires development to preserve natural features, landforms, and native vegetation. As discussed in Section 6.3 of this staff report, the proposed project would not significantly impact natural features or landforms and would not impact native vegetation. Standard C.4 requires development to be compatible with the natural environment, subordinate to natural landforms, and not intrude into the skyline from public viewing places. As discussed in Sections 6.3 and 6.4 of this staff report, the project would not significantly intrude into the skyline. The greenhouse would have a maximum height of 20 feet and is sited to be subordinate to the existing landforms.

#### 7.0 APPEALS PROCEDURE

The action of the Planning Commission may be appealed to the Board of Supervisors within 10 calendar days of said action. The appeal fee to the Board of Supervisors is \$701.06.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

- A. Findings
- B. Conditions of Approval
- C. CEQA Notice of Exemption
- D. Appellant Appeal Package
- E. Approved LUP, Dated June 8, 2020
- F. Approved Site Plan
- G. Applicant Response to Appeal Issues, Dated June 23, 2020

#### ATTACHMENT A: FINDINGS

#### 1.0 CEQA FINDINGS

The County Planning Commission (Commission) finds that the proposed project is exempt from environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 [Existing Facilities], Section 15303 [New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures], and Section 15304 [Minor Alterations to Land] of the State CEQA Guidelines. For further details and discussion regarding this exemption, please see the Notice of Exemption, included as Attachment C to the staff report, dated July 28, 2020, and incorporated herein by reference.

#### 2.0 ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS

#### 2.1 FINDINGS FOR ALL LAND USE PERMITS

#### 2.1.1 The proposed development conforms:

- (1) To the applicable provisions of the Comprehensive Plan including any applicable community or area plan; and
- (2) With the applicable provisions of this Development Code or falls within the limited exception allowed in compliance with Chapter 35.101 (Nonconforming Uses, Structures, and Lots).

The Commission finds that the proposed development conforms to the Comprehensive Plan, including the Santa Ynez Valley Community Plan, and applicable provisions of the LUDC. As discussed in in Sections 6.3 and 6.4 of the staff report, dated July 28, 2020 and incorporated herein by reference, adequate services are available to serve the proposed development, the project is consistent with applicable provisions of the Comprehensive Plan, including the Santa Ynez Valley Community Plan, and the project is consistent with applicable provisions of the Land Use and Development Code.

#### 2.1.2 The proposed development is located on a legally created lot.

The Commission finds that the subject parcel is an existing legal lot of record and was created as Parcel C of Parcel Map 12,800 on February 22, 1982, and is shown in Parcel Maps Book 29, Pages 84 and 85, in the Office of the County Recorder of the County of Santa Barbara, State of California.

Jacobs Appeal of Decker Greenhouse Case Nos. 20APL-00000-00011 & 19LUP-00000-00469 Hearing Date: August 5, 2020 Attachment A - Findings Page A-2

2.1.3 The subject property is in compliance with all laws, regulations, and rules pertaining to uses, subdivisions, setbacks, and any other applicable provisions of this Development Code, and any applicable zoning violation enforcement and processing fees have been paid. This Subsection shall not be interpreted to impose new requirements on legal nonconforming uses and structures in compliance with Chapter 35.101 (Nonconforming Uses, Structures, and Lots)

The Commission finds that as conditioned, and as discussed in Sections 6.3 and 6.4 of the staff report, dated July 28, 2020, and incorporated herein by reference, the subject property is in compliance with all laws, regulations, and rules pertaining to uses, subdivisions, setbacks, and any other applicable provisions of this Development Code for the AG-I zone district, and for the development of greenhouses. There are no open Notices of Violation on the subject property.

#### ATTACHMENT B: CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

### CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL DECKER GREENHOUSE CASE NO. 19LUP-00000-00469 APN: 137-140-033

#### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

1. Proj Des-01 Project Description. This Land Use Permit is based upon and limited to compliance with the project description, the hearing exhibits marked A-I, dated August 5, 2020, and all conditions of approval set forth below, including mitigation measures and specified plans and agreements included by reference, as well as all applicable County rules and regulations. The project description is as follows:

The project is for construction of a 15,648 sq. ft. greenhouse for vegetable cultivation. The greenhouses would have a maximum height of 20 feet. The project includes the demolition/removal of 3,329 sq. ft. of existing development. Proposed grading is 3,200 cubic yards of cut and 3,106 cubic yards of fill. No tree or vegetation removal is proposed. Access would continue to be provided from an existing private driveway off of Fredensborg Canyon Road. Proposed parking includes 11 new spaces (1 ADA). Approximately 6 full-time employees will be working 8am - 5pm Mon-Fri and occasional Saturdays. Project includes 3,930 square feet of new landscaping. The project includes a new private septic system. Water will provided by a new agricultural/domestic water well. The project is located on a 5.24-acre parcel zoned AG-I-5 shown as APN 137-140-033 and addressed as 988 Fredensborg Canyon Road, Solvang, CA 93463, Third Supervisorial District.

Any deviations from the project description, exhibits or conditions must be reviewed and approved by the County for conformity with this approval. Deviations may require approved changes to the permit and/or further environmental review. Deviations without the above described approval will constitute a violation of permit approval.

2. Proj Des-02 Project Conformity. The grading, development, use, and maintenance of the property, the size, shape, arrangement, and location of the structures, parking areas and landscape areas, and the protection and preservation of resources shall conform to the project description above and the hearing exhibits and conditions of approval below. The property and any portions thereof shall be sold, leased or financed in compliance with this project description and the approved hearing exhibits and conditions of approval thereto. All plans (such as Landscape and Tree Protection Plans) must be submitted for review and approval and shall be implemented as approved by the County.

#### PROJECT SPECIFIC CONDITIONS

Hearing Date: August 5, 2020

Attachment B – Conditions of Approval

Page B-2

- **3. Air-01 Dust Control.** The Owner/Applicant shall comply with the following dust control components at all times including weekends and holidays:
  - a. Dust generated by the development activities shall be kept to a minimum with a goal of retaining dust on the site.
  - b. During clearing, grading, earth moving, excavation, or transportation of cut or fill materials, use water trucks or sprinkler systems to prevent dust from leaving the site and to create a crust after each day's activities cease.
  - c. During construction, use water trucks or sprinkler systems to keep all areas of vehicle movement damp enough to prevent dust from leaving the site.
  - d. Wet down the construction area after work is completed for the day and whenever wind exceeds 15 mph.
  - e. When wind exceeds 15 mph, have site watered at least once each day including weekends and/or holidays.
  - f. Order increased watering as necessary to prevent transport of dust off-site.
  - g. Cover soil stockpiled for more than two days or treat with soil binders to prevent dust generation. Reapply as needed.
  - h. If the site is graded and left undeveloped for over four weeks, the Owner/Applicant shall immediately: (i) Seed and water to re-vegetate graded areas; and/or (ii) Spread soil binders; and/or; (iii) Employ any other method(s) deemed appropriate by P&D or APCD.

**PLAN REQUIREMENTS:** These dust control requirements shall be noted on all grading and building plans. **PRE-CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS**: The contractor or builder shall provide P&D Building Inspectors and APCD with the name and contact information for an assigned onsite dust control monitor(s) who has the responsibility to:

- a. Assure all dust control requirements are complied with including those covering weekends and holidays.
- b. Order increased watering as necessary to prevent transport of dust offsite.
- c. Attend the pre-construction meeting.

**TIMING**: The dust monitor shall be designated prior to Grading Permit. The dust control components apply from the beginning of any grading or construction throughout all development activities until Final Building Inspection Clearance is issued. **MONITORING**: P&D processing planner shall ensure measures are on plans. P&D grading and building inspectors shall spot check; Grading and Building shall ensure compliance onsite. APCD inspectors shall respond to nuisance complaints.

**4. Bio-01b Tree Protection Plan-Construction Component.** The Owner / Applicant shall submit a Tree Protection Plan (TPP) prepared by a P&D-approved arborist and/or biologist and designed to protect existing trees to the maximum extent feasible. The Owner Applicant shall comply with and specify the following as notes on the TPP and Grading and Building Plans:

Hearing Date: August 5, 2020

Attachment B – Conditions of Approval

Page B-3

- a. Fencing of all trees to be protected at least six feet outside the dripline with chainlink (or other material satisfactory to P&D) fencing at least 3 ft. high, staked to prevent any collapse, and with signs identifying the protection area placed in 15ft intervals on the fencing.
- b. Fencing/staking/signage shall be maintained throughout all grading and construction activities.
- c. All trees located within 25 ft. of buildings shall be protected from stucco and/or paint during construction.
- d. No irrigation is permitted within 6 ft. of the dripline of any protected tree unless specifically authorized.
- e. The following are not permitted:
  - i. Any trenching within the dripline or sensitive root zone of any specimen.
  - ii. Cutting any roots of one inch in diameter or greater.
  - iii. Tree removal and trimming.
- f. Grading shall be designed to avoid ponding and ensure proper drainage within driplines of oak trees.

**PLAN REQUIREMENTS**: The Owner/Applicant shall: (1) submit the TPP; (2) Include all applicable components in Tree Replacement Plan and/or Landscape and Irrigation Plans if these are required; (3) include as notes or depictions all plan components listed above, graphically depicting all those related to earth movement, construction, and temporarily and/or permanently installed protection measures.

**TIMING**: The Owner/Applicant shall comply with this measure prior to issuance of Land Use Permit. Plan components shall be included on all plans prior to the issuance of Grading and Building permits. The Owner/Applicant shall install tree protection measures onsite prior to issuance of grading/building permits and pre-construction meeting. **MONITORING**: The Owner/Applicant shall demonstrate to P&D building/grading inspectors that trees identified for protection were not damaged or removed or, if damage or removal occurred, that correction is completed as required by the TPP prior to Final Building Inspection Clearance.

5. CulRes-09 Stop Work at Encounter. The Owner/Applicant and/or their agents, representatives or contractors shall stop or redirect work immediately in the event archaeological remains are encountered during grading, construction, landscaping or other construction-related activity. The Owner/Applicant shall immediately contact P&D staff, and retain a P&D approved archaeologist and Native American representative to evaluate the significance of the find in compliance with the provisions of the County Archaeological Guidelines and conduct appropriate mitigation funded by the Owner/Applicant. PLAN REQUIREMENTS: This condition shall be printed on all building and grading plans. MONITORING: P&D permit processing planner shall check plans prior to issuance of Land Use Permit and P&D building inspectors shall spot check in the field throughout grading and construction.

Hearing Date: August 5, 2020

Attachment B – Conditions of Approval

Page B-4

- 6. Noise-02 Construction Hours. The Owner /Applicant, including all contractors and subcontractors shall limit construction activity, including equipment maintenance and site preparation, to the hours between 7:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. No construction shall occur on weekends or State holidays. Non-noise generating interior construction activities such as plumbing, electrical, drywall and painting (which does not include the use of compressors, tile saws, or other noise-generating equipment) are not subject to these restrictions. Any subsequent amendment to the Comprehensive General Plan, applicable Community or Specific Plan, or Zoning Code noise standard upon which these construction hours are based shall supersede the hours stated herein. PLAN REQUIREMENTS: Owner/Applicant shall provide and post a sign stating these restrictions at all construction site entries. TIMING: Signs shall be posted prior to commencement of construction and maintained throughout construction. **MONITORING:** Owner/Applicant shall demonstrate that required signs are posted prior to
- 7. Special Condition New Agricultural Well. A new well shall be drilled on the property for the purposes serving the proposed greenhouse. TIMING: The well shall be drilled prior to Final Building Clearance.

grading/building permit issuance and pre-construction meeting. Building inspectors and

**8. Special Condition – New Septic System.** A new septic system shall be installed on the property to serve the restrooms in the proposed greenhouse. **TIMING:** The septic system shall be installed prior to Final Building Clearance.

#### **COUNTY RULES AND REGULATIONS**

shall spot check and respond to complaints.

- 9. DIMF-24d DIMF Fees-Fire. In compliance with the provisions of ordinances and resolutions adopted by the County, the Owner/Applicant shall be required to pay development impact mitigation fees to finance the development of facilities for the Fire Department. Required mitigation fees shall be as determined by adopted mitigation fee resolutions and ordinances and applicable law in effect when paid. The total Fire DIMF amount is currently estimated to be \$0.35/sq. ft. (July 27, 2020). This is based on a project type non-retail commercial. TIMING: Fire DIMFs shall be paid to the County Fire Department prior to Final Building Permit Inspection and shall be based on the fee schedules in effect when paid, which may increase at the beginning of each fiscal year (July 1st).
- **10. Rules-05 Acceptance of Conditions.** The Owner/Applicant's acceptance of this permit and/or commencement of use, construction and/or operations under this permit shall be deemed acceptance of all conditions of this permit by the Owner/Applicant.

Hearing Date: August 5, 2020

Attachment B – Conditions of Approval

Page B-5

- **11. Rules-23 Processing Fees Required.** Prior to issuance of Land Use Permit, the Owner/Applicant shall pay all applicable P&D permit processing fees in full as required by County ordinances and resolutions.
- **12. Rules-29 Other Dept Conditions.** Compliance with Departmental/Division letters required as follows:
  - a. Flood Control letter dated February 11, 2020
- **13. Rules-30 Plans Requirements.** The Owner/Applicant shall ensure all applicable final conditions of approval are printed in their entirety on applicable pages of grading/construction or building plans submitted to P&D or Building and Safety Division. These shall be graphically illustrated where feasible.
- **14. Rules-33 Indemnity and Separation.** The Owner/Applicant shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless the County or its agents or officers and employees from any claim, action or proceeding against the County or its agents, officers or employees, to attack, set aside, void, or annul, in whole or in part, the County's approval of this project.
- 15. Rules-37 Time Extensions-All Projects. The Owner / Applicant may request a time extension prior to the expiration of the permit or entitlement for development. The review authority with jurisdiction over the project may, upon good cause shown, grant a time extension in compliance with County rules and regulations, which include reflecting changed circumstances and ensuring compliance with CEQA. If the Owner / Applicant requests a time extension for this permit, the permit may be revised to include updated language to standard conditions and/or mitigation measures and additional conditions and/or mitigation measures which reflect changed circumstances or additional identified project impacts.

#### **ATTACHMENT C: NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

TO:	Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Ben Singer, Planning and Development Department

The project or activity identified below is determined to be exempt from further environmental review requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) of 1970, as defined in the State and County guidelines for the implementation of CEQA.

**APN:** 137-140-033 **Case No.:** 19LUP-00000-00469

**Location:** 988 Fredensborg Canyon Rd. in the Solvang Area, Third Supervisorial District.

**Project Title:** Decker Greenhouse

Project Applicant: Steven Decker

#### **Project Description:**

The project is for construction of a 15,648 sq. ft. greenhouse for vegetable cultivation. The greenhouses would have a maximum height of 20 feet. The project includes the demolition/removal of 3,329 sq. ft. of existing development. Proposed grading is 3,200 cubic yards of cut and 3,106 cubic yards of fill. No tree or vegetation removal is proposed. Access would continue to be provided from an existing private driveway off of Fredensborg Canyon Road. Proposed parking includes 11 new spaces (1 ADA). Approximately 6 full-time employees will be working 8am - 5pm Mon-Fri and occasional Saturdays. Project includes 3,930 square feet of new landscaping. The project includes a new private septic system. Water will provided by a new agricultural/domestic water well. The project is located on a 5.24-acre parcel zoned AG-I-5 shown as APN 137-140-033 and addressed as 988 Fredensborg Canyon Road, Solvang, CA 93463, Third Supervisorial District.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Santa Barbara County

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Steven Decker, Property Owner

Exempt Status: (Check one)					
	Ministerial				
	Statutory Exemption				
Х	Categorical Exemption(s				
	Emergency Project				

Jacobs Appeal of Decker Greenhouse
Case Nos. 20APL-00000-00011 & 19LUP-00000-00469
Hearing Date: August 5, 2020
Attachment C – Notice of Exemption
Page C-2

**Cite specific CEQA and/or CEQA Guideline Section:** Section 15301 [Existing Facilities], Section 15303 [New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures], and Section 15304 [Minor Alterations to Land]

Reasons to Support Exemption Findings: The proposed project is categorically exempt from environmental review pursuant to Section 15301 [Existing Facilities], Section 15303 [New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures], and Section 15304 [Minor Alterations to Land] of the Guidelines for Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act. Section 15301 exempts the demolition and removal of individual small structures. This includes garages, carports, and other accessory structures. The proposed demolition of 3,329 sq. ft. of existing small greenhouses and storage structures qualifies under this exemption. Section 15303 exempts the construction of a limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures. This includes singlefamily dwellings, multi-family dwellings, and accessory structures as examples. The proposed greenhouse is of a similar scale to these examples of what falls under this exemption. Section 15304 exempts private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve the removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry and agricultural purposes, including grading on land with a slope of less than ten (10) percent, except in a waterway, in any wetland, in an officially designated (by federal, state, or local government action) scenic area, or in officially mapped areas of severe geologic hazard. Section 15304 also specifically exempts new gardening or landscaping. Proposed landscaping consists of 107 Catalina Cherry trees to be planted along the property line. All proposed grading would occur on slopes of less than ten percent. No grading is proposed in a waterway and all project components are set back at least 100 feet from the mapped blue line creek (Adobe Canyon Creek). The project does not involve the removal of any healthy, mature, or scenic trees.

There is no substantial evidence that there are unusual circumstances (including future activities) resulting in (or which might reasonably result in) significant impacts which threaten the environment. The exceptions to the categorical exemptions pursuant to Section 15300.2 of the CEQA Guidelines are:

(a) Location. Classes 3, 4, 5, 6, and 11 are qualified by consideration of where the project is to be located -- a project that is ordinarily insignificant in its impact on the environment may in a particularly sensitive environment be significant. Therefore, these classes are considered to apply all instances, except where the project may impact on an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern where designated, precisely mapped, and officially adopted pursuant to law by federal, state, or local agencies.

The project site is located entirely outside of any designated or existing Environmentally Sensitive Habitat (ESH) areas. There are no other designated or mapped environmental resources of hazardous or critical concern on or adjacent to the project site. Therefore, no significant impacts that threaten the environment would result from the project.

Hearing Date: August 5, 2020 Attachment C – Notice of Exemption

Page C-3

(b) Cumulative Impact. All exemptions for these classes are inapplicable when the cumulative impact of successive projects of the same type in the same place, over time is significant.

The proposed greenhouse would be constructed within an existing developed agricultural area where greenhouses are allowable by ordinance. The project meets all development standards applied to AG-I zones and there is no expectation that similar uses on this lot or other adjacent lots in the vicinity would cause significant cumulative impacts. The cumulative impact of successive projects of the same type in the same place, or time, would not be significant. Therefore, this exception to the categorical exemption does not apply.

(c) Significant Effect. A categorical exemption shall not be used for an activity where there is a reasonable possibility that the activity will have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances.

There is no substantial evidence that the proposed project involves unusual circumstances, including future activities, resulting in or which might reasonably result in significant effects on the environment. Therefore, this exception to the categorical exemption does not apply.

(d) Scenic Highways. A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project which may result in damage to scenic resources, including but not limited to, trees, historic buildings, rock outcroppings, or similar resources, within a highway officially designated as a state scenic highway. This does not apply to improvements which are required as mitigation by an adopted negative declaration or certified EIR.

The site is not visible from any highway officially designated as a state scenic highway. As such, there are no protected scenic views impacted by the project. Therefore, this exception to the categorical exemption does not apply.

(e) Hazardous Waste Sites. A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project located on a site which is included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code.

The project site is not included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code (hazardous and toxic waste sites). In addition, there is no evidence of historic or current use or disposal of hazardous or toxic materials on the project site. Therefore, this exception to the categorical exemption does not apply.

(f) Historical Resources. A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project which may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.

Jacobs Appeal of Decker Greenhouse Case Nos. 20APL-00000-00011 & 19LUP-00000-00469 Hearing Date: August 5, 2020 Attachment C – Notice of Exemption

Page C-4

The proposed development would have no impact on any historical resource. The subject parcel is currently developed with a single-family dwelling, guesthouse, and agricultural accessory structures. No structures on the property are of historical value and there is no record of historical resources on the property. Therefore, the project would not have the potential to cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historic resource.

Lead Agency Co	ontact Person: Ben Singer, Planner	Phone No.: (805) 934-6587	7
Department/D	ivision Representative:	Date:	<del></del>
Acceptance Da	te:		
Upon project a	of this form must be posted at P&D approval, this form must be filed wit f the Board for a period of 30 days es.	h the County Clerk of the B	oard and posted
Distribution:	Hearing Support Staff, Case File		
Date Filed by C	County Clerk:		

## **ATTACHMENT D: APPELLANT APPEAL PACKAGE**



# PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT APPEAL FORM

				COLUMN TO SERVICE DE LA COLUMN TO SERVICE DESTRUCTURA DE LA COLUMN TO SERVICE		
SITE ADDRESS: 988 FREDES BORG CANYON ROAD, SOLVANG, CA 93463 ASSESSOR PARCEL NUMBER: 137-140-033  Are there previous permits/applications? □no ☑yes numbers: △PN 137-140-033  (include permit# & lot # if tract)						
Is this appeal (potentially) related to cannabis activities? ☐no ☐yes  Are there previous environmental (CEQA) documents? ☐no ☐yes numbers:						
1. Appellant: STEPHENR TAGGE Phone: 488-6496 FAX:  GRAGE GMAIL COM  Mailing Address: 1690 FREDENSBORD WAY SOLVAND, E-mail: anneite man'e jacobs P  Street City State Zip /						
2. Owner:	Street	City	Phone			_FAX:
	Street	City	State	Zip	E-mail:	
3. <b>Agent:</b> Mailing Address						_FAX:
4. Attorney:	Street	City				FAX:
Mailing Address	: Street	City	State	Zip	E-mail	
						endanderdelig in gene in klad fogsvar forska forska fogsvar og skall at fill det krek a blade skall en skall k

### COUNTY USE ONLY

Case Number:	Companion Case Number:
Choe 14minoen	Submittal Date:
Applicable Zoning Ordinance:	Receipt Number:
Project Planner:	Accepted for Processing
	_Comp. Plan Designation

## COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA APPEAL TO THE:

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
PLANNING COMMISSION: X COUNTY MONTECITO
RE: Project Title <u>DECKER GREENHOUSE</u> Case No. 19 LUP - 00000 - 00469
Date of Action (6/8/2020 approval w/conditions denial of the:
Board of Architectural Review – Which Board?
Coastal Development Permit decision
Land Use Permit decision
Planning Commission decision – Which Commission?
Planning & Development Director decision
Zoning Administrator decision
Is the appellant the applicant or an aggrieved party?
Applicant
Aggrieved party – if you are not the applicant, provide an explanation of how you are and "aggrieved party" as defined on page two of this appeal form:
MR. JACOBS LIVES A FEW PARCIEIS TO THE SOUTH OF THE
PROPOSED STRE (APN 137-140-033). HE HAS EXPRESSED CONCERNO
TO STAFF OURL THE PHONE AND IS FILING THIS HAPPEAL
PERSONALLY AND ON BEHALF OF SEVERAL NEIGHBONS, HE ALSO
APPEAREN AT PUBLIC HEARING IN REBARDS TO A PRIENICUS PERMIT REQUEST AT THIS SITE (APN 137-140-033)

Reason of grounds for the appeal – Write the reason for the appeal below or submit 8 copies of your appeal letter that addresses the appeal requirements listed on page two of this appeal form:

0	A clear, complete and concise statement of the reasons why the decision or determination is
1	inconsistent with the provisions and purposes of the County's Zoning Ordinances or other
`.	applicable law; and

	SEF	STANATIO			cision was made.	
						,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,
	+ 2 4 5	8 8.4 8. 8	*-1.4	alaya/i6	amplianhla):	
fic can	ditions im	posed which I				
110 0011						

## Please include any other information you feel is relevant to this application.

**CERTIFICATION OF ACCURACY AND COMPLETENESS** Signatures must be completed for each line. If one or more of the parties are the same, please re-sign the applicable line.

Applicant's signature authorizes County staff to enter the property described above for the purposes of inspection.

I hereby declare under penalty of perjury that the information contained in this application and all attached materials are correct, true and complete. I acknowledge and agree that the County of Santa Barbara is relying on the accuracy of this information and my representations in order to process this application and that any permits issued by the County may be rescinded if it is determined that the information and materials submitted are not true and correct. I further acknowledge that I may be liable for any costs associated with rescission of such permits.

STEPATUR. JOSES Step Q. Jack	6/10/20
Print name and sign – Firm	\ Date
STEPHEN R. JACOBS Steph D. Jeach	6/10/30
Print name and sign – Preparer of this form	\ Date
Print name and sign – Applicant	Date
Print name and sign – Agent	Date
Print name and sign – Landowner	Date

G:\GROUP\P&D\Digital Library\Applications & Forms\Planning Applications and Forms\AppealSubReqAPP.doc

Grounds for Appeal
19LUP-00000-00469
Steve Decker — 15,648 SQ FT Greenhouse for Vegetable Cultivation

- 1. Neighborhood Compatibility. The proposed vegetable cultivation project will result in significant nuisance to neighboring and surrounding properties related to increased traffic, operational noise, visual impact, and nightlight intrusion. The project does not incorporate sufficient measures to mitigate these impacts, nor do the conditions of approval adequately address the resultant deleterious effects on neighborhood character. Therefore, the project must be denied as staff errored in approving this project by failing to make the necessary findings of approval in each of the above categories.
- 2. Water Supply. Water for the project site is served by a well that is shared with three adjacent parcels. However, this well does not produce adequate volume to provide both domestic water for the existing four parcels, as well as agricultural water for the proposed vegetable facility. As such, the project description notes that the project will be served by a new water well. However, this well has yet to be drilled. Therefore, the finding that adequate water supply exists cannot be made and the project must be denied.
- 3. Code Compliance. On July 9, 2019, the County Board of Supervisors approved an amendment to the Land Use Development Code (LUDC) that prohibits all forms of cannabis cultivation on parcels zoned AG-I of 20 acres or less in size. This amendment became effective on August 8, 2019. Subsequent to and on account of that legislative change, the Applicant withdrew his earlier application (18LUP-00000-00458) seeking to establish a commercial cannabis operation. However, the current "vegetable cultivation" application remains fundamentally unchanged from the earlier, withdrawn application for a purpose-designed cannabis cultivation facility. Therefore, the permit should be denied as not complying with the LUDC.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. We will provide additional details to support this appeal prior to the Planning Commission hearing. Meanwhile, please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any questions.

## **ATTACHMENT E: APPROVED LUP, DATED JUNE 8, 2020**

www.sbcountyplanning.org

LAND USE PERMIT NO.: 19LUP-00000-00469

Project Name: DECKER GREENHOUSE

Project Address: 988 FREDENSBORG CYN RD, SOLVANG, CA 934632019

**A.P.N.:** 137-140-033

**Zone:** AG-I-5

The Planning and Development Department hereby approves this Land Use Permit for the project described below based upon compliance with the required findings for approval and subject to the attached terms and conditions.

APPROVAL DATE: 6/8/2020
LOCAL APPEAL PERIOD BEGINS: 6/9/2020
LOCAL APPEAL PERIOD ENDS: 6/18/2020
DATE OF PERMIT ISSUANCE (if no appeal filed): 6/19/2020

#### APPEALS:

- 1. The approval of this Land Use Permit may be appealed to the County Planning Commission by the applicant, owner, or any aggrieved person. An aggrieved person is defined as any person who, either in person or through a representative, appeared at a public hearing in connection with this decision or action being appealed, or who by other appropriate means prior to a hearing or decision, informed the decision-maker of the nature of their concerns, or who, for good cause, was unable to do either. The appeal must be filed in writing and submitted in person to the Planning and Development Department at either 123 East Anapamu Street, Santa Barbara, or 624 West Foster Road, Suite C, Santa Maria, prior to 5:00 p.m. on or before the date that the local appeal period ends as identified above (CLUDC Chapter 35.102 Appeals).
- 2. Payment of a fee is required to file an appeal of the approval of this Land Use Permit.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION SUMMARY:** The project is for construction of a 15,648 SQ FT greenhouse for vegetable cultivation. The greenhouses would have a maximum height of 20 feet. The project includes the demolition/removal of 3,329 SQ FT of existing development. Proposed grading is 3,200 cubic yards of cut and 3,106 cubic yards of fill. No tree or vegetation removal is proposed. Access would continue to be provided from an existing private driveway off of Fredensborg Canyon Road. Proposed parking includes 11 new spaces (1 ADA). Approximately 6 full-time employees will be working 8am - 5pm Mon-Fri and occasional Saturdays. Project includes 3,930 square feet of new landscaping. The project includes a new private septic system. Water will provided by a new agricultural/domestic water well. The project is located on a 5.24-acre parcel zoned AG-I-5 shown as APN 137-140-033 and addressed as 988 Fredensborg Canyon Road, Solvang, CA 93463, Third Supervisorial District. To receive additional information regarding this project and/or to view the application and/or plans, please contact Ben Singer at 624 West Foster Road, Suite C, Santa Maria, by email (bsinger@co.santa-barbara.ca.us) or by phone ((805) 934-6587).

PROJECT SPECIFIC CONDITIONS: See Attachment "A"

ASSOCIATED CASE NUMBERS: 18LUP-00000-00458

**PERMIT ISSUANCE:** This Land Use Permit will be issued following the close of the appeal period provided an appeal is not filed, or if appealed, the date of final action on the appeal which has the effect of upholding the approval of the permit. Issuance of this permit is subject to compliance with the following terms and conditions:

Notice. Notice of this project shall be posted on the project site by the applicant utilizing the language and form of the notice provided by the Planning and Development Department. The notice shall remain posted continuously until at least 10 calendar days following action on the permit, including an action on any appeal of this permit (CLUDC Chapter 35.106 Noticing and Public Hearings). The *Proof of Posting of Notice on Project Site* shall be signed and returned to the Planning and Development Department prior to the issuance of the permit.

- Compliance with conditions. All conditions that are required to be satisfied prior to issuance of the permit have been satisfied and the permit has been signed by the applicant or owner.
- 3. Design Review. If required, the project has been granted final approval by the appropriate Board of Architectural Review (BAR), and an appeal of that final approval has not been filed.
- 4. Appeals. An appeal of the approval of this permit, or an appeal of the final approval by the BAR, has not been filed with the County. If an appeal has been filed then the permit shall not be issued until final action on the appeal(s) has occurred which has the effect of upholding the approval of this permit, and, if applicable, the final approval by the BAR.
- Other approvals. Any other necessary approvals required prior to issuance of this Land Use Permit have been granted.

PERMIT EXPIRATION AND EXTENSION: This permit shall remain valid only as long as compliance with all applicable requirements of the CLUDC and the permit continues, including the conditions of approval specific to this permit. Additionally:

- 1. The approval of this permit shall expire either 12 months from the effective date of the permit or other period allowed in compliance with an approved Time Extension, and shall be considered void and of no further effect unless the permit is either issued within the applicable period in compliance with the terms indicated above or a valid application for a Time Extension is submitted prior to the expiration of this 12 month period and is subsequently approved (CLUDC: Section 35.82.110).
- 2. This permit shall expire two years from the date of issuance and be considered void and of no further effect unless the use and/or structure for which the permit was issued has been lawfully established or commenced in compliance with the issued permit or an application for a Time Extension is submitted prior to the expiration of this two year period and is subsequently approved (CLUDC: Section 35.82.110).
- 3. The effective date of this permit shall be (a) the day following the close of any applicable appeal period provided an appeal is not filed, or (b) if appealed, the date of final action on the appeal which has the effect of upholding the approval, or (c) some other date as indicated in this permit (CLUDC: Section 35.82.020).

WORK PROHIBITED PRIOR TO PERMIT ISSUANCE: No work, development, or use intended to be authorized pursuant to this permit approval shall commence prior to issuance of this permit and/or any other required permit (e.g., building permit).

OWNER/APPLICANT ACKNOWLEDGMENT: Undersigned permittee acknowledges receipt of this approval and agrees to abide

by all conditions and terms thereof. Undersigne	ed permittee also acknowledges that	issuance of this permi	t for this project does not
allow construction or use outside of the project	ect description, nor shall it be con	nstrued to be an appro	val of a violation of any
provision of any County policy, ordinance or other	governmental regulation.		7
		8	
STEVE DECKER	Colle	Len	0608/8/2
	ignature		Date
Land Use Approval By:			
Bli	6/8/2020		
Director, Planning and Development	Da	ite -	
PERMIT ISSUANCE: The permit shall be issued	and deemed effective on the date signed	d and indicated below.	

Date

Planning and Development Department Issuance By:

Planner

#### **ATTACHMENT A: CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL**

#### **Project Description**

1. **Proj Des-01 Project Description:** This Land Use Permit is based upon and limited to compliance with the project description and all conditions of approval set forth below, including mitigation measures and specified plans and agreements included by reference, as well as all applicable County rules and regulations. The project description is as follows:

The project is for construction of a 15,648 SQ FT greenhouse for vegetable cultivation. The greenhouses would have a maximum height of 20 feet. The project includes the demolition/removal of 3,329 SQ FT of existing development. Proposed grading is 3,200 cubic yards of cut and 3,106 cubic yards of fill. No tree or vegetation removal is proposed. Access would continue to be provided from an existing private driveway off of Fredensborg Canyon Road. Proposed parking includes 11 new spaces (1 ADA). Approximately 6 full-time employees will be working 8am - 5pm Mon-Fri and occasional Saturdays. Project includes 3,930 square feet of new landscaping. The project includes a new private septic system. Water will provided by a new agricultural/domestic water well. The project is located on a 5.24-acre parcel zoned AG-I-5 shown as APN 137-140-033 and addressed as 988 Fredensborg Canyon Road, Solvang, CA 93463, Third Supervisorial District.

Any deviations from the project description, exhibits or conditions must be reviewed and approved by the County for conformity with this approval. Deviations may require approved changes to the permit and/or further environmental review. Deviations without the above described approval will constitute a violation of permit approval.

2. Proj Des-02 Project Conformity: The grading, development, use, and maintenance of the property, the size, shape, arrangement, and location of the structures, parking areas and landscape areas, and the protection and preservation of resources shall conform to the project description above and the hearing exhibits and conditions of approval below. The property and any portions thereof shall be sold, leased or financed in compliance with this project description and the approved hearing exhibits and conditions of approval thereto. All plans (such as Landscape and Tree Protection Plans) must be submitted for review and approval and shall be implemented as approved by the County.

#### **Conditions By Issue Area**

- **3. Air-01 Dust Control:** The Owner/Applicant shall comply with the following dust control components at all times including weekends and holidays:
  - a. Dust generated by the development activities shall be kept to a minimum with a goal of retaining dust on the site.
  - b. During clearing, grading, earth moving, excavation, or transportation of cut or fill materials, use water trucks or sprinkler systems to prevent dust from leaving the site and to create a crust after each day's activities cease.
  - c. During construction, use water trucks or sprinkler systems to keep all areas of vehicle movement damp enough to prevent dust from leaving the site.
  - d. Wet down the construction area after work is completed for the day and whenever wind exceeds 15 mph.
  - e. When wind exceeds 15 mph, have site watered at least once each day including weekends and/or holidays.

- f. Order increased watering as necessary to prevent transport of dust off-site.
- g. Cover soil stockpiled for more than two days or treat with soil binders to prevent dust generation. Reapply as needed.
- h. If the site is graded and left undeveloped for over four weeks, the Owner/Applicant shall immediately:
- i. Seed and water to re-vegetate graded areas; and/or
- ii. Spread soil binders; and/or
- iii. Employ any other method(s) deemed appropriate by P&D or APCD.

PLAN REQUIREMENTS: These dust control requirements shall be noted on all grading and building plans.

PRE-CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS: The contractor or builder shall provide APCD with the name and contact information for an assigned onsite dust control monitor(s) who has the responsibility to:

- a. Assure all dust control requirements are complied with including those covering weekends and holidays.
- b. Order increased watering as necessary to prevent transport of dust offsite.
- c. Attend the pre-construction meeting.

TIMING: The dust monitor shall be designated prior to Grading Permit. The dust control components apply from the beginning of any grading or construction throughout all development activities until Final Building Inspection Clearance is issued.

MONITORING: P&D processing planner shall ensure measures are on plans. P&D grading and building inspectors shall spot check; Grading and Building shall ensure compliance onsite. APCD inspectors shall respond to nuisance complaints.

- **4. Bio-01b Tree Protection Plan—Construction Component:** The Owner / Applicant shall submit a Tree Protection Plan (TPP) prepared by a P&D-approved arborist and/or biologist and designed to protect existing trees to the maximum extent feasible. The Owner Applicant shall comply with and specify the following as notes on the TPP and Grading and Building Plans:
  - 1. Fencing of all trees to be protected at least six feet outside the dripline with chain-link (or other material satisfactory to P&D) fencing at least 3 ft high, staked to prevent any collapse, and with signs identifying the protection area placed in 15-ft intervals on the fencing.
  - 2. Fencing/staking/signage shall be maintained throughout all grading and construction activities.
  - 3. All trees located within 25 ft of buildings shall be protected from stucco and/or paint during construction.
  - 4. No irrigation is permitted within 6 ft of the dripline of any protected tree unless specifically authorized.
  - 5. The following are not permitted:
    - a. Any trenching within the dripline or sensitive root zone of any specimen.
    - b. Cutting any roots of one inch in diameter or greater.
    - c. Tree removal and trimming.
  - 6. Grading shall be designed to avoid ponding and ensure proper drainage within driplines of oak trees.

PLAN REQUIREMENTS: The Owner/Applicant shall: (1) submit the TPP; (2) Include all applicable components in Tree Replacement Plan and/or Landscape and Irrigation Plans if these are required; (3) include as notes or depictions all plan components listed above, graphically depicting all those related to earth movement, construction, and temporarily and/or permanently installed protection measures.

TIMING: The Owner/Applicant shall comply with this measure prior to issuance of Land Use Permit. Plan components shall be included on all plans prior to the issuance of Grading and Building Permits. The Owner/Applicant shall install tree protection measures onsite prior to issuance of grading/building permits and pre-construction meeting.

MONITORING: The Owner/Applicant shall demonstrate to P&D building/grading inspectors staff that trees identified for protection were not damaged or removed or, if damage or removal occurred, that correction is completed as required by the TPP prior to Final Building Inspection Clearance.

- 5. CulRes-09 Stop Work at Encounter: The Owner/Applicant and/or their agents, representatives or contractors shall stop or redirect work immediately in the event archaeological remains are encountered during grading, construction, landscaping or other construction-related activity. The Owner/Applicant shall immediately contact P&D staff, and retain a P&D approved archaeologist and Native American representative to evaluate the significance of the find in compliance with the provisions of the County Archaeological Guidelines and conduct appropriate mitigation funded by the Owner/Applicant. PLAN REQUIREMENTS: This condition shall be printed on all building and grading plans. MONITORING: P&D permit processing planner shall check plans prior to issuance of Land Use Permit and P&D building inspectors shall spot check in the field throughout grading and construction.
- **6. Noise-02 Construction Hours:** The Owner /Applicant, including all contractors and subcontractors shall limit construction activity, including equipment maintenance and site preparation, to the hours between 7:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

No construction shall occur on weekends or State holidays. Non-noise generating interior construction activities such as plumbing, electrical, drywall and painting (which does not include the use of compressors, tile saws, or other noise-generating equipment) are not subject to these restrictions.

Any subsequent amendment to the Comprehensive General Plan, applicable Community or Specific Plan, or Zoning Code noise standard upon which these construction hours are based shall supersede the hours stated herein.

PLAN REQUIREMENTS: The Owner/Applicant shall provide and post a sign stating these restrictions at all construction site entries.

TIMING: Signs shall be posted prior to commencement of construction and maintained throughout construction.

MONITORING: The Owner/Applicant shall demonstrate that required signs are posted prior to grading/building permit issuance and pre-construction meeting. Building inspectors shall spot check and respond to complaints.

#### **County Rules and Regulations**

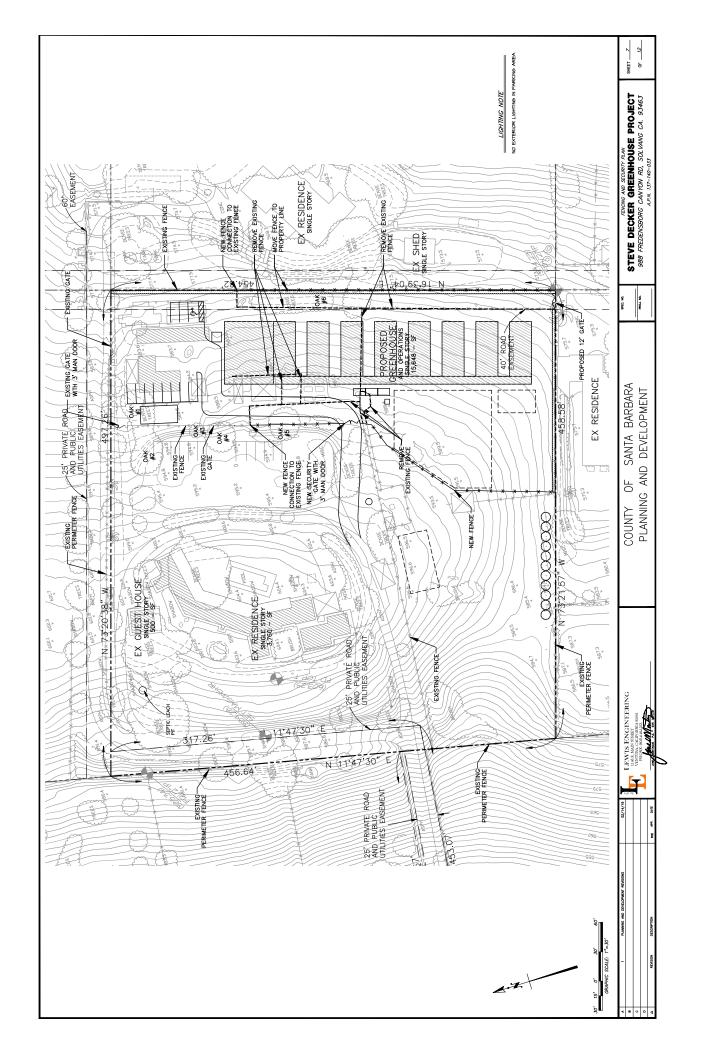
- 7. Rules-05 Acceptance of Conditions: The Owner/Applicant's acceptance of this permit and/or commencement of use, construction and/or operations under this permit shall be deemed acceptance of all conditions of this permit by the Owner/Applicant.
- **8.** Rules-23 Processing Fees Required: Prior to issuance of Land Use Permit, the Owner/Applicant shall pay all applicable P&D permit processing fees in full as required by County ordinances and resolutions.
- 9. Rules-29 Other Dept Conditions: Compliance with Departmental/Division letters required as

DECKER GREENHOUSE 19LUP-00000-00469 Page A - 4

#### follows:

- 1. Flood Control letter dated February 11, 2020;
- **10. Rules-30 Plans Requirements:** The Owner/Applicant shall ensure all applicable final conditions of approval are printed in their entirety on applicable pages of grading/construction or building plans submitted to P&D or Building and Safety Division. These shall be graphically illustrated where feasible.
- 11. Rules-33 Indemnity and Separation: The Owner/Applicant shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless the County or its agents or officers and employees from any claim, action or proceeding against the County or its agents, officers or employees, to attack, set aside, void, or annul, in whole or in part, the County's approval of this project. In the event that the County fails promptly to notify the Owner / Applicant of any such claim, action or proceeding, or that the County fails to cooperate fully in the defense of said claim, this condition shall thereafter be of no further force or effect.
- 12. Rules-37 Time Extensions-All Projects: The Owner / Applicant may request a time extension prior to the expiration of the permit or entitlement for development. The review authority with jurisdiction over the project may, upon good cause shown, grant a time extension in compliance with County rules and regulations, which include reflecting changed circumstances and ensuring compliance with CEQA. If the Owner / Applicant requests a time extension for this permit, the permit may be revised to include updated language to standard conditions and/or mitigation measures and additional conditions and/or mitigation measures which reflect changed circumstances or additional identified project impacts.

## **ATTACHMENT F: APPROVED SITE PLAN**



<b>ATTACHMENT</b>	G: APPLICANT	<b>REPONSE TO</b>	APPEAL ISSUES.	DATED JUNE 23,	2020
,	<b>C</b> : 7 :: . <b>L</b> : <b>C</b> :		,, <del> ,</del>	<i>, _,</i> ,	

Stephen R. Jacobs 1690 Fredensborg Way Solvang, CA 93463

Re: Appeal of LUP 19LUP-0469

Dear Mr. Jacobs,

I have prepared the attached response to your grounds for appeal. This response has been forwarded to Ben Singer, Planner for our project at the County Planning & Development Department.

This document will also be given to each of the five Planning Commissioners prior to the hearing. They will all be invited to make a site visit prior to the hearing. I will also be presenting an extensive Power Point presentation, with aerial depictions of the neighborhood and its multiple uses.

It is indeed unfortunate you did not request a site visit, nor request to view the plans and the shared water system records. That you did not makes your claims appear frivolous and without any research to substantiate them.

If you would like to make a site visit, review our plans and well production records, you are most welcome to do so. Just call me and we will gladly accommodate you and anyone else interested.

You should know that this farm project is vitally important to me and my ten other family members associated with and to be financially supported by its development. We sincerely hope your review of the facts will result in withdrawal of your appeal.

Respectfully,

Steve Decker 988 Fredensborg Canyon Road Solvang, CA 93463 805 708-6400 stevedecker44@icloud.com

CC: Ben Singer, Planner
Planning & Development
Development Review Division
Santa Barbara County

Appellant, Stephen Jacobs, has cited three categories of concern as the basis for denial of Steve Decker's Land Use Permit Approval: WATER SUPPLY, NEIGHBORHOOD COMPATIBILITY AND CODE COMPLIANCE.

Mr. Jacobs has not reviewed Decker's plans. Nor has he visited the project site or reviewed the records of Decker's shared water system.

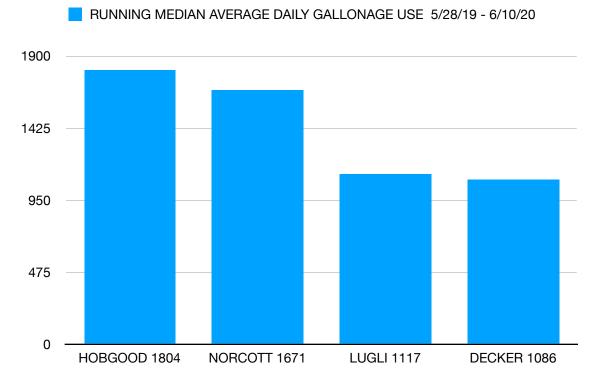
#### WATER SUPPLY

Mr. Jacobs is uninformed as to the status of the water production capabilities of the shared water system that serves the Decker agricultural property and others.

Steve Decker is the designated Water Master for the four member shared water system referenced in Mr. Jacob's appeal. Mr. Decker has continuously been the Water Master since July of 2006.

Decker has metered the individual water usage since 9/2/2018. As such, he recorded and retained applicable water usage data for the four members since then. The data compilation Excel sheets are available to any member to review.

The chart below shows the median average daily water use per member for the period of 5/28/2019 through 6/12/2020.



This data was compiled from 33 separate meter readings over the approximately 12 month period. Meter readings were taken close to three times per month.

As the chart indicates the Lugli and Decker families use substantially less water than the other two members.

## Section III, GRANT OF WATER RIGHTS of the Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions Concerning Private Water System states:

A. The owners of each of the parcels identified on Parcel Map 12,800 as Parcels A, B, C and D shall each be entitled to and are hereby granted the right to **three gallons of water per minute** produced by and from the Water System to fulfill the minimum source yield requirements of Santa Barbara County Ordinance No. 3096. Emphasis added

All members receive from 12-15 gallons per minute. At least four times the rate of flow minimally required by County Code.

The total average median daily usage of all four members is **5,678 gallons.** When the well serving the four homes was permitted, Santa Barbara County Ordinance No. 3096 required the well to produce a minimum of 3 gallons per minute per property served. Therefore the well had to produce a minimum of 12 gallons per minute. That translates to a total daily gallonage production requirement of **17,280 gallons.** At **5,678 gallons, that is 1/3 of the well's total daily production capability.** 

#### **Section IV. USE OF WATER** states:

Except for declarants' rights reserved under Section III, B., water from the Water System shall be used and usable solely for the following purposes: Supplying **domestic and agricultural water service** for beneficial purposes to all improvements now and hereafter located on said property and any further parcels into which they may be divided from time to time. Emphasis added.

Mr. Jacob's claims there is an inadequate water supply to support the Decker family agricultural business. He claims so without any knowledge of the actual water usage of the four water system members or the water usage that the Decker agriculture business will additionally use.

The Decker greenhouse project will use an average of less than 500 gallons of water per day! Bringing the Decker total median average daily use to approximately 1586 gallons per day. Still below the usage by Hobgood and Norcott at 1804 and 1671 gallons respectively.

Therefore, the claim by Mr. Jacobs that the existing water system does not produce adequate water supplies for the Decker greenhouse additional usage (0.34 GPM in 24 hours) is fallacious.

#### **Decker Private Well**

The addition of Decker's own private well will add to the available, reliable water source for his property. It is well known that the Fredensborg Canyon area has ample groundwater at more than adequate rates of flow to meet minimum code requirements.

It is Decker's right to drill his own well. The shared water agreement, of which he is a member, does not prohibit him from doing so.

Recently, a new well was successfully drilled on property immediately adjacent to the Decker property. The four member shared well is located on the Lugli property adjacent to the Decker property. Including the well on the Lugli property, there are three known active water wells on three properties contiguous to the Decker property. The notion that Decker would be unsuccessful in drilling a new well is without merit.

#### CODE COMPLIANCE

Decker's greenhouse project complies with all Santa Barbara County Land Use Development Code sections for AG-1 properties.

The approval of Decker's Land Use Permit application was granted pursuant to the following:

E. Findings required for approval. A Land Use Permit application shall be approved or conditionally approved only if the Director first makes all of the following findings:1. Findings for all Land Use Permits:a. The proposed development conforms: (1) To the applicable provisions of the Comprehensive Plan including any applicable community or area plan; and(2) With the applicable provisions of this Development Code or falls within the limited exception allowed in compliance with Chapter 35.101 (Nonconforming Uses, Structures, and Lots). b. The proposed development is located on a legally created lot.c. The subject property is in compliance with all laws, regulations, and rules pertaining to uses, subdivisions, setbacks, and any other applicable provisions of this Development Code, and any applicable zoning violation enforcement and processing fees have been paid. This Subsection shall not be interpreted to impose new requirements on legal nonconforming uses and structures in compliance with Chapter 35.101 (Nonconforming Uses, Structures, and Lots).

Regarding the purpose of AG-1 zoned properties, **County Code Section 35.21.030** states in part "the intent is to provide standards that will support agriculture as a viable land use and encourage maximum agricultural productivity."

**Code section 35.21.030** states greenhouses are permitted with a Land Use Permit, and not a Development Plan or Conditional Use Permit, if the totality of structures on site do not exceed **20,000 square feet**. The Decker plan totals **19,908 square feet**.

#### **Decker's Greenhouse Project is not for Cannabis.**

Mr Jacobs checked "yes", to the Appeal Form question, "Is this appeal (potentially) related to cannabis activities? There are no current cannabis activities nor any planned cannabis activities on Decker's property.

The property is not zoned for commercial cannabis cultivation and, therefore, the state will not issue a cannabis cultivation license for the property. End of story.

Mr. Jacobs curiously argues that because the greenhouse application "remains fundamentally unchanged" from Decker's previously withdrawn cannabis cultivation application, the permit should be denied as not complying with the County land Use Development Code.

Mr. Jacobs described Decker's previous application as having a "purpose-designed cannabis cultivation facility". Without explaining how the proposed greenhouse is, in the first place,

purposely designed for cannabis cultivation and, secondly, how such a greenhouse can't be used for the cultivation of any other plant, Mr. Jacobs would have the project denied.

Cannabis is a plant that is cultivated in numerous environments. In greenhouses formerly used for flower and vegetable cultivation. Indoors in buildings that are outfitted to cultivate plants. In hoop houses set out in open fields. In open fields without hoop structures. All are used to cultivate cannabis, along with numerous other plants as well.

Greenhouses are universally used to cultivate a myriad of plants around the world. Decker designed his greenhouse to accommodate any plant cultivation business; not just cannabis. He did so as to not limit the facility's potential use should a change in crop be necessary. As it turned out to be.

The proposed facility does not violate the County Land Use Code. Greenhouses are permitted in AG-1 zones.

#### **NEIGHBORHOOD COMPATIBILITY**

Mr Jacobs cites four items of concern justifying denial of the permit:

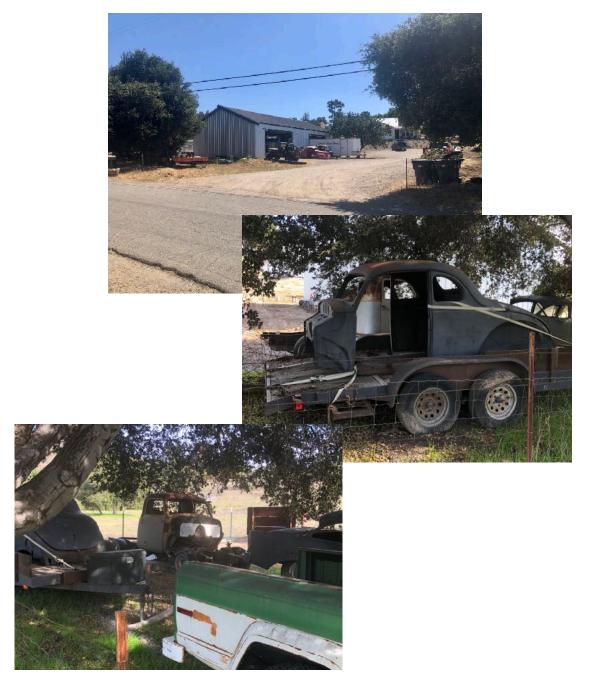
- 1. Traffic
- 2. Operational Noise
- 3. Visual Impact
- 4. Nightlight Intrusion

Mr. Jacobs did not request to see the project plans submitted by Decker. If he had he would have seen three of these four issues specifically addressed on the plans.

- **1. Traffic.** Traffic being the only one on the plan not addressed because the County Land Use Permit ordinance does not require traffic studies for Land Use Permits issued for greenhouses
- **2. Operational Noise:** Sheet 10 of Decker's plans specifically address noise. It shows that none of the operational equipment exceed the county's maximum decibel levels allowed. In fact, all levels are significantly below county limits.
- **3. Visual Impact:** Sheet 6 of Decker's plans show the elevations and style of the proposed greenhouse structure. The tallest elevation is the greenhouse head house at 20'. The greenhouses are 16' in elevation at their highest point. Comparable to a single story home.



20' in height is comparable to the commercial or industrial style building recently erected at 1108 Fredensborg Canyon Road, with no screening at all. See above and below.

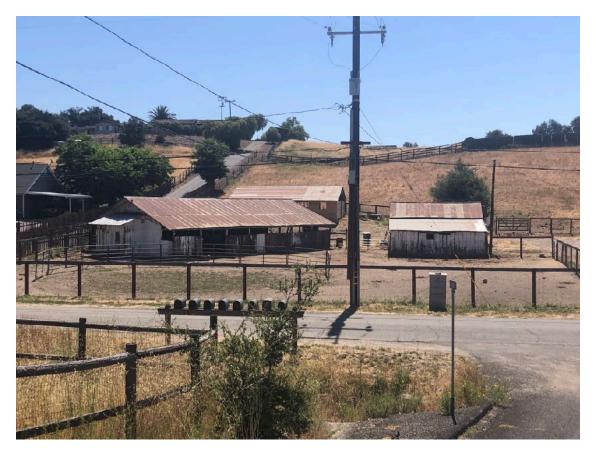


The building is surrounded with old cars in a generally dilapidated condition. See above. This structure is on an AG-1 zoned property and is contiguous to Decker's AG-1 property.

Decker submitted a visual screening landscape plan that exceeded the county's minimal screening requirements. The plan requires the planting of 107, 15 gallon, Catalina Cherry. . When matured at 15'-20', these plants will visually screen the greenhouse from the immediate properties to the east and south. Because of the elevation of the greenhouse location and existing plants and trees, properties immediately to the west and north will not be able to see

the greenhouse, regardless of the added screening. Again, Mr. Jacobs did not ask to see the plans Decker submitted to the County. Nor did he request a site visit.

The area of Decker's property is an eclectic mix of uses. Some residential only and some with active agricultural uses. Some with uses that are comparable to commercial or industrial uses. As seen at 1108 Fredensborg Canyon Road.



For example, Decker's immediate neighbor raises and cares for horses. Above is an image of their barns and riding ring. There is no visual screening from the street nor neighbors.

Decker's greenhouse is to be located on the other side of the hill, behind this horse farm. Away from any view from properties along Fredensborg Canyon.

1165 Fredensborg Canyon Road is the home to the Wolf Family Farm. They farm mushrooms

for sale to the community and invite visitors to the farm.

1181 Fredensborg Canyon Road, next to the Wolf Farm, is home to Lil Orphan Hammies. This is a pig and hog rescue farm that takes in these animals from people who can't or do not want to keep them. Both farm operations are in the immediate vicinity of the Decker property and can be seen in the aerial image below. The Wolf greenhouse is visible on the left side of the image. The hog farm is in the upper right side of the image.



**4. Nighlight Intrusion:** Decker's plan complies with the Outdoor Lighting Regulations for the Santa Ynez Valley Community Plan Area. Sheet 11 of the plan, that Mr. Jacobs did not view, shows the lighting ordinance compliance. Further, Decker proposes to use light deprivation curtains for his horticultural practices.

As for light emitted from interior greenhouse lighting, Santa Barbara County Land Use Code, Article 35.30.120, Section C. 6. J. exempts lighting for agricultural activities of a limited duration.

#### CONCLUSION

Decker's property is zoned to support agriculture and to encourage maximum agricultural productivity. His plan attempts to do just that.

Mr. Jacobs' appeal, on the other hand, attempts to negate the intent of the County's land use ordinance with spurious arguments and should, therefore, be denied.