



County of Santa Barbara Planning and Development

John Baker, Director

Dianne Black, Director Development Services

John McInnes, Director Long Range Planning

Published July 20, 2007

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

REVISED DRAFT EIR – CUMULATIVE IMPACT ANALYSIS

Agricultural Preserve Program Uniform Rules Update

SCH# 2004081159

The Santa Barbara County Planning and Development Department, Office of Long Range Planning, serving as Lead Agency, has completed a revised draft Environmental Impact Report - Cumulative Impact Analysis for the Update to *Santa Barbara County Uniform Rules for Agricultural Preserves and Farmland Security Zones* (Uniform Rules).

PROJECT LOCATION: Countywide

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Uniform Rules Update project proposes to change several provisions of Santa Barbara County's Uniform Rules in order to 1) bring the Uniform Rules into conformance with recent legislative amendments to the Williamson Act; 2) address discrepancies in the Uniform Rules that were identified in a 2001 audit by the California Department of Conservation (DOC); and 3) increase the clarity and flexibility of the Agricultural Preserve Program. Many of the proposed changes to the Uniform Rules increase the clarity and flexibility of the Agricultural Preserve Program. Notable proposed changes include: additional land use designations and zoning districts eligible for enrollment; allow for lot line adjustments to add smaller parcels than the minimum allowed to existing contracts; changes to residential allowances to provide more housing opportunities on contracted lands; revised agricultural production and reporting requirements to ensure the integrity of the Agricultural Preserve Program is maintained; increased development envelopes on superprime land if more land is devoted to agricultural production; increased flexibility of facilities preparing and processing agricultural products; clarification about the restrictions and requirements associated with animal boarding and breeding; and allowance for small scale guest ranches subject to certain requirements.

Environmental Review: At their December 6, 2006 meeting, the Board of Supervisors directed additional analysis in the EIR to consider information submitted in correspondence to the County. The Office of Long Range Planning has prepared a Revised Draft EIR – Cumulative Impact Analysis pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15088.5 and the County of Santa Barbara Guidelines for Implementation of CEQA, which require recirculation of an EIR for additional public review if significant new information is added to the EIR.

Development Review
Building & Safety
Energy, Administration
123 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
Phone: (805) 568-2000
FAX: (805) 568-2030

Long Range Planning
30 E. Figueroa St, 2nd Floor
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
Phone: (805) 568-3380
FAX: (805) 568-2076

Building & Safety
185 West Hwy 246, Ste 101
Buellton, CA 93427
Phone: (805) 686-5020
FAX: (805) 686-5028

Development Review
Building & Safety
Agricultural Planning
624 W. Foster Road
Santa Maria, CA 93455
Phone: (805) 934-6250
FAX: (805) 934-6258

The Uniform Rules Update Draft EIR revised Cumulative Impact Analysis describes cumulative impacts related to the Uniform Rules amendments in the following resource areas:

- **Agricultural Resources/Land Use,**
- **Visual Resources,**
- **Noise,**
- **Transportation/Circulation,**
- **Air Quality, and**
- **Groundwater Resources.**

PUBLIC HEARING AND COMMENT: A public hearing to receive comments will be held **August 15, 2007 from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in the Assembly Hall of the Solvang Veteran's Building located at 1745 Mission Drive.** The County as lead agency requests that comments be limited to the revised portions of the recirculated EIR. Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15088.5 (f) (2), the lead agency need only respond to comments received during the initial circulation period that relate to chapters or portions of the document that were revised and recirculated.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this hearing, please contact Hearing Support Staff (805) 568-2000. Notification at least 48 hours prior to the hearing will enable Hearing Support Staff to make reasonable arrangements.

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY: If a copy of the revised DEIR is not attached to this notice, the document may be obtained at Planning & Development offices located at 123 E. Anapamu Street, Santa Barbara **OR** 624 Foster Road, Suite C, Santa Maria. Draft documents are also available for review at our website: <http://countyofsb.org/plandev\comp\programs\uniformrules\default.html>

HOW TO COMMENT: You may send your written comments to:

David Matson, Project Manager
Office of Long Range Planning
30 E. Figueroa St. 2nd Floor
Santa Barbara, CA 93101-2010
FAX: (805) 568-2076 E-mail: dmatson@sbcao.org

Comments may be submitted in writing via mail, email, and at the public hearing. **All comments must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 4, 2007.**