

ATTACHMENT 8:

PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 19, 2024

From: [Stacie Groll](#) on behalf of [PlanningAgency](#)
To: [Hannah Spencer](#)
Subject: FW: Forestville zoning change
Date: Tuesday, September 17, 2024 12:39:02 PM

FYI

Best,

-Stacie

-----Original Message-----

From: Denise Anderson <speedyk9@sonic.net>
Sent: Monday, September 16, 2024 7:02 AM
To: PlanningAgency <PlanningAgency@sonoma-county.org>
Subject: Forestville zoning change

EXTERNAL

I am writing this letter to voice my concerns about the proposed changes that affect the Downtown Oaks Park. While I support some aspects of this plan like a restroom, bicycle parking and better access. I am concerned about the amphitheater and sound wall and the 20 events per year. Does this include the farmers market that is approximately 16 weeks or will the 20 events in addition to the farmers market?

While a sound wall may help the residents on Pajaro and some of the downtown area it does nothing to protect the residents on Hidden Lake Rd and other areas to the west. In fact it most likely will amplify the sound bouncing off the sound wall.

For at least the past 2 years the upgrade to the sidewalks on Front St. have been put on hold. I understand multiple agencies are involved including Cal Trans. I am a resident who drives, walks and bike rides in Forestville. It is currently pretty scary at times riding through the downtown area. The amount of quarry trucks are daunting. I would ask you respectfully to pause this change until the downtown becomes more user friendly for cyclists and pedestrians. Parking is another issue. The parking at the downtown park has become parking for the businesses due to the fact the off street parking is minimal.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, Denise Anderson

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Warning: If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, do not click any web links, attachments, and never give out your user ID or password.

From: [Amber Gray](#)
To: [PlanningAgency](#)
Subject: Support of Use Permit for Forestville Downtown Oaks Park!!
Date: Monday, September 16, 2024 11:08:03 PM

EXTERNAL

Hello, SoCo Planning Agency,

This email is to share my support of the Forestville Downtown Oaks Park receiving a Use Permit. I want to see the park be able to move forward with improvements including paving the parking lot, adding handicapped parking spaces, adding bike racks, and putting in a water station at the trailhead.

The Downtown Oaks Park is a very important part of Forestville, and it is used daily by walkers, runners, and bicyclists, both locals and visitors, adults and children. A wonderful trail access path has been developed that runs right through the park, making trail access safe and easy.

Many local community activities take place at the park throughout the year such as the Farmers Market, the 4th of July BBQ, the Mardi Gras party, and the community garage sale, just to name a few. The park is also the location of the arrival of Santa annually as well as the location of our town's donated, decorated, and lit Christmas tree always celebrated with the community at the start of the holidays.

Families frequently picnic under the beautiful Oaks. The Forestville Downtown Oaks Park has become an important part of our town and we want it to be supported by our County. Please grant the Use Permit that is necessary for future improvements.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Amber Gray
978 Esther Drive
Forestville, CA 95436
707-553-7755

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From: [Alicia Pelton](#)
To: [PlanningAgency](#)
Subject: Forestville Under the Oaks park
Date: Monday, September 16, 2024 9:47:30 AM

EXTERNAL

My family would like to show our support of Forestville Under The Oaks Park. We appreciate having this special community gathering space and my family votes to approve the plans to sustain it, not just for us, but for the future. We go to every farmers market and every event that the park offers. We use the bike path and sit under the trees to joy an ice cream cone sometimes. It's a very special place to my kids and all locals. We look forward to the future improvements.

Thank you for reading this.

Sincerely,

The Pelton Family

Sent from my iPhone

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California Department of Transportation

DISTRICT 4
OFFICE OF REGIONAL AND COMMUNITY PLANNING
P.O. BOX 23660, MS-10D | OAKLAND, CA 94623-0660



August 23, 2024

SCH #: 2024071069
GTS #: 04-SON-2024-00920
GTS ID: 33497
Co/Rt/Pm: SON/116/19.477

Hannah Spencer, Supervisor Planner
County of Sonoma
2550 Ventura Ave
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Re: Forestville Downtown Park — Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND)

Dear Hannah Spencer:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the Forestville Downtown Park project. The Local Development Review (LDR) Program reviews land use projects and plans to ensure consistency with our mission and state planning priorities. The following comments are based on our review of the July 2024 Draft MND.

Please note this correspondence does not indicate an official position by Caltrans on this project and is for informational purposes only.

Project Understanding

The proposed project will provide urban open space with opportunities for public recreational amenities that include 24 bicycle parking spaces at West County Trailhead, an improved parking lot for 17 vehicles and one American Disabilities Act (ADA) accessible space and relocated bus stop with a new shelter. This project site is located directly adjacent to State Route (SR)-116.

Travel Demand Analysis

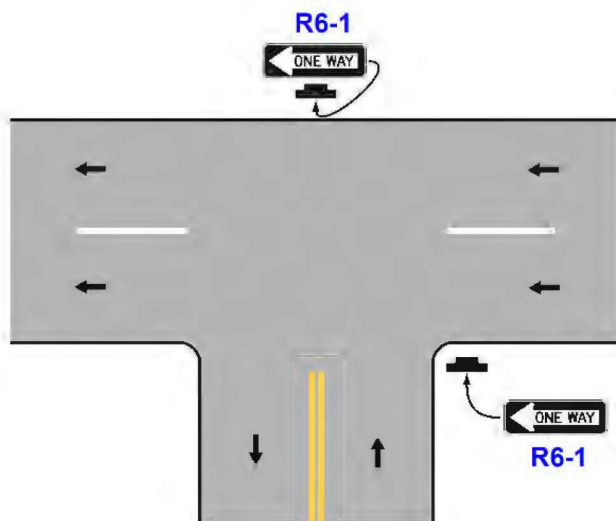
With the enactment of Senate Bill (SB) 743, Caltrans is focused on maximizing efficient development patterns, innovative travel demand reduction strategies, and multimodal improvements. For more information on how Caltrans assesses Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) analysis for land use projects, please review Caltrans' Transportation Impact Study Guide ([link](#)).

The project VMT analysis and significance determination are undertaken in a manner consistent with the Office of Planning and Research's (OPR) Technical Advisory. Per the IS/MND, this project is found to have a less than significant VMT impact, therefore working towards meeting the State's VMT reduction goals.

Project Driveway

Please submit roadway plans for Caltrans to review and consider using postmile to identify the location. Sight distance from the driveway should be checked per Highway Design Manual Procedure. Also, please clarify how vehicles will be prevented from left in/left out to/from the driveway.

The project applicant shall install the ONE WAY sign (R6-1) (Right Turn) below as showed in Figure. 2B-14 of California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) at the exit corner of the driveway on the right and at the median through the encroachment permit process. Please review the MUTCD ([link](#)) for more detailed information.



Construction-Related Impacts

Project work that requires movement of oversized or excessive load vehicles on State roadways requires a transportation permit that is issued by Caltrans. To apply, please visit Caltrans Transportation Permits ([link](#)). Prior to construction, coordination may be required with Caltrans to develop a Transportation Management Plan (TMP) to reduce construction traffic impacts to the State Transportation Network (STN).

Please note that Caltrans has proposed a safety project on SR-116 at Green Valley Road intersection. It proposes to install a fully actuated traffic signal system or construct a roundabout to reduce the number of collisions. Construction is scheduled

to begin in winter 2026. Though the safety project is relatively distant from this proposed project, potential coordination might be needed.

Lead Agency

As the Lead Agency, the County is responsible for all project mitigation, including any needed improvements to the STN. The project's fair share contribution, financing, scheduling, implementation responsibilities and lead agency monitoring should be fully discussed for all proposed mitigation measures.

Equitable Access

If any Caltrans facilities are impacted by the project, those facilities must meet ADA Standards after project completion. As well, the project must maintain bicycle and pedestrian access during construction. These access considerations support Caltrans' equity mission to provide a safe, sustainable, and equitable transportation network for all users.

Encroachment Permit

Please be advised that any permanent work or temporary traffic control that encroaches onto Caltrans' Right-of-Way (ROW) requires a Caltrans-issued encroachment permit. As part of the encroachment permit submittal process, you may be asked by the Office of Encroachment Permits to submit a completed encroachment permit application package, digital set of plans clearly delineating Caltrans' ROW, digital copy of signed, dated and stamped (include stamp expiration date) traffic control plans, this comment letter, your response to the comment letter, and where applicable, the following items: new or amended Maintenance Agreement (MA), approved Design Standard Decision Document (DSDD), approved encroachment exception request, and/or airspace lease agreement.

The Office of Encroachment Permit requires 100% complete design plans and supporting documents to review and circulate the permit application package. To obtain more information and download the permit application, please visit Caltrans Encroachment Permits ([link](#)). Please note that the checklist TR-0416 is used to determine the appropriate Caltrans review process for encroachment projects. Your application package may be emailed to D4Permits@dot.ca.gov.

Thank you again for including Caltrans in the environmental review process. Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Melissa Hernandez, Associate Transportation Planner, via LDR-D4@dot.ca.gov.

For future early coordination opportunities or project referrals, please visit Caltrans LDR website ([link](#)) or contact LDR-D4@dot.ca.gov.

Hannah Spencer, Supervisor Planner
August 23, 2024
Page 4

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Yunsheng Luo', is written over the printed name.

YUNSHENG LUO
Branch Chief, Local Development Review
Office of Regional and Community Planning

c: State Clearinghouse

From: [Hannah Spencer](#)
To: [Marina Montes](#); [Stacie Groll](#)
Cc: [Catherine Iantosca](#)
Subject: RE: PLP16-0054 (6990 Front St., Forestville) MND Legal Notice - District Comments
Date: Wednesday, September 4, 2024 1:23:00 PM
Attachments: [PLP16-0054 Referral Packet 11-2-21.pdf](#)
[PLP16-0054 GSW Conditions.pdf](#)

Hi Marina,

I responded to your questions below and will save your comments to the record and ensure the Project Conditions of Approval address SCAPOSD requirements. Note, I will be

-Hannah

From: Marina Montes <Marina.Montes@sonoma-county.org>
Sent: Thursday, August 22, 2024 4:04 PM
To: Stacie Groll <Stacie.Groll@sonoma-county.org>; Hannah Spencer <Hannah.Spencer@sonoma-county.org>
Cc: Catherine Iantosca <Catherine.Iantosca@sonoma-county.org>
Subject: PLP16-0054 (6990 Front St., Forestville) MND Legal Notice - District Comments

Hi Hannah and Stacie,

Below are the District's comments on the planning project for the Forestville Planning Association (Permit #: PLP16-0054), which will take place on the Forever Forestville Conservation Easement. Please let me know if you have any questions regarding our comments.

1. We understand that a grading permit will be issued as part of this project. Can you explain how the grading permit was triggered? The Easement requires prior District approval for the movement of over 50 cubic yards of material in any calendar year. We're trying to understand whether this is something we need to address. **Once the use permit is approved by the Board of Supervisors (to be scheduled after the Planning Commission hearing), the applicant will be required to comply with Conditions of Approval for grading in accordance with County Codes for construction grading and drainage. The applicant's application (page 4 of the attached referral packet) estimates the project will result in approximately 266 cubic yards of cut and 103 cubic yards of fill. Our Engineering Division required a grading permit as a draft condition of approval (attached).**
2. Please note that the Easement only permits special events within the designated Building Envelope. **We can require the applicant demonstrate compliance with the CE prior to grading and building permit issuance as Condition of Approval to the use permit. The applicant explained they are working with SCAPOSD on a BE amendment.**
3. Page 18 of the Mitigated Neg Dec states that the project will require final approval from the Design Review Committee on several items including signage. The Easement permits and restricts certain signs depending on the location and purpose of the sign. Please note we would like to review any plans for future signs to ensure they are consistent with the Easement. **We can require the applicant demonstrate compliance with the CE prior to final**

Design Review as a Condition of Approval to the use permit.

Thank you,
Marina

Ag + Open Space Logo



Marina Montes | Stewardship Specialist
Pronouns: she/her

Sonoma County Ag + Open Space
747 Mendocino Ave, Suite 100
Santa Rosa, CA 95401 | 707.565.5730
www.sonomaopenspace.org

From: [Douglas Messenger](#)
To: [Hannah Spencer](#)
Cc: [Stacie Groll](#)
Subject: RE: PLP16-0054 (6990 Front St., Forestville) MND Legal Notice
Date: Friday, July 26, 2024 3:57:42 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

EXTERNAL

Hanna,

Sonoma County Water Agency has no interests in the sanitary sewer in the Forestville area. If you expect that Sonoma Water has other potential interests, please let me know and I will redirect.

- Doug

From: Stacie Groll <Stacie.Groll@sonoma-county.org>
Sent: Friday, July 26, 2024 3:51 PM
Cc: Hannah Spencer <Hannah.Spencer@sonoma-county.org>
Subject: PLP16-0054 (6990 Front St., Forestville) MND Legal Notice

Greetings,

Please find the attached notice regarding the project in the subject line. Please direct any questions to the project planner at Hannah.Spencer@sonoma-county.org or (707) 565-1928.

Kind Regards,



Stacie Groll
Administrative Assistant
2550 Ventura Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95403
www.PermitSonoma.org
o: (707) 565-1900
d: (707) 565-1928
Stacie.Groll@sonoma-county.org



Lobby hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Wednesday 10:30 AM - 4:00 PM.

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From: [WB-DWPDIST25](#)
To: [Hannah Spencer](#)
Cc: [Earls, Lareina A.@Waterboards](#); [Pelen, ElenaJoy@Waterboards](#); [Anderson, Misha@Waterboards](#); [Bricker, Allyson@Waterboards](#); [Foster, Matt@Waterboards](#)
Subject: RE: PLP16-0054 (6990 Front St., Forestville) MND Legal Notice
Date: Wednesday, July 31, 2024 4:44:58 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

EXTERNAL

Hannah,

Thank you for taking the time to speak with me today regarding potential comment from our office on PLP16-0054 and for providing the information on the project water source (CA4910019 Forestville Water District). As you noted, that Forestville Water District Public Drinking Water System No. CA410019 will provide an agreement to supply water for the project and may need to amend the current water supply permit with DDW. I have included the assigned DDW staff for Forestville Water District, Matt Foster, Sanitary Engineer, who can be reached at matt.foster@waterboards.ca.gov or by phone at 707-576-2108 for further questions or if additional information is needed.

Thank you,



Lareina A. Earls
Environmental Scientist
Marin District 25
Division of Drinking Water
State Water Resources Control Board
lareina.earls@waterboards.ca.gov
Ph: 707-576-2698

From: WB-DWPDIST25 <DWPDIST25@Waterboards.ca.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, July 31, 2024 3:22 PM
To: Hannah Spencer <Hannah.Spencer@sonoma-county.org>
Cc: Earls, Lareina A.@Waterboards <Lareina.Earls@Waterboards.ca.gov>; Stacie Groll <Stacie.Groll@sonoma-county.org>
Subject: RE: PLP16-0054 (6990 Front St., Forestville) MND Legal Notice

Hannah,

I called and left a voicemail today for you regarding the above-mentioned Sonoma County Planning item. It is unclear what the source of potable water for the project will be and if there will be another opportunity for our office to make comment in the future when/if the drinking water source information becomes available, if it is available already I am not sure where to find that specific information (i.e., new groundwater well or connection to existing public water system like Forestville Community Water District). With this information the State Water

Resource Control Board Division of Drinking Water may potentially want to respond as early as possible with comment and if now is the correct time I am not clear how we should proceed with the public hearing aspect for comment. However, if there will be another opportunity for comment in the future of this projects planning timeline that would be good to know as well, and our office can proceed accordingly.

Thank you,



Lareina A. Earls
Environmental Scientist
Marin District 25
Division of Drinking Water
State Water Resources Control Board
lareina.earls@waterboards.ca.gov
Ph: 707-576-2698

From: Stacie Groll <Stacie.Groll@sonoma-county.org>
Sent: Friday, July 26, 2024 3:51 PM
Cc: Hannah Spencer <Hannah.Spencer@sonoma-county.org>
Subject: PLP16-0054 (6990 Front St., Forestville) MND Legal Notice

EXTERNAL:

Greetings,

Please find the attached notice regarding the project in the subject line. Please direct any questions to the project planner at Hannah.Spencer@sonoma-county.org or (707) 565-1928.

Kind Regards,



**permit
SONOMA**

Stacie Groll
Administrative Assistant
2550 Ventura Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95403
www.PermitsSonoma.org
o: (707) 565-1900
d: (707) 565-1928
Stacie.Groll@sonoma-county.org



SONOMA COUNTY
CALIFORNIA
1910

Lobby hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Wednesday 10:30 AM - 4:00 PM.

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From: [Vicki Clewes](#)
To: [PlanningAgency](#)
Subject: Approval of Use Permit - Forestville Downtown Oaks Park
Date: Monday, September 16, 2024 3:47:14 PM

EXTERNAL

Please count my voice as someone who hopes that you approve the Use Permit for the Forestville Downtown Oaks Park. I live near the Hacienda bridge and I am a frequent visitor, with my dog, of the West County Trail, the farmers market and other park events. Having a water station and permanent bathrooms will greatly enhance our ability to use the park and the trail.

I join with my neighbors and the Forestville Planning Association in asking for your approval for this Use Permit. Thank you for your consideration.

Vicki Lee Clewes
vickiclewes@gmail.com

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From: [Bruce Gould/Lauren Meiklejohn](#)
To: [PlanningAgency](#)
Subject: Support for Downtown Oaks Park, Forestville
Date: Monday, September 16, 2024 7:15:29 AM

EXTERNAL

To: Planning Commissioners

I live within walking distance of downtown Forestville and regularly take advantage of the Park there. Oaks Park is full of beautiful oaks and open spaces, with picnic tables and a paved path joining the West County trail. I see dog walkers and people sitting at the tables, Friday farmers market attendees/vendors, music lovers, etc. enjoying this sweet spot in a great location. I hope you will approve the Use Permit so we continue to improve and enjoy this park.

Lauren Meiklejohn
P.O. Box 1008
Forestville

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From: [Denise Anderson](#)
To: [PlanningAgency](#)
Subject: Forestville zoning change
Date: Monday, September 16, 2024 7:02:40 AM

EXTERNAL

I am writing this letter to voice my concerns about the proposed changes that affect the Downtown Oaks Park. While I support some aspects of this plan like a restroom, bicycle parking and better access. I am concerned about the amphitheater and sound wall and the 20 events per year. Does this include the farmers market that is approximately 16 weeks or will the 20 events in addition to the farmers market?

While a sound wall may help the residents on Pajaro and some of the downtown area it does nothing to protect the residents on Hidden Lake Rd and other areas to the west. In fact it most likely will amplify the sound bouncing off the sound wall.

For at least the past 2 years the upgrade to the sidewalks on Front St. have been put on hold. I understand multiple agencies are involved including Cal Trans. I am a resident who drives, walks and bike rides in Forestville. It is currently pretty scary at times riding through the downtown area. The amount of quarry trucks are daunting. I would ask you respectfully to pause this change until the downtown becomes more user friendly for cyclists and pedestrians. Parking is another issue. The parking at the downtown park has become parking for the businesses due to the fact the off street parking is minimal.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, Denise Anderson

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From: [Fullcircle](#)
To: [PlanningAgency](#)
Subject: File: PLP16-0054 APN: 083-270-001 and -002 Comment on Proposal
Date: Thursday, September 19, 2024 8:31:38 AM

EXTERNAL

PlanningAgency@sonoma-county.org

File: PLP16-0054

26990 Front Street and 6720 Hwy 116, Forestville

APN: 083-270-001 and -002

Comment on proposal

This Proposal is not providing near enough ADA accessible space! There are up to 200 attendees being provided for with 6 picnic tables - there must be more ADA parking and access! The shortage of ADA parking at parks and other venues in Sonoma County is preventing many people from participating in community events. Sonoma County has a reputation for neglecting this need, especially in building/permitting venues and ignoring the fact they are not ADA compliant. There are few places to take our elderly out for a picnic, for a walk in the park, even a farmers market, to enjoy outdoor public events that are accessible. Our seniors and disabled require recreational access as much as anyone else!

All trails, paths, walkways and bathrooms must be compliant but there is no mention of this. All facilities, drinking fountains, seating area(s) and access to those areas must also be ADA compliant. The time to build it is starting off, not fixing oversites/omissions after the fact. There should be at least one picnic table that is also compliant with an accessible path from an accessible picnic table site to one of the ADA parking sites.

Proper planning for up to 200 Attendees should be 6 ADA parking with at least one van accessible. If planning for two passengers per vehicle there should be a minimum 4 ADA spots with stripped space in between for van access. 2 people per passenger vehicle is the most likely use of available parking, both improved and unimproved.

24 bike plus 17 improved parking spots = 41 total improved parking spots means a minimum of two ADA parking spots required by law. For purposes of the act, specifically constructed bike parking is also vehicle parking.

The notice fails to disclose the number on "unimproved" parking sites, however it is obvious there are enough to supply parking, with the bike parking, to provide for 200 attendees.

Please stop designing for only some people and start including all.

Dorothy Stone
West Sonoma County

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From: durs@comcast.net
To: [PlanningAgency](#)
Subject: Support for the Downtown Oaks Park
Date: Monday, September 16, 2024 2:07:59 PM

EXTERNAL

Ladies & Gentlemen,

Writing to voice my support for granting a use permit to Forestville Planning Association to move forward on the Downtown Oaks Park in Forestville. This will be a welcome addition/improvement for our community. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,
Durs Koenig
7349 Covey Road
Forestville, CA 95436

It's always something.

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From: [Elizabeth Sanville](#)
To: [PlanningAgency](#)
Subject: Forestville
Date: Saturday, September 14, 2024 8:23:32 PM

EXTERNAL

Please approve the Use Permit for the Forestville Planning Committee. We Forestvillians love our Downtown Oaks Park.

It is a beautiful and convenient gathering place for family and friends and we use it frequently. We look forward to the proposed improvements.

We have been residents here for 34 years. Thank You,
Betsy Sanville and family

Sent from my iPhone

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From: [Ken Rhoads](#)
To: [PlanningAgency](#)
Subject: Forestville downtown park
Date: Sunday, September 15, 2024 10:38:47 AM

EXTERNAL

My wife and I both support this park and are very anxious to see it come to a reality after far too many years of bureaucratic delays.

Just vote yes and let's get it done.

Thank you.

Ken and Rita Rhoads
7561 Mirabel Road. Forestville

--

Ken Rhoads
[*ksrhoads68@gmail.com*](mailto:ksrhoads68@gmail.com)
707-820-1449

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From: [Barbara DeIonno](#)
To: [PlanningAgency](#)
Subject: Forestville's Downtown Oaks Park
Date: Sunday, September 15, 2024 1:52:24 PM

EXTERNAL

Greetings to our Sonoma County Planners!

I'm writing today in support of our downtown park for getting approval of a Use Permit. I really appreciate what our townspeople have done in making this park happen.

There were many proposals for this area, most of which were inappropriate for our town. The housing proposed was too dense or too tall or too vast. Also proposed was a development with housing on top of businesses. This seemed entirely inappropriate because people don't usually move to a little country town to live on top of a business. They're more likely to want a garden. In addition, we have empty business spaces in town, which have been empty for a long time. So putting in a bunch of retail space didn't make sense.

The downtown park was a perfect idea! People like and need to go for walks and bike rides - old and young, baby strollers, dog walkers, seniors, and cyclists. The downtown park has a place to park your car and the path through the park leads to the Joe Rodota trail. There are picnic tables and benches under the trees, so you can rest after a walk or buy something to eat in town and have a picnic. There is a coffee place nearby.

Anyway, I love this park. I see people using it all of the time. It was really the best thing that could have happened on that land for our community. It's also the place for the farmer's market and the Christmas tree lighting.

So please approve the Use Permit and let our people continue developing this great community resource.

Thank you,
Barbara DeIonno
8175 Park Ave
Forestville CA 95436
jarbarabean@comcast.net

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HIGHWAY 116

SIDEWALK

PLANTING

PARKING

SIDEWALK

INFORMATION
DISPLAY

RECYCLE, ORGANIC
& WASTE

DESIGNATED
WETLAND

WETLAND SETBACK LINE

CHRISTMAS
TREE SEE:
SEAT
GATHERING
AREA

STAGE

SEATING

STAGE STRUCTURE WAS
IN THIS LOCATION FOR
PHOTOSHOP RENDERING

DONOR
PLAQUE

F

TRASH
RECYCLE
ORGANIC

RESTROOMS
STORAGE

WATER
FOUNTAIN

BENCH

PLANTING

OAK TREES

ADA
PICNIC

BIKE AND WALKING TRAIL TO GRATCH (EXISTING)

NORTH

0 5 10 20 30 40 50

PROPERTY
LINE

PARTIAL SITE PLAN FOR FORESTVILLE DOWNTOWN OAKS

BIKE PARKING

BUS
CANOPY

M

RAMP

RAMP



Forestville Downtown Oaks Site Plan
 This alternate design allows for 6 more parking spaces

Drawn by Ken Smith
 kensmith@sonic.net 3-14-22

From: franmarieo@aol.com
To: [PlanningAgency](#)
Subject: Forestville Planning Association Use Permit
Date: Tuesday, September 17, 2024 12:52:54 PM

EXTERNAL

Hello,

My name is Fran Oliver, and I reside in Forestville. In support of the Forestville Planning Association, I am requesting that you approve the Use Permit requested for the Downtown Oaks Park.

I, my family, many friends, almost the entire town, and people from out of town enjoy our Downtown Park very much. The park has contributed to the vitalization of our downtown area and will continue to do so with your use permit approval.

We enjoy having our coffee and visiting on picnic tables and benches (all have been donated) under the large, shady oaks. We appreciate, and benefit from, being able to begin our walks on the West County Regional Trail from the downtown park. Our Friday night Farmers Markets bring people together to shop fresh produce, artisan goods, and food from local chefs and bakers, along with enjoying live music. There are other events throughout the year, such as Mardi Gras, Fourth of July celebrations, and our annual Christmas Tree gathering.

I thank you in advance for your vote to approve the Forestville Planning Association plans so they are able to sustain this special space for all to enjoy, now and into the future.

Sincerely, Fran Oliver

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From: [Joel Bellagio](#)
To: [PlanningAgency](#)
Subject: Comments to Commission for Downtown Forestville Park
Date: Saturday, September 14, 2024 8:26:42 PM

EXTERNAL

As long time members of the Forestville community and voters in the district, we would appreciate your swift approval of the Downtown Forestville Park.

Mr. Joel L. Bellagio
Mr. Scott E. O'Brien

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From: [John Pusey](#)
To: [PlanningAgency](#)
Subject: PLP16-0054 Forestville Downtown Oaks Park
Date: Sunday, September 15, 2024 8:10:42 AM

EXTERNAL

Greetings:

I am writing in support of the proposed park improvements. This park is an important part of community life in Forestville, including access to the trail. I personally enjoy the park, the trail, the Farmers' Markets, music events, etc. The proposed improvements would greatly enhance all of these experiences and contribute to the overall quality of life in this community.

John Pusey

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From: [Kelly Joyce](#)
To: [PlanningAgency](#); [Hannah Spencer](#)
Subject: PLP 16-0054: Support for Forestville Downtown Oaks Park
Date: Wednesday, September 18, 2024 4:16:10 PM

EXTERNAL







Dear Planning Commissioners,

I'm writing to support the approval of the use permit for Forestville Downtown Oaks Park.

The park serves as a community hub for locals and tourist to gather and enjoy a serene, peaceful atmosphere. Healdsburg, Windsor, Rohnert Park, Guerneville, all have a central park space where residents can come and enjoy gathering for events and relaxation. Forestville deserves a space like this as well.

I currently sit on the Board for the Forestville Planning Association and can personally attest to the numerous hours of volunteer work that goes into creating a special community space in the park for everyone to enjoy.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kelly Joyce-Percich

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From: [Lisa Harris](#)
To: [PlanningAgency](#)
Cc: [Lisa Harris](#)
Subject: support for forestville downtown park
Date: Monday, September 16, 2024 9:18:41 AM

EXTERNAL

Hello to all and thank you for your continued work on behalf of our residents!!

I want to clearly state my support for the downtown Forestville park!!!

This is a space that is serving the community in such meaningful ways. The investment in development and maintenance of this gem provides:

- Natural world space for gathering as locals enjoy downtown and the trail.
- Superb access for young families with children - walking, stroller, biking.
- Beautiful place that welcomes visitors traveling route 116.
- Bicycle access to and from the trail and West Sonoma county - even beyond to towns on the rail trail network.
- A wonderful destination for anyone who enters the trail from other areas.
- Safe parking and intimate proximity to local downtown businesses.

Investing in community spaces in the natural world is a privilege we have living in this part of the world. It is our responsibility to continue to do so. Thank you for making this a priority and approving the Use Permit now.

Warmly,

Lisa

Lisa Harris
pronouns: she, her
Cell 707-547-7651
autmgrl@me.com



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From: [Lisa Nahmanson](#)
To: [Hannah Spencer](#); [PlanningAgency](#)
Cc: [Lisa Nahmanson](#)
Subject: PLP 16-0054: Email of Support for Forestville Downtown Oaks Park
Date: Wednesday, September 18, 2024 2:59:34 PM

EXTERNAL

Dear Planning Commissioners:

This email is in support of approval of the permits for the Forestville Downtown Oaks Park!

When I first moved to Forestville as a “weekender” from San Francisco in 2011, one of the first things that stood out for me was the Downtown Oaks Park, in Downtown Forestville. From the parking lot I could connect to the West County Bike Rail Trail and head off for an adventure. Or sit underneath the glorious trees and relax and grab some shade. How wonderful that there was a group of townspeople (the Forestville Planning Association, “FPA”, 95436.org) who were organized to protect this patch of land for the benefit of the public good and the community.

As time went on, my wife and I made Forestville our home, and the Park remained a gathering place to bring friends on a bike ride, and a picnic at one of the lovely benches, or to escape the heat under one of the magical trees.

As a volunteer representative on the Lower Russian River MAC, I have participated in meetings at a picnic table in the Park to discuss town hall agendas, the status of trash on Front Street, how to organize a clean up for the town, and what are next steps for the Park permit. It is relaxing to be able to meet in person outdoors with committee members, instead of on zoom or in a meeting room. I’ve also met with County employees in the Park. I often attend FPA meetings to keep up to date on the process of the Permit and all of the activities that the FPA engages in on behalf of and for the community.

What a fabulous group of community volunteers!

Over the past 13 years that I have been a member of the Forestville community I have seen kindness and good germinating from this town endeavor, the Downtown Oaks Park. With the mitigation measures in place, I see the process continuing on a positive trajectory. The Park really is a town treasure.

Thank you for your support of the Downtown Oaks Park!

Sincerely,
Lisa

Lisa Nahmanson
Lower Russian River MAC
Forestville Rep (Alternate 2024)
415-756-6040
lisa.rivermac@gmail.com

From: [Mary Clare Cawley](#)
To: [PlanningAgency](#)
Cc: [clare Cawley](#)
Subject: Support Downtown Oaks Park Forestville
Date: Sunday, September 15, 2024 12:51:31 PM

EXTERNAL

Hello Planning Commission,

The downtown Forestville Oaks park is great asset to this community. It's a wonderfully well used and loved park. It's a gathering place for this community for many varied events. I've hiked the trail, watched the holiday lights go on, sat under the Oaks on a hot day and listened to music . For such a small town, this park provides a place of unity, sharing and joy.

This park is truly special to us and I hope that you do vote to approve plans and to sustain it! It is part of the fabric of Forestville and can't think of a better thing to share with this and future generations of Forestvillians.

Thank you for your consideration,

Mary Clare Cawley
Forestville Resident

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From: [Maureen O'Connor](#)
To: [PlanningAgency](#)
Subject: Use Permit, Downtown Oaks Park, Forestville
Date: Sunday, September 15, 2024 7:31:27 PM

EXTERNAL

Hi! I AM NOT in support of a use permit for the Oaks Park.

Forestville has always been a small town and that is why the residents live here.

The business owners in town want this to attract people to frequent their business' for their profit.

There is limited parking for the trail and the business' as it is. It is spilling over into the residential neighborhoods. Attracting more vehicles doesn't make sense.

Highway 116 has one lane each way for travel. This will impact traffic and safety.

There is an elementary school on 116 in town, students cross Hwy 116 going home.

Bicycles entering and exiting the trail are exposed to danger crossing 116, there aren't designated bike lanes through downtown Forestville.

There is a proposed stage for music and events. The noise will be heard through the downtown residential and through the surrounding valley.

Residents of Forestville live here to live in a small town. We don't want to be another travel destination like Healdsburg.

Thanks for considering my concerns.

Maureen O'Connor

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From: [Stacie Groll](#) on behalf of [PlanningAgency](#)
To: [Hannah Spencer](#)
Subject: FW: Use Permit, Downtown Oaks Park, Forestville
Date: Tuesday, September 17, 2024 12:37:04 PM

FYI

Best,

-Stacie

-----Original Message-----

From: Maureen O'Connor <dogswspd@sonic.net>
Sent: Sunday, September 15, 2024 7:31 PM
To: PlanningAgency <PlanningAgency@sonoma-county.org>
Subject: Use Permit, Downtown Oaks Park, Forestville

EXTERNAL

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Residents of Forestville live here to live in a small town. We don't want to be another travel destination like Healdsburg.

Thanks for considering my concerns.

Maureen O'Connor

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From: [John Pusey](#)
To: [PlanningAgency](#)
Subject: PLP16-0054 Forestville Downtown Oaks Park
Date: Sunday, September 15, 2024 8:10:42 AM

EXTERNAL

Greetings:

I am writing in support of the proposed park improvements. This park is an important part of community life in Forestville, including access to the trail. I personally enjoy the park, the trail, the Farmers' Markets, music events, etc. The proposed improvements would greatly enhance all of these experiences and contribute to the overall quality of life in this community.

John Pusey

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From: [Vikki Miller](#)
To: [PlanningAgency](#)
Subject: PLP16-0054 The Downtown Oaks Park in Forestville
Date: Monday, September 16, 2024 2:57:37 PM

EXTERNAL

**Important Correction to my initial submission.
I'm submitted the corrected version below.**

Begin forwarded message:

From: Vikki Miller <vikkilmiller@icloud.com>
Subject: PLP16-0054 The Downtown Oaks Park in Forestville
Date: September 15, 2024 at 6:08:24 PM PDT
To: PlanningAgency@sonoma-county.org

I noticed today my computer autocorrected the second sentence of my original submission.

Below please find the corrected version.

Can you please use it as my official submission.

Can you please confirm you have received this corrected version and my submission has been updated.

Thank you for understanding!

Sincerely,

Vikki Miller

Hello esteemed members of the Sonoma County Planning Agency, Planning Commission, and Board of Zoning Adjustments,

I hope this correspondence finds you well and in good spirits. My name is Vikki Miller and I have recently been welcomed onto the Board of the Forestville Planning Association. As a Forestville resident, I am inspired by the remarkable work being carried out by the FPA within our community.

I am reaching out to express my enthusiastic support for the proposed zone change, general plan amendment, and public park project, which promises significant benefits for the residents of Forestville. The introduction of various recreational facilities will offer much-needed open spaces for our community to relish. With amenities such as a picnic area, amphitheater, plaza gathering spot, walking paths, restrooms, and other conveniences, the quality of life for both residents and visitors will be notably enhanced.

Just recently, the FPA organized its inaugural fundraising event, Pie in the Park,

which witnessed an impressive turnout from our community. Attendees consistently vocalized their appreciation for the park's positive impact on our surroundings. Whether taking a leisurely stroll, walking dogs to the trailhead, enjoying a picnic, or engaging in friendly interactions, the park serves as a cherished communal space.

Throughout the past decade, the FPA has demonstrated unwavering dedication to preserving our oak woodlands and wetlands, underscoring their commitment to environmental stewardship. The project's inclusion of enhancements to parking, drainage, and public transport accessibility reflects a thoughtful consideration for our community's needs.

I am respectfully requesting the Planning Commission approve the proposed zone change, as the proposed changes will not only enrich our community but also foster health and well-being for all who frequent its grounds.

The Farmers Market, hosted weekly in the park, serves as a unifying platform for community members to connect, enjoy local music, and patronize regional vendors. Whether for a tranquil walk or a vigorous hike, individuals of all ages can be spotted making their way to the trailhead.

I am honored to be a part of the FPA and can personally attest to the widespread enjoyment of the park by Forestvillians and those visiting from out of town as well.

Please do not hesitate to reach out should you have any questions.

Warm regards,

Vikki Miller
707 887-1068

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From: [Wayne Gibb](#)
To: [Hannah Spencer](#); [PlanningAgency](#)
Subject: RE: Forestville Planning Association Use Permit Application
Date: Monday, September 16, 2024 11:20:09 AM

Dear Ms. Spencer & members of the SC Permit & Resource Management team,

I'm writing in strong support of the granting of a Use Permit for the Forestville Planning Association's **Forestville Downtown Oaks Park**.

One reason is that the Park, when official, will ensure the future survival of the healthy grove of young oak trees that are at the very center of its name. This is the same reason offered by the SC Open Space District when it granted over a half-million taxpayer dollars to purchase the property years ago (which seems like pretty good company), and the grove has only grown more mature and cherished and valuable to residents and visitors alike. It is essential that its protection becomes permanent.

The Park also serves as terminus for the public's ever-popular West County Trail, serving cyclists, hikers, walkers, and the occasional horse & rider with a welcoming, shady place to sit and to rest and to hear the wind rustling through the trees, perhaps with food or drink from nearby downtown vendors. There is a soothing, bucolic vista looking south through those oaks. Such a resource needs to be formally protected for the public--forever.

But, for me, perhaps the most important reason for granting the essential Use Permit is the role the Park plays in building community for the village of Forestville.

Like the more formal squares of Healdsburg and Sonoma, the **Forestville Downtown Oaks Park** provides our version of a place for residents to celebrate holidays, host fundraisers, hear music, stage plays, debate political questions and simply to gather for any other reason in one central, downtown spot. It is the heart of Forestville.

By itself, that alone is worth nurturing, don't you think?

Thank you for your consideration.

Wayne D. Gibb
Forestville resident since 1980

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From: [Maureen O'Connor](#)
To: [PlanningAgency](#)
Subject: Use Permit, Downtown Oaks Park, Forestville
Date: Sunday, September 15, 2024 7:31:27 PM

EXTERNAL

Hi! I AM NOT in support of a use permit for the Oaks Park.

Forestville has always been a small town and that is why the residents live here.

The business owners in town want this to attract people to frequent their business' for their profit.

There is limited parking for the trail and the business' as it is. It is spilling over into the residential neighborhoods. Attracting more vehicles doesn't make sense.

Highway 116 has one lane each way for travel. This will impact traffic and safety.

There is an elementary school on 116 in town, students cross Hwy 116 going home.

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Residents of Forestville live here to live in a small town. We don't want to be another travel destination like Healdsburg.

Thanks for considering my concerns.

Maureen O'Connor

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From: franmarieo@aol.com
To: [PlanningAgency](#)
Subject: Forestville Planning Association Use Permit
Date: Tuesday, September 17, 2024 12:52:54 PM

Hello,

My name is Fran Oliver, and I reside in Forestville. In support of the Forestville Planning Association, I am requesting that you approve the Use Permit requested for the Downtown Oaks Park.

I, my family, many friends, almost the entire town, and people from out of town enjoy our Downtown Park very much. The park has contributed to the vitalization of our downtown area and will continue to do so with your use permit approval.

We enjoy having our coffee and visiting on picnic tables and benches (all have been donated) under the large, shady oaks. We appreciate, and benefit from, being able to begin our walks on the West County Regional Trail from the downtown park. Our Friday night Farmers Markets bring people together to shop fresh produce, artisan goods, and food from local chefs and bakers, along with enjoying live music. There are other events throughout the year, such as Mardi Gras, Fourth of July celebrations, and our annual Christmas Tree gathering.

I thank you in advance for your vote to approve the Forestville Planning Association plans so they are able to sustain this special space for all to enjoy, now and into the future.

Sincerely, Fran Oliver

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From: [Scott OBrien](#)
To: [Joel Bellagio](#)
Cc: [PlanningAgency](#)
Subject: Re: Comments to Commission for Downtown Forestville Park
Date: Saturday, September 14, 2024 8:33:10 PM

I vote yes.

On Sat, Sep 14, 2024 at 8:26 PM Joel Bellagio <jbellag@comcast.net> wrote:

As long time members of the Forestville community and voters in the district, we would appreciate your swift approval of the Downtown Forestville Park.

Mr. Joel L. Bellagio

Mr. Scott E. O'Brien

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From: [Vesta Copestakes](#)
To: [PlanningAgency](#)
Cc: [Lucy Barnett Hardcastle](#); HannahSpencer@sonoma-county.org
Subject: PLP16-0054 - Forestville Planning Association - Downtown Oaks Park
Date: Thursday, September 12, 2024 1:47:24 PM

Please SUPPORT this zoning change for our absolutely wonderful Downtown Oaks Park! I cannot attend the meeting so I want to make sure I encourage you to vote YES!

Proposal:

Zone Change from the PC (Planned Community) zoning district to the PF (Public Facilities) zoning district, General Plan Amendment from the LC (Limited Commercial) Land Use Designation to the PQP (Public and Quasi Public) Land Use Designation, and Use Permit and Design Review for a new public park to be completed in two phases. The project will provide urban open space with opportunities for public recreational amenities, including: a picnic area for 6 tables; an amphitheater with covered stage and sound wall; a plaza gathering area for 20 annual community events with a maximum of 200 attendees; pathways and sidewalks; 24 bicycle parking spaces at West County Trailhead; public restrooms/storage structure; drinking fountain and seating; an improved parking lot for 17 vehicles and one ADA accessible space; drainage improvements; relocated bus stop with a new shelter; trash cans and trash storage area; information kiosk and donor plaque displays; oak woodland and wetlands preservation areas. Hours of operation will be Sunrise to Sunset, 7 days per week.

Vesta Copestakes
vesta@sonic.net
707-887-0253 landline
707-889-0069 cell

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From: [citizenkane](#)
To: [Hannah Spencer](#)
Cc: [Robert Aquero](#); [Lynda Hopkins](#); [district5](#); [Eric Koenigshofer](#); [district4](#); [district3](#); [David Rabbitt](#); [Susan Gorin](#); [Shaun McCaffery](#); [Jacquelynn Ocana](#); [Webster Marquez](#); [Evan Wiig](#); [Pat Gilardi](#); [Larry Reed](#); [Greg Carr](#); [Tim Freeman](#); [PlanningAgency](#); [John Mack](#); [Tennis Wick](#); [Steve Mosiurchak](#)
Subject: Opposition to Permit Sonoma File No. PLP16-0054
Date: Tuesday, September 17, 2024 1:41:30 PM


Hello,

I must express our opposition to the Zoning Change, General Plan Amendment and use permit as it is described in the Public hearing Notice.

The glaring point is how the math does not work. 17 parking spaces and 1 handicap makes no sense when there is more than that already. The 20 events of 200 people maximum is too many. There are residents nearby. Planning events we usually figure 2 per car, sooo, um. The Forestville Chamber of Commerce Farmers Markets features loud raunchy cowboy music week after week that we already put up with. Not something we want more of.

Improvements to the park are welcome but the scope of this project is grandiose and in no way what the residents went to meetings for years ago to have a voice in how our town grew over the next decades. See the survey notes from Lucy Hardcastle from a community meeting held several years ago regarding our town values.

This proposal should not be approved as is and needs amending.

We are concerned neighbors involved in the community,

Sherry and Michael Kane

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From: [citizenkane](#)
To: [Hannah Spencer](#)
Cc: [Robert Aquero](#); [Lynda Hopkins](#); [district5](#); [Eric Koenigshofer](#); [district4](#); [district3](#); [David Rabbitt](#); [Susan Gorin](#); [Shaun McCaffery](#); [Jacquelynn Ocana](#); [Webster Marquez](#); [Evan Wiig](#); [Pat Gilardi](#); [Larry Reed](#); [Greg Carr](#); [Tim Freeman](#); [PlanningAgency](#); [John Mack](#); [Tennis Wick](#); [Steve Mosiurchak](#)
Subject: Re: Opposition to Permit Sonoma File No. PLP16-0054
Date: Tuesday, September 17, 2024 1:46:48 PM

Additionally, our Notice of Public hearing was postmarked only 9 days in advance of the meeting so we had no way to get our comments in in time. Seems suspiciously calculated for a lack of response. Noted.

Sherry and Michael Kane

On 09/17/2024 13:41, citizenkane wrote:

Hello,

I must express our opposition to the Zoning Change, General Plan Amendment and use permit as it is described in the Public hearing Notice.

The glaring point is how the math does not work. 17 parking spaces and 1 handicap makes no sense when there is more than that already. The 20 events of 200 people maximum is too many. There are residents nearby. Planning events we usually figure 2 per car, sooo, um. The Forestville Chamber of Commerce Farmers Markets features loud raunchy cowboy music week after week that we already put up with. Not something we want more of.

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From: [Douglas Messenger](#)
To: [Hannah Spencer](#)
Cc: [Stacie Groll](#)
Subject: RE: PLP16-0054 (6990 Front St., Forestville) MND Legal Notice
Date: Friday, July 26, 2024 3:57:42 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

EXTERNAL

Hanna,

Sonoma County Water Agency has no interests in the sanitary sewer in the Forestville area. If you expect that Sonoma Water has other potential interests, please let me know and I will redirect.

- Doug

From: Stacie Groll <Stacie.Groll@sonoma-county.org>
Sent: Friday, July 26, 2024 3:51 PM
Cc: Hannah Spencer <Hannah.Spencer@sonoma-county.org>
Subject: PLP16-0054 (6990 Front St., Forestville) MND Legal Notice

Greetings,

Please find the attached notice regarding the project in the subject line. Please direct any questions to the project planner at Hannah.Spencer@sonoma-county.org or (707) 565-1928.

Kind Regards,



Stacie Groll
Administrative Assistant
2550 Ventura Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95403
www.PermitSonoma.org
o: (707) 565-1900
d: (707) 565-1928
Stacie.Groll@sonoma-county.org



Lobby hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Wednesday 10:30 AM - 4:00 PM.

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