

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
SONOMA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN by the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors that:

The Department of Agriculture/Weights & Measures and the Permit and Resource Management Department are proposing an ordinance making minor and technical revisions to Chapter 36 of the Sonoma County Code regulating new vineyard and orchard development, vineyard and orchard replanting, and agricultural grading and drainage, Chapter 11 of the Sonoma County Code regulating construction grading and drainage, and Section 25B-3 of the Sonoma County Code setting forth definitions for water well construction standards, and determining exemption from the California Environmental Quality Act.

The Department of Agriculture/Weights & Measures is also proposing establishing a related fee for processing permit applications under Chapter 36 of the Sonoma County Code for new permits to recommence work started under expired permits.

The Department of Agriculture/Weights & Measures and the Permit and Resource Management Department have determined that adoption of the proposed ordinance is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) under Sections 15307 and 15308 of the State CEQA Guidelines (Actions by Regulatory Agencies for Protection of Natural Resources and the Environment). These exemptions cover actions taken by regulatory agencies as authorized by state law or local ordinance to assure the maintenance, restoration, or enhancement of natural resources or the environment where the regulatory process involves procedures for protection of the environment. Construction activities and relaxation of standards allowing environmental degradation are not included in these exemptions. The Department of Agriculture/Weights & Measures and the Permit and Resource Management Department have also determined that adoption of the proposed ordinance is exempt from CEQA under Section 15061(b)(3) of the State CEQA Guidelines, because it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the proposed ordinance may have a significant effect on the environment. The basis for these determinations is that the proposed ordinance only makes changes to clarify and strengthen permit requirements, standards, and definitions in Chapter 36, Chapter 11, and Section 25B-3 of the Sonoma County Code, and does not involve construction or any other activity that could physically change the environment.

The Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing to consider the proposed ordinance and related fee on December 8, 2020, at or after 1:45 p.m. In accordance with Executive Orders N-33-20 and N-29-20, this hearing will be conducted virtually without a physical location from which members of the public may observe and offer public comment. Members of the public may watch, listen, and participate in the hearing through Zoom or by telephone. Instructions for participating in the hearing via Zoom or telephone will be published on the Board of Supervisors' agenda for its December 8, 2020 meeting.

Public comment on the proposed ordinance and related fee may be made via email or during the live Zoom meeting. To submit an emailed public comment to the Board of Supervisors, email bos@sonoma-county.org. Please provide your name, the agenda number(s) on which you wish to speak, and your comment. These comments will be emailed to all Board members. Public comment during the meeting can be made live by joining the Zoom meeting using the information published on the Board of Supervisors' agenda for its December 8, 2020 meeting. Available time for comments is determined by the Board Chair based on agenda scheduling demands and total number of speakers.

Meeting materials will be available on the Board of Supervisors' website, <https://sonoma-county.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>. You may also request a copy of the proposed ordinance by emailing Gina.Lehl@sonoma-county.org, or by calling (707) 565-2371.

If you challenge the decision of the Board of Supervisors on the proposed ordinance, the related fee, or the exemptions from CEQA in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the Board of Supervisors at, or prior to, the public hearing.

ALL INTERESTED PERSONS ARE HEREBY INVITED TO BE HEARD ON THE MATTERS DESCRIBED IN THIS NOTICE.

SHERYL BRATTON
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors