



September 13, 2019

Dear Supervisor Hopkins,

We are respectfully requesting a fee waiver for the additional security we enlisted for the 46th annual Gravenstein Apple Fair in the wake of the Gilroy tragedy so that our vendors, staff and attendees would feel safer and able to relax & enjoy themselves at our hometown fair. Please see responses below to questions from the waiver form that require narrative answers.

#5. As you know, the Gravenstein Apple Fair is Sonoma County Farm Trails' primary annual fundraiser. Over the course of the weekend, we hosted nearly 13,000 attendees, including the public, volunteers, vendors, and community organizations. Proceeds support Farm Trails' operations and mission of keeping "farms forever" in Sonoma County.

#10. Historically, we have hired a professional security company to patrol the park for the duration of fair (set-up/weekend/cleanup), help find lost parents/children, provide support if needed with drunk/disorderly guests, deter theft, have presence at our entrances and loading zones, and guard our on-site "bank." We also bring the Sebastopol Police's wonderful Community Service Volunteers to roam the park and provide police presence on Saturday and Sunday. Gold Ridge Fire District serves as our emergency first responders over the weekend. It has never crossed our minds until now that we would need to consider having armed deputies in the worst-case scenario, horrific event such as Gilroy experienced on July 28th. Because this incident was on our radar and heavy in our hearts in the days leading up to the event, we decided to avail ourselves of our esteemed County's deputies to feel more safe and secure. On August 5th, I met on site with Sheriff Essick, who was so helpful in answering questions and providing ideas for our emergency response plan. We are requesting a waiver for these fees, as this was an unexpected expense for which we had not budgeted.

Many thanks for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carmen Snyder".

Carmen Snyder

Executive Director

Sonoma County Farm Trails

P.O. Box 452, Sebastopol, CA 95473 707-837-8896

farmtrails@farmtrails.org