

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF SONOMA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, AMENDING CHAPTER 36 OF THE SONOMA COUNTY CODE (NEW VINEYARD AND ORCHARD DEVELOPMENT, VINEYARD AND ORCHARD REPLANTING, AND AGRICULTURAL GRADING AND DRAINAGE) TO ESTABLISH A REGISTRATION PROCESS FOR LOW-IMPACT VINEYARD REPLANTING AND TO CLARIFY OR STRENGTHEN REQUIREMENTS, PROCEDURES, AND DEFINITIONS, AMENDING CHAPTER 11 OF THE SONOMA COUNTY CODE (CONSTRUCTION GRADING AND DRAINAGE) TO CLARIFY OR STRENGTHEN REQUIREMENTS, PROCEDURES, AND DEFINITIONS TO MAINTAIN CONSISTENCY WITH CHAPTER 36 OF THE SONOMA COUNTY CODE, AND DETERMINING EXEMPTION FROM THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Sonoma, State of California, ordains as follows:

Section I. Chapter 36 of the Sonoma County Code (New Vineyard and Orchard Development, Vineyard and Orchard Replanting, and Agricultural Grading and Drainage) is amended to read as set forth in Exhibit “A,” attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference.

Section II. Chapter 11 of the Sonoma County Code (Construction Grading and Drainage) is amended to read as set forth in Exhibit “B,” attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference.

Section III. The Board of Supervisors finds and determines that this Ordinance is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) pursuant to Sections 15307 and 15308 of the State CEQA Guidelines as an action taken to assure the maintenance, restoration, or enhancement of natural resources or the environment where the regulatory process involves procedures for protection of the environment and the action does not include construction activities or relaxation of standards allowing environmental degradation. The Board of Supervisors further finds and determines that this Ordinance is exempt from CEQA pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) of the State CEQA Guidelines because it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that this Ordinance may have a significant effect on the environment. The basis for these findings and determinations is that this Ordinance only makes changes to Chapter 36 of the Sonoma County Code to establish a registration process for low-impact vineyard replanting and to clarify or strengthen requirements, procedures, and definitions, only makes changes to Chapter 11 of the Sonoma County Code to clarify or strengthen requirements, procedures, and definitions to maintain consistency with Chapter 36 of the Sonoma County Code, and does not involve construction or any other activity that could physically change the environment.

The Agricultural Commissioner and the Director of the Permit and Resource Management Department are directed to file a notice of exemption in accordance with CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines.

Section IV. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be unconstitutional or invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portion of this Ordinance. The Board of Supervisors hereby declares that it would have passed this Ordinance and every section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase thereof irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses or phrases be declared unconstitutional or invalid.

Section V. This Ordinance shall be and the same is hereby declared to be in full force and effect from and after thirty (30) days after the date of its passage and shall be published once before the expiration of fifteen (15) days after said passage, with the names of the Supervisors voting for or against the same, in *The Press Democrat*, a newspaper of general circulation published in the County of Sonoma, State of California.

In regular session of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Sonoma, introduced on the 2nd day of March, 2021, and finally passed and adopted this 16th day of March, 2021, on regular roll call of the members of said Board by the following vote:

SUPERVISORS:

Gorin: Rabbitt: Coursey: Gore: Hopkins:

Ayes: Noes: Absent: Abstain:

WHEREUPON, the Chair declared the above and foregoing Ordinance duly adopted and

SO ORDERED.

Chair, Board of Supervisors
County of Sonoma

ATTEST:

Sheryl Bratton,
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors