



Public comment for. Re: meeting agenda item 24-2141 on Dec 11,2024

From Anthony <major2@comcast.net>
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To AG-ELDC AG <ELDCAG@edcgov.us>

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December 9, 2024

To the Members of the Agricultural Commission,

Subject: Pending CUP22-0013 , Black Oak Mountain Vineyard Event Expansion Application

This CUP is requesting a significant increase, approximately 600% in special events, it raises a critical question: are they operating primarily as a winery, or are they transitioning toward becoming an event venue? According to the winery ordinance in El Dorado County the primary purpose of a winery is to produce and sell wine, not to function as a commercial event center. Such a shift in focus undermines the agricultural intent of the ordinances and contradicts the very definition of agricultural production.

Should this Conditional Use Permit (CUP) be approved by this commission, it would set a damaging precedent, signaling to other property owners that agricultural land can be repurposed for commercial event use without limitation. This decision would directly contradict the County's General Plan, which was designed to safeguard our agricultural heritage and preserve the rural character of our lands.

A favorable recommendation would likely open the floodgates for similar CUP requests, leading to the gradual transformation of our agricultural lands into commercial event hubs. This shift would fundamentally and irreversibly alter the landscape, character, and identity of our community, turning what should be protected farmland into venues focused on profit over preservation.

The future of our county's agricultural integrity depends on the choices made by this commission today. Your decision will either reinforce the commitment to preserving the agricultural heart of our community or accelerate its decline into commercialism. The responsibility to protect this legacy—and to ensure that rural residents and growers alike can coexist peacefully—rests squarely with you.

Please consider the long-term consequences of this CUP and prioritize the preservation of our agricultural values and community character. Thank you for your attention and for taking into account the voices of those who stand for the future of our rural lands.

Regards;
Anthony DeSipio

Resident and Property Owner,
Cool, El Dorado County