



LATE DISTRIBUTION

DATE

4/6/15

BOS 4/7/15

EDC COB <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

#19

"Rancho Olivo Vineyards Special Use Permit Revision S08-0012-R".

1 message

Lynn Krogh <trixie544@hotmail.com>

Sat, Apr 4, 2015 at 11:52 AM

To: "bosone@edcgov.us" <bosone@edcgov.us>, "bostwo@edcgov.us" <bostwo@edcgov.us>, "bosthree@edcgov.us" <bosthree@edcgov.us>, "bosfour@edcgov.us" <bosfour@edcgov.us>, "bosfive@edcgov.us" <bosfive@edcgov.us>, "edc.cob@edcgov.us" <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

To the Planning Commission, and anyone who can hopefully help us!:

My name is Lynn Krogh and we (my husband, daughter and I) have lived on the corner of Lariat Loop and Rancho Road for the last 14 years, and I cannot tell you how frustrating it is that the Olivo's continually petition to have "events" involving the public, and drinking, on his property that affect so many of us on "the way" to his property and "back out" of his property. He has had many, many weddings in the past there as well as his "wine club" events and who knows what else, and I can't tell you how upsetting it is to have car after car, limo's, party buses, catering trucks in an endless stream going around our property. How many "events" is he allowed? It keeps happening over and over again, especially once the weather gets warmer (year after year). I can hardly get in the gate after working all day sometimes for all the cars trying to get in. And the weekends are the only time I have off to *really* enjoy our property. We moved here to a private community for quiet and "privacy"!!!! We have had the fence to our small pasture mowed down before from one of his "attende'e's" at one of his events a couple years ago (with horses in it), as well as our mailbox mowed down, and it still makes me very nervous every time I see yet "another" event with endless traffic on our private roads. This just does not seem right. The fact that he does not seem to care about how this all affects his neighbors is very disturbing. We pay for the maintenance on these roads and having endless traffic on them does not help! Is there anything that can be done to stop this once and for all? Please???? I cannot attend the hearing due to work, but I sincerely hope this letter will be my voice.

We would be grateful for ANY help you can give us in this matter.

Sincerely,

Lynn and Tom Krogh



EDC COB <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

Rancho Olivo Vineyards Special Use Permit Revision S08-0012-R

1 message

Todd Brownell <brownellaw2@sbcglobal.net>

Sat, Apr 4, 2015 at 2:55 PM

To: bosone@edcgov.us, bostwo@edcgov.us, bosthree@edcgov.us, bosfour@edcgov.us, bosfive@edcgov.us, edc.cob@edcgov.us

Dear Supervisors:

I am writing to seek your assistance and to express my very serious concerns regarding the above referenced "Rancho Olivo Vineyard" property. Be advised that I respectfully oppose any further renewal or issuance of a special use permit which would allow commercial events of any type to be hosted within the confines of the Cameron Estates. Such activity and commercial enterprise is simply not compatible with and is detrimental to the surrounding private residential neighborhood.

My wife and I are property owners within the Cameron Estates. Our neighborhood consists of quiet horse properties, with quaint two lane streets perfect for taking a quiet walk with the dog or a gentle bike ride with the kids. Our private gated community keeps us safe. It keeps non residents and other undesirables and potential criminals off our streets and away from our homes. We raised our two children here. Our home is located on Lariat Loop Drive approximately three parcels east Rancho Road and the Olivo property. It has been our home for over twenty years and we love the serenity and privacy it provides. It is our jewel.

Unfortunately, over the past few summers, we've encountered a growing serious problem, a threat really. And the cause of that concern is the Olivo property and the owners' attempt to conduct a commercial wine enterprise within the bounds of the Cameron Estates. During the warm months, on almost every weekend evening in the summer, there have been large commercial wedding extravaganza type events taking place on the Olivo property. These events are largely outdoor commercial parties, weddings, wine tastings and so forth. Non residents pour into our neighborhood and down our streets. They go onto the Olivo property, were they "party down", and then they pile into their vehicles, and drive through our neighborhoods again on the way out. These are nighttime events and, make no mistake about it, they are noisy, disruptive and they are a pain.

These events that the Olivos host are big time, commercial, alcohol fueled parties. Our home is situated approximately one half mile away from the Olivo property. We are near "party ground zero". The noise, the loud music, the voices and shouts from these events is all very intrusive. And I am not talking about just a few quaint weddings or company Christmas parties. I am talking about an ongoing, inconsiderate disruption of our neighborhoods' peace and safety on an almost on a weekly basis all summer long. Limousines and other non-resident vehicles transport alcohol fueled non-resident partiers into and out of our private, gated community, all in violation of the Olivo initial special use permit. My personal privacy, and the peace and quiet of my neighbors, is violated every time the Olivos host one of these events. By way of example, I can sit on my back patio on a summer evening and easily hear individual loud conversations of the partiers, as well as the pounding music from the DJ's presentation, as it emanates from loud PA system. The excessive sound and revelry from these parties carries over a long distant on the warm summer evenings. I can still readily hear the drone from these Olivo commercial events while sitting inside my home with the windows closed. It's like a bad tooth ache that won't go away.... like finger nails on a chalk board. I have no choice but to attend every event the Olivos have hosted, whether I want to or not. The party comes to me a half mile away, ready or not. Once a year for an event like this would be once too many in my opinion.

The simple fact of the matter is that the Olivos want to operate a commercial winery, with all that that entails, surrounded on all sides by the quiet residence neighborhood that is the Cameron Estates. They are not interested in a limited function operation. They have already shown their true intentions. They want to operate a commercial winery, open to the public, plain and simple. They conduct themselves as if their few acres of grape vines were located somewhere out in the Fairplay wine country or perhaps down in Amador County wine country. They fancy themselves vintners. But they are not located out in some distant wine country. They are just up the street from me, my family and my neighbors. We are an upscale foothill community residential neighborhood. We do not want alcohol fueled non-residents having access to our streets and roads. We are

being violated.

The Olivos chose to purchase a property in a quiet Cameron Park neighborhood. That property is not now, nor has it ever been, zoned for a commercial winery or for alcohol consumption by the public. If they want to operate a winery open to the public on any scale, and to host large scale outdoor events, then they need to move to a location that is appropriate for such commerce. A residential neighborhood is not a suitable location for a winery. Would the Planning Commission allow a commercial liquor store to open and operate in say the Greenstone residential Community of our county? Or a massage parlor to open next door to Blue Oak Elementary School? Or perhaps a rowdy brew pub with live entertainment to open and operate within the boundaries of the Serrano Community in El Dorado Hills? The answer is obvious. Of course not. Thus likewise it is completely inappropriate to allow a winery to operate and be open to the public under any conditions, limited use or otherwise, within the boundaries of the private gated residential community that is the Cameron Estates.

Serving wine to the public, hosting "special commercial events" where alcohol is served, and allowing this commercial enterprise to disturb our neighborhood serenity, privacy and security is wrong and must not be sanctioned by you, the members of our Planning Commission. The Olivos have already knowingly exceeded the scope of their initial special use permit to the detriment of their neighbors. They have shown no respect for the noise, congestion or risk that their activities have caused. Their attempts to run a commercial operation within our quiet gated community must not be sanctioned any further. Their special use permit should be rescinded and not reissued. The Olivos proposal to bring in more noise, more traffic and more disruption to our community must not be allowed. We ask for your protection. Do the right thing. Deny the Olivo request for any further special use permit. Protect our community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Todd D. Brownell, Esq.

Cameron Park, CA 95682



Fwd: Our appointment with the BOS on 4/7

1 message

Char Tim <charlene.tim@edcgov.us>

Mon, Apr 6, 2015 at 8:04 AM

To: Roger Trout <roger.trout@edcgov.us>

Cc: Lillian Macleod <lillian.macleod@edcgov.us>, Aaron Mount <aaron.mount@edcgov.us>, David Livingston <david.livingston@edcgov.us>, EDC COB <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

The appeal by the Olivos is scheduled to be heard by the Board on April 7th (tomorrow). Although the email below from them isn't a formal request for a continuance, it does appear that they were notifying Aaron that their intent is to be requesting a continuance tomorrow. Just wanted to give everyone an advance notice of this. Thank you.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Aaron Mount** <aaron.mount@edcgov.us>

Date: Mon, Apr 6, 2015 at 7:58 AM

Subject: Fwd: Our appointment with the BOS on 4/7

To: Charlene Tim <charlene.tim@edcgov.us>

Aaron Mount

Associate Planner

County of El Dorado

Community Development Agency

Planning Services

2850 Fairlane Court

Placerville, CA 95667

(530) 621-5355 / FAX (530) 642-0508

aaron.mount@edcgov.us

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Danica d'Hondt** <danica@thebigdream.com>

Date: Sun, Apr 5, 2015 at 10:46 PM

Subject: Our appointment with the BOS on 4/7

To: Aaron Mount <aaron.mount@edcgov.us>

Cc:

Dear Aaron,

I have asked a former Supervisor if we can request a continuance of our hearing on Tuesday, April 7th, and my answer was that we COULD request such a thing with a valid reason.

The main reason for our request is that we just have not had enough time to prepare. We were not notified of the meeting until you called us, and I think that was at the request of someone in the Supervisor's offices who said that we were supposed to know before they were, which did not happen. I received a letter in the mail from your office on Friday Mar. 27. The envelope was dated Mar. 23, but I did not get it until Friday.

This meant we have had one business week to prepare and it has been Spring Break week!

Many of the people we have needed to contact, including our legal counsel, have been out of town. Nello stopped by your offices on Thursday last and you were out of town, and no one could find that map you have promised us, which is an important part of our presentation.

The second reason we would like to extend this matter, is that we understand there will be only four Supervisors at the meeting on April 7th. Is this true? If so, we would rather be heard in front of a full Board, as we do not want to experience a repeat of the tie decision we received at the Planning Commission. Calling a tie a failure, seems unfair to us.

I will be notifying the Board of Supervisors about our request also, and I understand that we must show up and make this request in person on Tuesday.

Thank you for our attention to this matter.

Danica Olivo

NOTICE: This e-mail and any files transmitted with it may contain confidential information, and are intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed.

Any retransmission, dissemination or other use of the information by persons other than the intended recipient or entity is prohibited.

If you receive this e-mail in error please contact the sender by return e-mail and delete the material from your system.

Thank you.

--
Char Tim

Clerk of the Planning Commission

Assistant to Roger Trout

Development Services Division Director

County of El Dorado

Community Development Agency

Development Services Division

2850 Fairlane Court

Placerville, CA 95667

(530) 621-5351 / FAX (530) 642-0508

charlene.tim@edcgov.us

NOTICE: This e-mail and any files transmitted with it may contain confidential information, and are intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed.

Any retransmission, dissemination or other use of the information by persons other than the intended recipient or entity is prohibited.

If you receive this e-mail in error please contact the sender by return e-mail and delete the material from your system.

Thank you.



RE: Special Use Permit Number S08-0012R/Rancho Olivo Vineyards

1 message

Wendy Dougherty <wendy.dougherty@sbcglobal.net>

Mon, Apr 6, 2015 at 8:13 AM

Reply-To: Wendy Dougherty <wendy.dougherty@sbcglobal.net>

To: "bosone@edcgov.us" <bosone@edcgov.us>, "bostwo@edcgov.us" <bostwo@edcgov.us>, "bosthree@edcgov.us" <bosthree@edcgov.us>, "bosfour@edcgov.us" <bosfour@edcgov.us>, "bosfive@edcgov.us" <bosfive@edcgov.us>, "edc.cob@edcgov.us" <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

Cc: Wendy Dougherty <wendy.dougherty@sbcglobal.net>, Bill Dougherty <bill_dougherty@sbcglobal.net>

Please see attached documents in response to this SUP.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely

William & Wendy Dougherty

2 attachments



Olivo Email.pdf

1053K



OlivoRevision_S08-0012R_040615v3.pdf

215K

Please review the below note Mrs. Olivo sent me 3 years ago.
A total untruth as they have this planned since day one.

I have copied Danica above.

From: Danica Olivo [mailto:danica@sequoiaplacerville.com]=20
Sent: Thursday, June 09, 2011 10:58 PM
To: 'Bill Dougherty'
Cc: .

Subject: RE: Sequoia: cameron estates

Dear Bill Dougherty,

The activity you refer to has nothing to do with our winery business.

We are just improving our property, because it was in a very run-down state when we purchased it.

We have several award-winning wines under our Nello Olivo label. Please check out our website at www.nelloolivo.com We have spent a lot of money

to create an exciting wine-tasting room in the old wine cellar area of our restaurant, that you seem to be familiar with.

We enjoy living in the private gate-guarded residential area of Cameron Estates and would not want to violate that privacy by having the general public enter this community for wine-tasting. We do however have authority to manufacture the wine on our property, which we are NOT doing

at the present time and do not anticipate doing in the near future. At the present time our wines are manufactured in the Fairplay/Somerset area,

closer to where our winemaker, Marco Capelli, lives.

My husband, Nello, is really just the wine-grower, although any wine aficionado will tell you that truly excellent wines are made in the vineyard!

Please stop by the wine-tasting room at 643 Bee Street in Placerville = and give our wines a try...

Make yourself known when you do. My husband or son are there almost all open hours...3 PM to 7 or 8 PM daily - open earlier on weekends. Closed = Mondays.

Danica Olivo

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

From: Bill Dougherty [mailto:bill_dougherty@sbcglobal.net]

Sent: Thursday, June 09, 2011 7:26 PM

To: danica@sequoiaplacerville.com

Subject: Sequoia: cameron estates

This is an enquiry e-mail via <http://www.sequoiaplacerville.com/sequoia/> = from:

Bill Dougherty

Ms. Olivo,

I am your neighbor to the west of your smaller vineyard and barn living on McNeil Rd.

I have been watching your laborers apply a stucco finish to the west side of your barn /former stable.

After 10 years living here I notice the field has been mowed and the building is getting a

upgraded finish which is great.

Your neighbors are curious if this investment is related to your recent approval to operate a commercial winery on your property. Do you intend to host "tasting" events on the west side of this building?

Thank you,
Bill Dougherty

William and Wendy Dougherty
Cameron Park, CA 95682

April 6th 2015

El Dorado County Board of Supervisors
2850 Fairlane Court
Placerville, CA 95667

RE: Special Use Permit Number S08-0012R/Rancho Olivo Vineyards

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As a concerned neighbor adjoined to the Olivo property we are writing to implore you to deny the Olivo request for the above referenced special use permit. Our reasons are stated below and I believe that they are also the same concerns as of many of the residents in Cameron Estates.

1. Our concern is that the Board will consider that the wishes of two people, intent on making a profit by commercializing their wine tasting and special events, outweighs the wishes of 178 plus neighbors wanting to retain their quality of life in the **residentially zoned area** of Cameron Estates and who have signed a petition opposing this request. The Olivos constantly allude to how important their relationship is with their neighbors yet they continue to push for an events venue that their neighbors vehemently oppose. I believe the only letters in support of this request have come from people not within the immediate vicinity and some not even within Cameron Estates.

2. The Board should consider that the Olivos have had SUPs approved in previous years but at no time have they abided by the number approved but have increased their events as they see fit. So with great respect to the Board I suggest they consider how much the Olivos can be trusted to stick to the law and not merely make the rules up as it suits them. If it is approved who will monitor that they stay within the limits?

3. Only three years ago my husband and I received an email from the Olivos stating that they had no intention of having wine tasting on site as they already had a beautiful facility in Placerville. Once again their word is not to be trusted as they have been holding wine tasting there under the guise of friends coming by. When we mentioned this at another meeting they merely stated they can change their minds.

4. The road from the gates into Cameron Estates to the Olivo's event venue is a sub-standard narrow twisty road with a 20 mile per hour speed limit and without the benefit of sidewalks. There are at least five horse properties between the gate and the 'winery and events' location and Lariat Loop and McNeil Road have already been designated as riding trails. The intention has always been that Cameron Estates should be a quiet, residential and equestrian estate and not be subject to commercial endeavors which impact our ability to walk and ride safely in our neighborhood.

5. Substandard private roads cannot be expected to handle the excess traffic created which could be 50 plus cars or more passing through at any time. Those attending the special events being given the gate code which was installed to keep out unnecessary public access. If there would be a fire at one of these events (a discarded cigarette) during our severe drought there is only one road out for all residents of Rancho Rd, Lariat Loop and McNeil Rd. And the same one road in for all emergency vehicles.

6. Take into consideration the liability the Board is placing itself under by approving such a request in a private, residential neighborhood. The requested 150 people at these events will surely lead to increased possibility of vehicle accidents, accidental fire, noise complaints etc which may lead to litigation. Litigation involving Olivos, the County or sadly the Cameron Estates residents.

7. Should the Board approve the request have they considered how this could set a precedent for other residential neighborhoods zoned similarly to Cameron Estates? What impact will it have? More folks having their way of life derailed, property values dropping, all due to the manipulation of the County codes by two people for their own financial gain. We have already been advised by real estate counsel that when we decide to sell we will have to disclose the 'commercial events venue' is located next to our property and how it will affect our property value to the negative.

8. The Board had requested that the neighbors and Olivos try to come to a mutual agreement and at the end of the summer many of the neighbors met with the Olivos at their events property. We suggested sticking to three SUPS events they had originally requested but they refused our offer and we could not reach any common ground. As much as they say the neighbors love the prestige of being next to a winery, we do not. As much as the Olivos say they care about our community, they do not, as is apparent by the desire to push forward with these commercial events and wine tasting.

Should the Board approve this request please ensure that it will only remain viable in the name of Nello and Danica Olivo and it will not convey when the Olivos sell the property which could be the underlining reason for their request.

It will be a great shame if under the guise of a 'winery' you approve the Olivo's request for more SUPs. We understand and appreciate that the County is pro agriculture and sees wineries as a revenue stream but surely the desires of the majority of the community, 178 people and counting, should not be taken lightly. Consider the wishes of the residences first as after all the Olivos are in a residential neighborhood.

Thank you for your time and careful consideration.

Sincerely

William & Wendy Dougherty

William and Wendy Dougherty



EDC COB <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

Fwd: Appeal to the Request for Revision of SUP, S08-0012-R

1 message

The BOSTHREE <bosthree@edcgov.us>
 To: EDC COB <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

Mon, Apr 6, 2015 at 8:29 AM

Not sure if you received this or not...

Kathy Witherow

Assistant to Supervisor Brian K. Veerkamp
 District Three - El Dorado County
 530.621.5652

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Danica d'Hondt** <danica@thebigdream.com>
 Date: Fri, Apr 3, 2015 at 2:05 PM
 Subject: Appeal to the Request for Revision of SUP, S08-0012-R
 To: bosthree@edcgov.us

Dear Brian Veerkamp,

I am writing to send you some background information on our appeal that comes before the BOS on the agenda of your next meeting, Tuesday, April 7.

I have included two maps, a Fact Sheet and a narrative.

The maps show the close proximity of our neighbors homes to the industrial and commercials areas that surround Lariat Loop and their proximity to the noise of Durock Road and Hwy. 50. We can hear these roads from our property and we are further away. This is material to the noise issue.

As for the road issue, I understand that the 1 mile of roadway that we travel within Cameron Estates (1/16th of the total roads) has been mostly in fairly good condition for the past 12-13 years. It appears that the activity on our property has not adversely affected the roads.

We will be happy to clarify any questions you may have about this material when we attend the meeting next week.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Danica Olivo

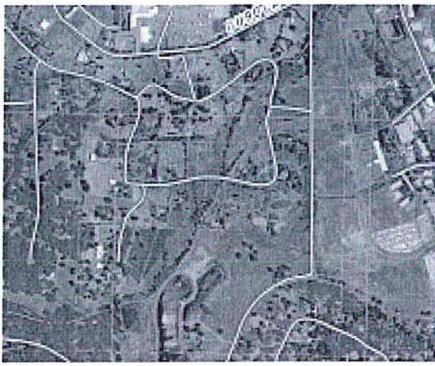
NOTICE: This e-mail and any files transmitted with it may contain confidential information, and are intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed.

Any retransmission, dissemination or other use of the information by persons other than the intended recipient or entity is prohibited.

If you receive this e-mail in error please contact the sender by return e-mail and delete the material from your system.

Thank you.

4 attachments



2012 usgs.jpg
229K



zoning.jpg
248K



FACT SHEET re S08-0012-R.docx
130K



Pertinent Information Regarding Our Request.docx
146K





FACT SHEET

RE: S 08-0012- R Rancho Olivo Vineyards Request for Revision of SUP

As we understand them, these are the five top objections against our request for revision of our Special Use Permit. I have responded to these objections below.

Objections:

1. People will leave our property drunk and create risk for the community.
2. The extra traffic will cause wear and tear on the roads that will have to be paid for by the community in general as we have private roads.
3. The loud sound of amplified music and celebratory voices will disturb the quiet of the neighborhood.
4. The commercial aspect of our project will set a precedent for other commercial activities in our residential community.
5. The Olivos cannot be trusted to comply with restrictions as they have ignored them in the past and want to get rich at the expense of their neighbors, whom they don't care about.

Here is our response to each one:

1. As a winery we have stronger penalties for people leaving our property and driving drunk than people holding a private party. We always serve food with the wine that is consumed and have never had anyone leave here drunk driving. Private parties, where food might be minimal, are a greater threat in this regard. People who are wine-tasting are TASTING not drinking. Other wineries in the county offer wine tasting, and it is not considered a reason to forbid people to visit these wineries. Our private tastings will be few, restricted to 6 people and "by appointment only." Garage sales do more to bring the public in to our community and advertise to invite the public.

2. There has always been traffic coming to this property. With the increase of online shopping trucks will still make deliveries to all the homes in Cameron Estates. Garbage trucks and water delivery trucks, etc. come in and are much heavier than private cars. We are 1 mile from the gate and

there are 16 miles of roads in here. Therefore our traffic only travels on 1/16th of the roads in Cameron Estates. The roads to our property have not been repaired for 12 or 13 years and half of the route has held up very well despite the over-use we are accused of. We have offered to pay extra money to the CECSO for extra use of the roads and were turned down.

3. We have had an acoustic study done and the results have been filed with the county. With music plying very loud in the barn the study showed we were well below county standards allowed at the street locations. We have sound-proofed the big barn and we are now required to keep amplified music inside the barn and only have acoustic music outside.

4. There has always been a commercial aspect to this property, which was established before Cameron Estates. There are people who can attest to this fact and we can provide letters if required. Other properties in Cameron Estates also have commercial aspects.

5. We do not "get rich" on 3 free events and 6 we can perhaps break-even on. We DO care about our neighbors and our neighborhood and we are deeply sorry for the unfortunate events of 2013. We stopped this activity and did not disturb anyone in 2014. We operated Sequoia in Placerville for 10 years on a Conditional Use Permit and never violated it. Check with the City of Placerville.

We understand that there has been considerable organized activity to get the neighbors to oppose our request. We have reason to believe that the information that has been circulated in order to obtain the letters and petition signatures that have been provided to the Planning Department has not been an accurate representation of the true facts of our intentions and our request. There has been much exaggeration and fear-mongering. We are hoping that our neighbors can get clarification at the Board of Supervisors meeting.

Submitted by Nello & Danica Olivo

Pertinent Information Regarding Our Request

Re: Request for revision of SUP S 08-0012/Rancho Olivo Vineyards

We are a small boutique winery with vineyards located in Cameron Park, CA and a Tasting Room located in the City of Placerville, CA. We produce approximately 2300 cases of high quality wine per year, with some of the production taking place in Cameron Park and some in Fair Play, CA.

In the year 2000 we purchased a 21acre parcel of property with a long history of commercial and semi-commercial use, and began to establish our vineyard. We obtained a Special Use Permit to be a winery at this location on February 26, 2009.

In referring to our original Special Use Permit, I see that on page two of the staff report, under the sub-heading STAFF ANALYSIS/Project Description, there is the following wording:

“There would be no public tasting room with the facility at this time. A revision to the Special Use Permit would be required if one were to be necessary in the future.” In the spirit of Objective 10.1.7 of the General Plan, which seeks to promote home based businesses, we now feel that limited wine tasting appointments are necessary to our continued business success. We DO NOT however, intend to abandon our very active main retail outlet, which is our Nello Olivo Tasting Room at 643 Bee Street, Placerville. We are happy to note that Policy 10.1.7.2 of the General Plan directs the County to assist small businesses.

We requested a Revision of our Special Use Permit in order to be allowed to have occasional wine tastings “by appointment only” and to have just NINE events per year, THREE that would be Community Events, Charity fund-raisers (nothing to do with our winery) and SIX promotional events for our business. (We have hosted the Cameron Estates Community Party for several years and many of the residents of the Estates look forward to it, however, if the neighbors wish to limit the number of events we could, regretfully, eliminate the THREE community/charity events.)

The County Planning Department recommended approval of our request for revision (with certain conditions) and we went before the El Dorado County Planning Commission on Feb. 26, 2015 with our request and received a tie vote, two for us and two opposed. (The fifth Commissioner, who is a friend and neighbor, recused himself.) We were advised that this was effectively a denial of our request, therefore we have appealed to the Board of Supervisors.

While many of our neighbors support our winery and our limited events, there has been an extensive organized effort amongst our neighbors to oppose our activities. Unfortunately these neighbors have been misled, or are under a false understanding of the reality of our request. We do not wish to become a “Commercial Events

Center” as has been understood by many fearful neighbors. We simply wish to utilize our property in much the same way as it has been used historically.

Historically the property was a winery and has been a commercial horse ranch venture. It was an ostrich farm when we purchased it. The very limited wine tasting appointments would not bring any more noise or traffic than has been continually attached to the property. Our wine club events usually draw about 60 people and that means about 25 cars. There is no proof that traffic to our property specifically has adversely affected the roads in the past 15 years. Our wine is priced in the higher bracket, so our club members are refined adults with an average age of about 55. They do not drive wildly in our gated community, nor do they drink excessively, as our events always include food, as any neighborhood party might do.

We feel that our award-winning wines make a valuable contribution to the agriculture, tourism and economic success of El Dorado County. Other wineries in the County are allowed unlimited wine tasting during their business hours and as many as 20 large events per year. We do not wish to do weddings or concerts, but we feel that it is an unfair disadvantage to our business that other wineries can offer their Wine Club members on site visits to their vineyards and we cannot. We are not asking for the number of events nor activities allowed other wineries, just a few annual events to allow our Wine Club members the occasional enjoyment of our lovely property. This activity is advantageous to our local economy.

We have contracted with Bollard Acoustical Consultants, Inc. to determine the legality of any noise levels. The Planning Commission recommendation for approval of this request requires us to only play recorded music indoors. With recorded music playing at almost 90 decibels inside the big barn the sound levels in the surrounding neighborhood were well below county standards. (See Bollard report.) This fact was misunderstood at the Planning Commission hearing. We are not requesting a “commercial events center” and therefore our events will be outdoors on our property. Outdoors we are allowed acoustic music only.

The location of our property is not far from Hwy 50, Durock Road and the industrial park. Many of the neighbors complaining of sound disturbance live closer to those elements that they do to us. We can hear the traffic on Durock Road and can even hear the freeway (Hwy. 50) from most areas of our property.

Our neighbors have raised the issue of our winery adversely affecting their property values. At the Board Meeting I will be submitting a recent article in a Mountain Democrat supplement with detailed statistics about properties located near wineries experiencing an increase in property value.

If we could afford to spend as much time canvassing the neighborhood as our opponents, we could correct the erroneous information that has been spread about our plans and there would be a majority of our neighbors supporting us.



EDC COB <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

Regarding Agenda item #19 (15-0044) 4-7-2015

1 message

Danica d'Hondt <danica@thebigdream.com>

Sun, Apr 5, 2015 at 11:28 PM

To: edc.cob@edcgov.us

Cc: bosone@edcgov.us, bostwo@edcgov.us, bosthree@edcgov.us, bosfour@edcgov.us, bosfive@edcgov.us, Aaron Mount <aaron.mount@edcgov.us>

To the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, El Dorado County, CA

Date: Sunday April 5, 2015

We are hereby notifying the Board of Supervisors that we will be respectfully requesting a continuance of our hearing which is Agenda Item #19, (15-0044) on Tuesday, April 7th at 2 PM.

The reason for this request is that we have not had sufficient time to prepare. We were notified by mail (by the Planning Department) of the date of this hearing on Mar. 27 (letter postmarked Mar. 23) and did receive a phone call late in the day on Mar. 26, however, the one business week that we have had since that time has been Spring Break and so many of the people we need to contact, including our legal counsel, have not been available.

Also we understand that there may only be four supervisors at this meeting and we would like to be heard by the full board of five, so as to avoid the potential tie decision that we encountered at the Planning Commission meeting.

The next two weeks are the busiest time of year for EDWA member wineries, as they are Passport Weekends. As we are a participating winery, we hope you will take this into consideration also.

We hope that our request will be favorably considered on Tuesday afternoon.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Danica Olivo



EDC COB <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

URGENT: Olivo Vineyard Special Use Permit Request

1 message

John W. Schureman <skurman@pacbell.net>
To: edc.cob@edcgov.us

Mon, Apr 6, 2015 at 3:12 PM

Clerk of the Board:

I would appreciate a moment of your time to read my input regarding the Olivo Vineyard Special Use Permit Request here in Cameron Estates as this literally could be a **matter of life and death**, that needs your attention.

We are 10 year residents here in the Cameron Estates and moved here specifically for the quiet neighborhood and private, safe streets. We strongly oppose the current request to allow the Olivo Vineyard to hold large events for the following reasons;

Aside from the additional traffic and commotion that would result from approval of this special permit, we have a particularly strong stance against this issue due to the probability of intoxicated drivers driving through our neighborhood (or anywhere for that matter). My wife's sister was struck and killed by a drunk driver 2 years ago while walking her dogs in a her own rural neighborhood in Southern CA, a neighborhood very similar to ours. The intoxicated driver swerved towards the side of a 40 foot wide dirt road, and ran her over along the side of this road. She was flown via helicopter to the trauma center where she died the next morning, never regaining consciousness. This was a tragic death, and hit us all very hard. Lori was finally in her dream home ready to retire after driving for UPS for 30 years. She drove Semi Tractor-Trailers for years, in very dangerous conditions. She was awarded the prestigious UPS 30 year safe driving award. Leaving behind her dream, fiancé, 3 sisters, 2 brothers, 2 children, and grandchildren...she left us too early at the age of 57.

PLEASE consider this tragic situation possibly reoccurring here in our neighborhood as a result of an intoxicated driver leaving one of the events at the Olivo Vineyard. Unfortunately, this occurs too often throughout the nation as it is. Please ask yourself; why would we want to approve something that can increase the odds of this happening again.

Sure, Nello Olivo is a nice guy and would most likely be as responsible "as possible", however he cannot control irresponsible people. Furthermore, he is not a young man and will likely be passing on the business someday. While he may have a repot with some of the neighbors, we don't know the next owner and they don't know and probably won't care about the neighbors.

I appreciate your time, and hope you will really consider the responsibility YOU are taking on personally, if you approve this special use permit.

Thank you,

John Schureman