



SIERRA CLUB

FOUNDED 1892

SONOMA GROUP

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May 8, 2019

Sonoma County Board of Supervisors
575 Administration Drive
Santa Rosa, CA 95401

Re: General Plan Update and Key Issues

Dear Chair Rabbitt and Board of Supervisors,

Sierra Club Sonoma Group urges the Board of Supervisors to prioritize the update of the Sonoma County General Plan as part of the Permit Sonoma Comprehensive Work Plan for the next two fiscal years. When you finalize the work plan priorities on June 4, please include a timeline and allocate resources to launch the full General Plan update no later than 2020/2021.

While we understand that there are many pressing issues that need to be addressed over the next two years, we want you to know that the General Plan update is very important to Sierra Club, our members and the community at large. Please make sure that it gets back on track as soon as possible.

The current General Plan 2020 is not adequate to assess the many new and growing land-use and related issues that the people of Sonoma County face in the decades ahead. The Sonoma Group is part of the Redwood Chapter, and is made up of Sierra Club members who live in Sonoma County. The Sierra Club is a grass-roots, volunteer-led organization.

Here are some of the key issues that we believe need to be addressed in the General Plan Update, or before:

- Implement climate measures to reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled and Greenhouse Gas Emissions including Evergreen for all county agencies, and all-electric building and municipal fleets.
- Stronger protections for oak woodlands and forests from vineyard conversion and timber harvest.
- Hold a workshop and update the VESCO ordinance.

- Develop new fire-safe land use policies that reduce risk of loss of home and life in the wildland-urban interface.
- Implement stronger riparian, water and groundwater protections.
- Prohibit new gas stations in county lands.

Our organization looks forward to discussing these issues with you and working together to achieve a comprehensive and updated General Plan that we can implement for the next 20 years.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'SJD', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Sierra Club Sonoma Group Executive Committee
Suzanne Doyle, Teri Shore, Tom Conlon, Theresa Ryan, Shirley Johnson, Sophia Porter,
Richard Sachen