

DRAFT LETTER TO SUPERVISORS – FOR INDIVIDUALS

RENEW AND STRENGTHEN COMMUNITY SEPARATORS

Available at greenbelt.org under “engage” tab and then “take action”

Please add your personal comments! Supervisors emails at end of letter.

Dear Supervisor,

I am writing to urge the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors to renew and update community separator policies and designations before they expire in 2016. Protecting and expanding greenbelts between towns and cities is essential to the long-term vitality of natural landscapes and agriculture in Sonoma County.

A new poll of Sonoma County shows that 75% of county voters agree with me. And 67% would view their supervisors more favorably if they put a measure to protect county greenbelts on the 2016 ballot. Whether you live here or visit, no one wants to see these greenbelts eroded by sprawl or commercial development now or ever.

Let's continue to work together to create land use balance in Sonoma County - lovely, livable cities and towns; protected and productive agricultural lands; and open space that keeps our water pure and our forests, grasslands and coastlands thriving.

The scope of work leading to a 2016 ballot measure must go beyond a simple renewal to include priority greenbelts, protect natural resources such as groundwater, and designate lands around Cloverdale and Penngrove as identified in the general plan.

It is time to enhance the 20-year-old policies that have successfully protected more than 17,000 acres of county lands from sprawl. As growth and development pressure increases, I must rely on your leadership to ensure that the rural character and thriving landscapes of Sonoma County are protected for future generations.

Nearly a year ago, the board of supervisors agreed to renew and strengthen the community separators and the voter-backed protections. Please adopt a strong and robust community separator work plan as you move forward in the renewal process.

Sincerely yours,

SEND TO:

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