

Dear Supervisors,

Valley of The Moon Alliance (VOTMA) has been involved with the issue of winery events for over 10 years. We represent a community of people who have and still do experience the steadily increasing impacts of winery events. We are frustrated with the lack of change or clarification and need your help to make any difference.

Please vote to accept the Resolution of Intention and direct the PRMD staff to initiate zoning code amendments to address key issues associated with winery events and promotional activities, and to develop siting criteria and standards for area of concentration. Any siting criteria and standards should be considered county wide because they are beneficial to avoid concentrations. I believe your residents would appreciate some pro active measures to avoid the cumulative impacts that many of us live with. **The use permit process has NOT effectively addressed cumulative impacts. They need to be addressed BEFORE the application gets into the process.** Projects requiring a use permit process seem to be mitigated down to being insignificant way too easy and yet it still is a part of the cumulative effect.

A clear definition of events and food service, requiring a cultural event permit for industry wide events and enhanced code compliance will be a good start. VOTMA will offer assistance in developing guidelines for winery events within Sonoma Valley and working with the Sonoma Valley Citizens Advisory Committee on them.

Your vote of confidence will be appreciated.

Thank you,

Kathy Pons, President

Valley of the Moon Alliance