



**Fw: ag cluster amendments - misleading talking points**

Board of Supervisors to: Adam Hill, Amy Gilman, Bruce Gibson,  
Cherie Aispuro, Debbie Geaslen, Frank  
Mecham, James Patterson, Paul

11/29/2012 08:11 AM

Sent by: Amber Wilson  
Cc: cr\_board\_clerk Clerk Recorder

----- Forwarded by Amber Wilson/BOS/COSLO on 11/29/2012 08:11 AM -----

From: Maria Lorca <maria7551@charter.net>  
To: boardofsups@co.slo.ca.us  
Cc: jcaruso@co.slo.ca.us, lauchinachie@co.slo.ca.us  
Date: 11/29/2012 06:23 AM  
Subject: ag cluster amendments - misleading talking points

Supervisors,

This is to provide you with the talking points sent out by the Farm Bureau.  
Please verify their accuracy with planning staff and the ag department as to me they seem  
misleading or not accurate.

Maria Lorca  
PO Box 502  
Creston, CA 93432

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November 28, 2012

**Oppose the Agricultural Cluster Ordinance Amendment**

*Joy Fitzhugh, Legislative Analyst*

We need you to attend and testify on Tuesday, December 4, 2012 at the San Luis Obispo  
County Board of Supervisors hearing on the Agricultural Cluster Ordinance Amendment.

Item # 18 Meeting Date: Dec. 4, 2012

Presented by: Maria Lorca

Prior to meeting  At the Board meeting

Posted to web: \_\_\_\_\_

Day of or after meeting not posted

RECEIVED

On November 13, 2012 the Board of Supervisors agreed to continue the Cluster Hearing to December 4 and accept more testimony. We need your voice!

Here are some testimony points that you can use in opposition to the Amendment:

**The Requirements and Mitigations Will Eliminate Clustering:**

The numerous application requirements such as studies and surveys as well as the expensive mitigations for air, water, noise and traffic proposed in the ordinance makes it financially impossible for the average farmer/rancher to even consider let alone afford a cluster. A cluster, such as the existing minor cluster, would save up to 95% of the land for agriculture as opposed to what is called "cookie cutter" development. But, most of us can no longer afford this option to save the most agricultural land if the new amendment is approved.

**The Current Ag. Cluster Has Not Caused Development:**

It is not true that the current Ag. Cluster program has caused significant development. There have been only 5 major and 5 minor clusters approved in the last 25 years in the whole county. In this timeframe, each cluster has saved many acres of agricultural land that would have otherwise been chopped up. Not only that; but, North County Watch and Sierra Club admitted in their November 8th letter that "a cluster would maximize protection of ag. land."

**The Amendment Eliminates the Minor Cluster:**

The County claims that the amendment "is eliminating the distinction between the minor and the major cluster." No! This amendment totally does away with the minor cluster. You can't have any cluster outside of 2 or 5 miles from a limited number of Urban Reserve Lines. What happens to all those (12,000) legal lots (antiquated subdivisions) which might have been able to be reconfigured as a cluster that would save the most agricultural land? Now, the only choice they have is to chop up the land and lose agriculture. Even North County Watch and Sierra Club admitted in their November 8th letter that "a cluster would maximize protection of ag. land."

**The Ag. Cluster Economic Analysis Must Be Destroyed:**

The Economic Analysis, which is supposed to be reference for the Ag. Cluster and other issues in the County are so inaccurate and outdated that it must be eliminated. For the document to say that "agriculture is currently a relatively small sector of the economy" or that only "a fifth of the land in the San Luis Obispo County is devoted to agricultural production" or that increased conversion towards grazing is conversion away from agriculture is so egregiously ignorant that this document must be destroyed, not to be used as a reference for anything.

The hearing item is #18 and should be heard in the morning. Here are the documents from the November 13 hearing. If you have any questions please contact Joy Fitzhugh at 543-3654.

*To lead San Luis Obispo County in the protection, promotion and advocacy of agriculture for the benefit of our members and community.*

**Forward email**

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San Luis Obispo County Farm Bureau | 651 Tank Farm Rd. | San Luis Obispo | CA | 93401-7096



**Fw: Ag Cluster Ordinance**

Board of Supervisors to: Adam Hill, Amy Gilman, Bruce Gibson,  
Cherie Aispuro, Debbie Geaslen, Frank  
Mecham, James Patterson, Paul

11/29/2012 08:12 AM

Sent by: Amber Wilson  
Cc: cr\_board\_clerk Clerk Recorder

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From: "Holly Sletteland" <hslettel@calpoly.edu>  
To: <boardofsups@co.slo.ca.us>  
Date: 11/28/2012 07:25 PM  
Subject: Ag Cluster Ordinance

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I understand that you will be considering amendments to the AG Cluster Ordinance next week. While I support the use of Ag cluster subdivisions as a tool for preserving agricultural land, I have also seen how that goal can be subverted by developers intent on exploiting any loophole they can find. Santa Margarita Ranch is an unfortunate case in point. I applaud staff for carefully crafting amendments that will prevent future planning missteps by requiring clustering of lots, clarifying ag buffers, ending density bonuses and requiring roads and other infrastructure be included in the total cluster acreage. Please support their efforts to insure the original intent of the ordinance is realized.

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Holly Sletteland  
Templeton, CA

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Item # 18 Meeting Date: Dec. 4, 2012  
Presented by: Holly Sletteland  
**RECEIVED**  Prior to meeting  At the Board meeting  
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**Fw: Support amendments to Ag Cluster**

Board of Supervisors to: Adam Hill, Amy Gilman, Bruce Gibson,  
Cherie Aispuro, Debbie Geaslen, Frank  
Mecham, James Patterson, Paul

11/29/2012 08:12 AM

Sent by: Amber Wilson  
Cc: cr\_board\_clerk Clerk Recorder

----- Forwarded by Amber Wilson/BOS/COSLO on 11/29/2012 08:12 AM -----

From: Mark Tomes <tomes@charter.net>  
To: boardofsups@co.slo.ca.us  
Date: 11/28/2012 06:03 PM  
Subject: Support amendments to Ag Cluster

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Just to let you know that I support the amendments to the Ag Cluster Ordinance. They provide clarification to anyone interested in development, and they support good planning.

Thank you.

Mark Tomes  
P.O. Box 735  
Santa Margarita, CA 93453  
805.438.3640

Item # 18 Meeting Date: Dec. 4, 2012

Presented by: Mark Tomes

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**Fw: Ag Cluster Ordinance**

Board of Supervisors to: Adam Hill, Amy Gilman, Bruce Gibson,  
Cherie Aispuro, Debbie Geaslen, Frank  
Mecham, James Patterson, Paul

11/29/2012 10:01 AM

Sent by: Amber Wilson  
Cc: cr\_board\_clerk Clerk Recorder

----- Forwarded by Amber Wilson/BOS/COSLO on 11/29/2012 10:01 AM -----

From: O BRIEN YOUNG <obyoung@sbcglobal.net>  
To: boardofsups@co.slo.ca.us  
Date: 11/29/2012 09:55 AM  
Subject: Ag Cluster Ordinance

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Honorable Supervisors:

I strongly support the cluster amendments to the Ag Cluster Ordinance. Please do the right thing for the county. Thank you.

O'Brien Young

Item # 18 Meeting Date: Dec. 4, 2012  
Presented by: O'Brien Young  
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 Day of or after meeting not posted



**Fw: Ag Cluster Amendments**

Board of Supervisors to: Adam Hill, Amy Gilman, Bruce Gibson,  
Cherie Aispuro, Debbie Geaslen, Frank  
Mecham, James Patterson, Paul

11/29/2012 02:01 PM

Sent by: Amber Wilson  
Cc: cr\_board\_clerk Clerk Recorder

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From: "Landon Young" <zopilote@bacavalley.com>  
To: <boardofsups@co.slo.ca.us>  
Date: 11/29/2012 12:31 PM  
Subject: Ag Cluster Amendments

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Honorable Supervisors:

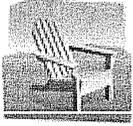
I write in support of the Ag Cluster Amendments. Frequent and often successful attempts to plant vineyards as a means of qualifying for agriculture development have already gone too far and have the potential of destroying irrevocably the natural beauty of our historic coastal lands. These abuses are cynical pretenses used as a means to further real estate development, at a time when there is insufficient water and when wine is already a glut on the market.

Please adopt the Ag Cluster Amendments now before further abuses of the ordinance occur!

Respectfully submitted,

Landon Young

Item # 18 Meeting Date: Dec. 4, 2012  
Presented by: Landon Young  
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**Fw: Letter RE: Dec. 4 hearing to consider Amendments to Ag Cluster Ordinance**

Adam Hill, Amy Gilman, Bruce Gibson, Cherie  
Amber Wilson to: Aispuro, Debbie Geaslen, Frank Mecham, 11/29/2012 02:50 PM  
James Patterson, Paul Teixeira, Vicki Shelby,  
Cc: cr\_board\_clerk Clerk Recorder

*Amber Wilson*  
Secretary/Board of Supervisors  
San Luis Obispo County  
805.781.4335  
abwilson@co.slo.ca.us

----- Forwarded by Amber Wilson/BOS/COSLO on 11/29/2012 02:50 PM -----

From: Amy Gilman/BOS/COSLO  
To: Amber Wilson/BOS/COSLO@Wings  
Date: 11/29/2012 02:17 PM  
Subject: Fw: Letter RE: Dec. 4 hearing to consider Amendments to Ag Cluster Ordinance

Amber, could you please share as requested. Clerks also please.

Thanks, Amy

District Five Legislative Assistant  
Board of Supervisors, County of San Luis Obispo  
agilman@co.slo.ca.us  
ph: 805-781-4339

----- Forwarded by Amy Gilman/BOS/COSLO on 11/29/2012 02:17 PM -----

From: Charles Kleemann <chazkleemann@gmail.com>  
To: agilman@co.slo.ca.us  
Date: 11/29/2012 11:54 AM  
Subject: Letter RE: Dec. 4 hearing to consider Amendments to Ag Cluster Ordinance

Amy,

Please distribute the attached letter (pdf) to the board of supervisors as they prepare for next Tuesday's agenda items.

Thank you,  
Charlie



BOSLetterAGCluster.pdf

Item # 18 Meeting Date: Dec. 4, 2012

Presented by: Charles Kleemann

**RECEIVED**  Prior to meeting  At the Board meeting  
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**Date:** November 28, 2012

**To:** San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors  
James Patterson, Chairman

**RE: PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO AG CLUSTER ORDINANCE** (Dec. 4, 2012 agenda)

As you know, the process of determining community goals and aspirations in terms of long range community development can be cumbersome. Comprehensive Planning tends to pit those who place value on the quality and livability of their community, or who at least acknowledge there is legitimacy to planning for the greater public good against those who value individual property rights above all other considerations. While diverse perspectives resulting from inclusive public participation are an essential component to any democratic decision making process; organized, intentional obstruction of process mocks thoughtful and meaningful participation made in good faith by others. It also heightens the importance of leadership from your board to maintain perspective, rationality, and sanity.

A theatre production staged for obvious dilatory purposes complete with an “enviro socialist manifesto” as the central plot is admittedly entertaining, but designed to achieve nothing more than disruption. A few individuals claiming to represent agriculture, business, and the saving of rural America have corralled a bandwagon around some extreme beliefs. Whether or not one agrees with these beliefs is not the issue, beliefs will cover a wide spectrum at various times. What is important is that genuinely well informed and collaborative discussion on policy formation should be the product of well developed research and the presentation of factually relevant information. As a stakeholder in the outcome of your decision, I can only place trust in each of you to filter the irrelevant and support factually driven planning principles rather than letting an orchestrated campaign built on mis-information, paranoid fantasies, myopic ideology, oddly mis-placed nationalistic sentiments, and fear mongering derail process or unduly influence long range land use planning decisions important to all residents. Please uphold the decision made by the Planning Commission on August 30, 2012.

Thank you for considering my comments

Charles Kleemann

Rural Santa Margarita (*approx. 3 miles from Santa Margarita Urban Reserve Line*)



To: Adam Hill/BOS/COSLO@Wings, Amy Gilman/BOS/COSLO@Wings, Bruce Gibson/BOS/COSLO@Wings, Cherie Aispuro/BOS/COSLO@Wings, Debbie Geaslen/BOS/COSLO@Wings, Frank Mecham/BOS/COSLO@Wings, James cr\_board\_clerk Clerk Recorder/ClerkRec/COSLO@Wings,  
 Cc:  
 Bcc:  
 Subject: Fw: Contact Us (response #2273)  
 From: Board of Supervisors/BOS/COSLO - Thursday 11/29/2012 03:47 PM  
 Sent by: Amber Wilson/BOS/COSLO

----- Forwarded by Amber Wilson/BOS/COSLO on 11/29/2012 03:47 PM -----

From: "Internet Webmaster" <webmaster@co.slo.ca.us>  
 To: "BoardOfSup@co.slo.ca.us" <BoardOfSup@co.slo.ca.us>  
 Date: 11/29/2012 03:43 PM  
 Subject: Contact Us (response #2273)

Contact Us (response #2273)  
 Survey Information

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| Site:                 | County of SLO                                    |
| Page Title:           | Contact Us                                       |
| URL:                  | http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/bos/BOSContactUs.htm |
| Submission Time/Date: | 11/29/2012 3:42:46 PM                            |

Survey Response

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Name:   | Tracy Phillips  |
| Telephone Number:                             |   |
| Email address:                                | <a href="mailto:tkphillips@netzero.com">tkphillips@netzero.com</a>  |
| Comments or questions (8,192 characters max): | I respectfully request that you do not approve the revision to the Agriculture Cluster Subdivision Rules. This is an unnecessary revision, not to mention an unconstitutional one. The government has no right to tell property owners what they can and cannot do with their property. Property owners in this state have been overwhelmed with government fees, intrusions and regulations. This is just another reason for property owners to leave this state. I would also like you to consider having meetings at a time when people who work full time could make them. Preferrably after 5:00 PM, like many of the city council meetings. |

Item # 18 Meeting Date: Dec. 4, 2012

Presented by: Tracy Phillips

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