



CODE MODERNIZATION QUICK FACTS:

Draft Proposed Regulations Addressing Community Events and Fundraisers on Residential and Agricultural Property

- **Reason for Proposed Changes:** The Santa Cruz County Code lacks clear standards for not-for-profit community events, such as festivals or dinners, and fundraisers benefiting local schools and non-profit organizations, held on private residential or agricultural property. Recognizing that community events and fundraisers are important to community well-being, the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors directed the Planning Department to prepare draft code language that would allow these activities on private residential or agricultural property, with appropriate standards and permit review.
- **Definition of “community event or fundraiser”:** “A not for profit event with 100 or more guests of a civic, political, public, or educational nature such as a community dinner, festival or other public gathering, on residential or agricultural property. Such events may include the collection of fees, donations, or the sale of food or other goods, where the proceeds from the event are provided to a school or nonprofit organization.”
- **Allowed Location:** Residential and agricultural zone districts county-wide.
- **Approval for one event:** A Zoning Clearance is required to ensure that health and safety requirements are met: sanitation, litter control and parking (on or off site with shuttle) must be provided, and clearances from Environmental Health, the Department of Public Works, and the Fire Department must be obtained where required.
- **Approval for 2 events in one year, or one event with amplified music:** A Minor Use permit is required. Health and safety requirements must be met and parking is required, either on site or off-site with shuttle. No more than 2 events are permitted on a site in any one year.
 - **Use Permit Conditions:** The Minor Use permit would include conditions limiting event hours, outdoor amplified music, number of guests, ensuring access by emergency vehicles, and conditions to protect public health, safety and welfare, protect agricultural land, and ensure compliance with noise limits in the General Plan.
 - **Use permit renewal required:** Use permits would require renewal after 5 years, to ensure compliance with permit conditions.

November 5, 2015