



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

1600 PACIFIC HIGHWAY, ROOM 335, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92101-2470

AGENDA ITEM

DATE: March 2, 2011

02

TO: Board of Supervisors

SUBJECT: EXPLORING OPTIONS FOR UPDATING EQUINE REGULATIONS
(DISTRICTS: ALL)

SUMMARY:

Overview

Equestrian facilities and activities have long been a significant component of our backcountry's culture. Recently, the equine community has approached the County of San Diego expressing frustration over costly and burdensome regulations in our zoning ordinance for equine operations.

Our existing equine regulations appear to be out-of-date for the unincorporated areas of the County. It is important that the County of San Diego makes certain that the equine industry continues to have a vital role in our rural communities and operates under regulations that are appropriate and fair.

Today's board letter directs staff to work with the equine community and any other interested parties to investigate options that would protect and promote equestrian operations while ensuring that we have reasonable permit fees and regulations.

Recommendation

CHAIRMAN HORN AND SUPERVISOR JACOB

Direct the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to work with the equine community and any other interested parties to investigate options that would protect and promote equine operations throughout the unincorporated areas of San Diego County, including the potential development of a tiered equine ordinance, assessing the costly and burdensome equine regulations and exploring any other appropriate changes, and report back to the board within 120 days.

Fiscal Impact

SUBJECT: EXPLORING OPTIONS FOR UPDATING EQUINE REGULATIONS
(DISTRICT: ALL)

There is no fiscal impact associated with this action.

Business Impact Statement

N/A

Advisory Board Statement

N/A

BACKGROUND:

Equestrian facilities and activities have long been a significant component of our backcountry's culture. Recently, the equine community has approached the County of San Diego expressing frustration over costly and burdensome regulations in our zoning ordinance for equine operations.

Our existing equine regulations appear to be out-of-date for the unincorporated areas of the County. It is important that the County of San Diego makes certain that the equine industry continues to have a vital role in our rural communities and operates under regulations that are appropriate and fair.

In an effort to achieve this goal, the County should assess the costly and burdensome regulations in the permit process for equine operations and explore the development of a tiered approach similar to the boutique winery ordinance. County staff should also research state law and other jurisdictions to determine if appropriate changes and different approaches are needed. In addition to the Department of Planning and Land Use, other departments such as Agriculture, Weights and Measures, Parks and Recreation and Public Works should also be included in this effort.

Today's board letter directs staff to work with the equine community and any other interested parties to investigate options that would protect and promote equestrian operations while ensuring that we have reasonable permit fees and regulations.

We urge your support.

Respectfully submitted,

BILL HORN
CHAIRMAN, Supervisor, Fifth District

DIANNE JACOB
Supervisor, Second District

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AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION SHEET

REQUIRES FOUR VOTES: Yes No

WRITTEN DISCLOSURE PER COUNTY CHARTER SECTION 1000.1 REQUIRED
 Yes No

PREVIOUS RELEVANT BOARD ACTIONS:
N/A

BOARD POLICIES APPLICABLE:
N/A

BOARD POLICY STATEMENTS:
N/A

MANDATORY COMPLIANCE:
N/A

ORACLE AWARD NUMBER(S) AND CONTRACT AND/OR REQUISITION NUMBER(S):
N/A

ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: District 2 and District 5, Board of Supervisors

OTHER CONCURRENCE(S): N/A

CONTACT PERSON(S):

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