

Chair Medina and Board of Supervisors County of San Benito County Administration Bldg. 481 4th St, 1st Floor Hollister, CA 95023 August 30, 2019

RE: Rezoning of 101 Commercial Nodes.

Dear Board of Supervisors,

The San Benito Chamber of Commerce represents and promotes nearly 400 local businesses and our community. We provide benefits and resources to support member businesses for a strong community and regional economy, civic, cultural and educational climate.

Today, we are writing to strongly support the recommendation from the San Benito County Planning Commission passed on May 15, 2019 to accept the zoning changes to the commercial nodes along Highway 101 known as "Betabel", "SR 129 / Searle Road", "Rocks Ranch" and "Livestock 101." Outlined in San Benito County 2035 General Plan these zoning changes are the first step in aligning the hard work of our planning process with the county code.

The general plan states that it is a document that, "describes the County's long-range goals for the community's future and guides day-to-day decision making. A comprehensive general plan provides a jurisdiction with a consistent framework for decision-making". This consistent framework is key to providing certainty for residents and businesses as we forecast making important investments in our community. By providing certainty that the county will live up to its past statements and goals you will attract needed investment and jobs.

Crafted with numerous community meetings and public comment, the general plan was organized by a task force of fifteen community members alongside the Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission. We applaud this transparent process and ask that the zoning changes that are a decade in the making are accepted by this body.

On behalf of the Board of Directors I thank you for your consideration of our comments. We stand ready to work with the County on job creation, local infrastructure, and preservation.

Sincerely,

Michelle Leonard CEO San Benito County Chamber of Commerce