

Vintners and Farmers for Responsible Agriculture Strategic Planning Meeting
September 20, 2018

The challenges presented by the group were: limited resources with no compliance or enforcement with rules that are unclear, insufficient and inconsistently applied, which deconstructs the microclimate and impacting the workforce, housing, traffic, water quality, trees/timber, and overall quality of life.

Solutions included: Redefine and Restore Agriculture to original definition = Farming Production; Adopt voluntary Oak Woodland Plan or ordinance and increase ratio and enforce; change the definition of hospitality area to be all areas not related to production; stop deforestation; create housing; do not approve new wineries, especially remote wineries; limit tonnage permissions on access roads for safety; increase capacity down valley; strictly comply with CEQA; consider class three stream setbacks; do not build unless there is adequate infrastructure; include hills in the definition of Ag Preserve; moratorium on variances and development on hill slopes.

Additional information was submitted as an addendum to the notes captured during the meeting.

Aspiration: Not Identified During Meeting		
Specific Challenge or Problem	Evidence this Challenge or Problem Exists	Impact of the Challenge or Problem on You? (Please fill in this column)
Resource Limits - Grapes, Water, Trees, Humans	Escalating Grape	Due to time restraints this section was not completed during the meeting.
No compliance or enforcement	Measure C	
Deconstruction of microclimate	Wildlife struggling	
Lack of Workforce	Aerial Photos	
Challenge of conventional farming to sustainability	Under Concrete Soil Quality	
Water quality	Compliance through Modification	
Housing	Cancer Rates	
Specifics of what requires Environmental Impact Report (EIR) or Mitigated Negative Impact	Violations of User Permits found during audits	
Quality of Live Livability	No long term sustainability	
Trees Timber Forrest	Restaurants closing due to worker shortage	
Limits on Grapes, Water Supply and Workers	Lengthy commute times	
Update of General Plan	Diminished water flows	
Lack of Workforce	Sediment in reservoirs	
Traffic Congestion	Poor worker housing conditions	
Follow the original intent of the Ag Preserve on the Valley Floor	Use of hazardous materials in vineyards	
Unclear and insufficient rules	Long commute times	
Current definition of "Ag" by the Community	Lack of sufficient farm labor	
Air Quality	Traffic	
Power Plays	Greenhouse Gas	
Strick compliance with CEQA	Lax code enforcement	
Cumulative Impact	Trucking in water	
Climate Emergency	Water supply	
Sick Napa River	Trucking out water	
	Lack of long term vision	

Red indicates top vote getter(s).

Solution			
Actions to Solve	Who Needs to Be Involved (Please fill in this section)	Pros Cons (Please fill in this section)	
Redefine and Restore Agriculture to original definition = Farming Production	Due to time restraints this section was not completed during the meeting.	Due to time restraints this section was not completed during the meeting.	
Adopt voluntary Oak Woodland Plan or ordinance and increase ratio and enforce			
Calculation of hospitality area needs to be considered all area not related to production			
Stop deforestation; e.g. require Forrest Safe Wine Creations			
Housing			
No Remote Wineries; limit tonnage requirements and access for safety			
Work with American Canyon and Vallejo to increase down valley capacity			
Strict compliance to CEQA to include Human Impact			
Class three stream setbacks			
No building unless there is adequate, existing infrastructure			
No new winery permits			
Increase Ag Preserve to include hills			
Minimize size of wineries to 40 acres			
Code enforcement grape source and marketing activity			
Moratorium: No more variances			
Moratorium: No development on hill slope			
Moratorium: Deforestation			
No Development on hillsides			

Red indicates top vote getter(s).

GROWERS/VINTNERS FOR RESPONSIBLE AGRICULTURE

Summary from Strategic Plan Focus Group with County held on 9/20/18

September 26, 2018

Problem Statement: We are in an existential struggle to save the agricultural and environmental integrity of Napa Valley.

Current Situation: There are competing interests in our community, and we are concerned about this Valley's future. We place the highest value on the rural, agrarian quality of life which drew us all here. Napa Valley is a **National Treasure** and as such deserves to be stewarded with great care. Our natural resources are finite and we are living in a time of great climate upheaval. All of us in Napa County are now dealing with the harsh realities of mega droughts and record breaking temperatures. Threats to the quality and quantity of our diminishing water supply loom large due to increasing pressure to develop in the hillsides and the lack of rock solid, fully enforced protection of fresh water for today and long into the future. Municipalities augment their limited local water supplies with imports from the State Water Project, a water source that is already over allocated and is becoming scarcer due to changes in precipitation and snowpack. We need a long-term vision.

Actions: We offer the following Actions to address the above concerns, distilled into two main areas:

1. Agricultural Integrity

- a. WDO: Restore the definition of Agriculture in our Winery Definition Ordinance back to what it was in the WDO's original form
 - i. Agriculture (defined as growing and harvesting of crops and stock) and production (defined as conversion of crops and stock into products for human use) dominant, all other uses ancillary
 - ii. The hospitality area at wineries is calculated must be changed (too broad now)
- b. Enforce use permits and codes to ensure no violations
 - i. Codify variances strictly to reduce their use
 - ii. 75% rule must be honored and enforced
 - iii. Strict compliance with CEQA (cumulative impacts of projects must be considered). Require permit violators to operate within their permits. County must match inventory of grapes to permit wine production
 - iv. Define and codify which projects require an EIR versus those that get a mitigated negative declaration
- c. Increase minimum acreage for a winery to 40 acres
- d. Human Resources: to farm and produce well, we need a solid local labor force that can get to work with minimal traffic. Minimizing hospitality activities and focusing on agriculture will decrease traffic and increase housing available to our vineyard and winery (production) workers
- e. Prohibit Hold and Haul

2. Environmental Protection

- a. Enhance protections for our watershed, thus restoring the health of the Napa River and our reservoirs which will ensure the integrity of the Ag Preserve by:
 - i. Allowing no more deforestation of our oak woodlands and establishing a County policy to control Timber Harvest Plans
 1. Make mandatory the current voluntary oak woodland plan and increase the mitigation ratio to three to one with appropriate enforcement
 2. Promote Forest Safe Wine certification (and require it for any new applications for wineries or vineyards)

3. Establish a Forest Management Plan in order to minimize fire danger
- ii. Enhance water quality buffer zones for streams and wetlands
- iii. Not approve any new vineyards or wineries for which water must be trucked in or wastewater trucked out
 1. Allow no wineries or vineyards if the existing infrastructure (roads, water, etc.) cannot support them
 2. Consider ways to reduce the dangers to human life by restricting development in areas subject to “cut off” from fires
- iv. Encourage (or require) progressive, enlightened, chemical use reductions in farming practices
- v. Greenhouse Gasses: complete Climate Action Plan to address this
- vi. Require minimum 2 lane road standards for new permit development