

I am writing in support of retaining the two at large seats on the Mendocino County Planning Commission; one with knowledge of agriculture, and one with knowledge of forestry. Future generations will be grateful if we do.

The future character and environment of this county will be largely dictated by land use decisions we make today. Retaining our agricultural and forestry lands, and their required commercial viability is vital. Having seats on the Planning Commission with specific knowledge of potential conflicts between regulation, and development; and agriculture and forestry provides essential representation.

There have been attempts to eliminate these two seats in the past, for the same reasons we see today. Pressure from short sighted economic forces that wish to develop, or unwittingly regulate our agricultural and forestry lands out of existence have been persistent. Let's not let this happen. Let's make sure Mendocino County retains the distinctive character, and environment we see today with our agricultural and forestry lands into the future.

Thank you,

George Hollister, Mendocino County Farm Bureau President