

CAYMUS
VINEYARDS

May 19, 2017

Chairman Belia Ramos, Napa County Board of Supervisors
1195 Third Street, Suite 210
Napa, CA 94558

Re: Mountain Peak Winery #P13-00320-UP

Dear Supervisor Ramos,

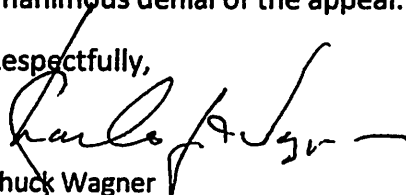
I am writing in support of Mountain Peak Winery and ask you to reject the minority voice that speaks out against our industry and is pursuing an appeal of this project.

To me, one of the key facts to consider is that this project has been through an elaborate vetting process that has entailed considerable flexibility and compromise by the applicant. In addition, it has been approved by the Napa Valley Planning Commission, which is charged with making an in-depth assessment of a project's merits. At this stage, it is critical that our Supervisors make a decision regardless of the politics surrounding it. While we certainly care how neighbors feel about the impact of the project, I believe that this one has exceeded its obligation to treat the environs with consideration and respect. A case in point: visitation has been limited to 39 visitors a day, or roughly less than two cars per hour on Soda Canyon Road.

As you know, more than this one project is at stake. A loud minority voice has been speaking out against the wine industry, with arguments that do not hold merit and undermine the future vitality not just of vineyards and wineries, but Napa Valley overall. Without a thriving wine industry, it will be difficult if not impossible to hold onto the agricultural life that so many of us cherish and work to preserve. What's more, a healthy local economy hinges on supporting the health of the wine industry.

The Board's decision about this project sends an important message about land use policy in the Valley and will hold implications for potentially years to come. I ask you and your fellow Supervisors to honor the existing General Plan, WDO and Zoning codes of Napa County with a unanimous denial of the appeal. Thank you.

Respectfully,



Chuck Wagner
Owner and Winemaker, Caymus Vineyards
Rutherford, CA