



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
LAND USE AGENDA ITEM

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
2011 FEB 17 AM 11 55  
THOMAS J. JACOB  
CLERK OF THE BOARD  
OF SUPERVISORS

**DATE:** March 2, 2011  
**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Our existing equine regulations appear to be out-of-date for the unincorporated areas of the County.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:**

There is no fiscal impact associated with this action.

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**BACKGROUND:**

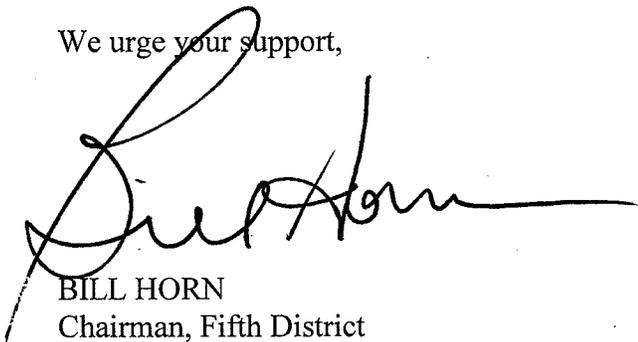
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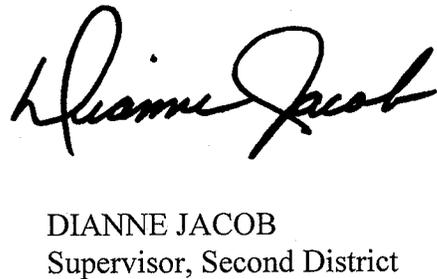
In an effort to achieve this goal, the County should assess the costly and burdensome regulations in the permit process for equine operations and explore the development of a tiered approach similar to the boutique winery ordinance. County staff should also research state law and other jurisdictions 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,



BILL HORN  
Chairman, Fifth District



DIANNE JACOB  
Supervisor, Second District



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**AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION SHEET**  
(continued)

**PREVIOUS RELEVANT BOARD ACTIONS:**

**BOARD POLICIES APPLICABLE:**

**BOARD POLICY STATEMENTS:**

**CONTRACT NUMBER(S):**