

Resolution Number

County of Sonoma  
Santa Rosa, California

March 16, 2023  
(File No. ZCE23-0001) Gary Helfrich

RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION, COUNTY OF SONOMA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, FINDING THE PROJECT EXEMPT FROM CEQA AND RECOMMENDING APPROVAL OF THE ZONE CHANGE WITHIN THE KENWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD FOR PARCELS LISTED IN EXHIBIT A TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

WHEREAS, the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors has directed Permit Sonoma to identify areas within unincorporated Sonoma County for exclusion of new Vacation Rentals where one or more of the following conditions exist:

1. Inadequate road access or off-street parking;
2. Prevalence of vacation rentals is detrimental to the residential character of neighborhoods;
3. Existing residential housing stock needs to be protected from conversion to visitor-serving uses;
4. Topography, access or vegetation creates a significant fire hazard and associated public safety risks;
5. Areas where residential character is to be preserved or preferred; and/or
6. Other areas where the Board of Supervisors determines that it is in the public interest to prohibit or limit the establishment and operation of vacation rentals.

WHEREAS, this project has been found to be categorically exempt from CEQA Guidelines; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the provisions of law, the Planning Commission held a public hearing on March 16, 2023, at which time all interested persons were given an opportunity to be heard; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission recommends that the Board of Supervisors find the project exempt from CEQA.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Planning Commission makes the following findings:

1. The proposed rezone of parcels as shown in Exhibit A is consistent with the Sonoma County General Plan is consistent with Section 2.1 Goal 1 of the Housing Element, which identifies a need to regulate Vacation Rentals to ensure that existing housing stock is maintained and protected, and Policy HE-1k "Continue to regulate the use of existing residences on residential lands for Vacation Rentals".

2. The proposed rezone of parcels as shown in Exhibit A is consistent with Housing Element Program 6, which requires the County to “review and consider revisions to the vacation rental ordinance to limit conversion of permanent housing stock and make vacation rental uses more compatible, and to facilitate enforcement when necessary”.
3. The addition of the Vacation Rental Exclusion (X) Combining Zone is consistent with the Sonoma County Zoning Code Section 26-79 and meets the applicable criteria based on the following facts. The particular circumstances in this case are:
  - a. Tax Assessment Use Codes show that 41,063 parcels outside of the coastal zone are developed with single family homes, with 1,847 of these operating as Vacation Rentals, resulting in a countywide Vacation Rental concentration of 4.5%
  - b. At this time, 17.5% of the parcels developed with single family homes in this neighborhood in the northwest area of Kenwood are operated as Vacation Rentals, which is significantly higher than the countywide average and is detrimental to maintaining the residential character of this neighborhood
  - c. Increased conversion of homes in this area to Vacation Rentals will result in a loss of housing stock
  - d. The area of Kenwood outside of the proposed rezoning area is within a Vacation Rental Exclusion Vacation Rental Exclusion (X) Combining Zone resulting in an increased demand to convert single-family home into Vacation Rentals in parcels outside of the Vacation Rental Exclusion Vacation Rental Exclusion (X) Combining Zone
  - e. Applying a Vacation Rental Exclusion Vacation Rental Exclusion (X) Combining Zone to the parcels shown in Exhibit A provides uniform regulation of Vacation Rentals within the Kenwood neighborhood
4. The recommended rezoning is exempt from review under the California Environmental Quality Act under Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) and Section 15061(b)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines, because the proposed changes would not increase the number of vacation rentals or the potential for negative environmental impacts. The project, if approved, would limit or maintain the current number of vacation rentals in a defined area and thus decrease the potential for impacts from vacation rentals related to noise, the loss of housing stock, transportation, and other environmental impacts.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Planning Commission recommends that the Board of Supervisors approve adding the Vacation Rental Exclusion (X) Combining Zone to the Kenwood neighborhood as shown in Exhibit A.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Planning Commission designates the Secretary of the Planning Commission as the custodian of the documents and other material which constitute the record of proceedings upon which the decision herein is based. These documents may be found at the office of the Sonoma County Permit and Resource Management Department, 2550 Ventura Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95403.

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION was introduced by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_, who moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_, and adopted on roll call by the following vote:

Commissioner  
Commissioner  
Commissioner  
Commissioner  
Commissioner

Ayes:      Noes:      Absent:      Abstain:

WHEREUPON, the Chair declared the above and foregoing Resolution duly adopted; and

SO ORDERED.

# **Exhibit A**

## **Parcel List**

APN	Current Zoning	Proposed Zoning
050-162-001	RR B6 1, F1 F2 RC100/50 VOH	RR B6 1, F1 F2 RC100/50 VOH X
050-162-002	RR B6 1, F1 F2 RC100/50 VOH	RR B6 1, F1 F2 RC100/50 VOH X
050-162-003	RR B6 1, F1 F2 RC100/50 VOH	RR B6 1, F1 F2 RC100/50 VOH X
050-162-004	RR B6 1, F1 F2 RC100/50 VOH	RR B6 1, F1 F2 RC100/50 VOH X
050-162-005	RR B6 1, F1 F2 RC100/50 VOH	RR B6 1, F1 F2 RC100/50 VOH X
050-162-006	RR B6 1, F1 F2 RC50/25 RC100/50 VOH	RR B6 1, F1 F2 RC50/25 RC100/50 VOH X
050-162-026	LC, NONE	LC, X
050-162-027	LC, SR	LC, SR X
050-162-030	LC, SR	LC, SR X
050-162-031	LC, SR	LC, SR X
050-162-034	RR B6 1, VOH	RR B6 1, VOH X
050-162-035	RR B6 1, VOH	RR B6 1, VOH X
050-162-036	RR B6 1, NONE	RR B6 1, X
050-162-037	RR B6 1, VOH	RR B6 1, VOH X
050-162-038	RR B6 1, VOH	RR B6 1, VOH X
050-162-039	RR B6 1, VOH	RR B6 1, VOH X
050-162-045	LC, SR	LC, SR X
050-162-046	RR B6 1, NONE	RR B6 1, X
050-162-047	RR B6 1, VOH	RR B6 1, VOH X
050-162-048	RR B6 1, NONE	RR B6 1, X
050-162-052	RR B6 1, NONE	RR B6 1, X
050-162-053	RR B6 1, NONE	RR B6 1, X
050-162-054	RR B6 1, NONE	RR B6 1, X
050-162-055	RR B6 1, NONE	RR B6 1, X
050-162-056	RR B6 1, NONE	RR B6 1, X
050-162-057	RR B6 1, NONE	RR B6 1, X
050-162-062	RR B6 1, NONE	RR B6 1, X
050-162-063	RR B6 1, NONE	RR B6 1, X
050-162-064	RR B6 1, NONE	RR B6 1, X
050-162-065	RR B6 1, NONE	RR B6 1, X
050-162-067	RR B6 1, NONE	RR B6 1, X
050-162-068	RR B6 1, NONE	RR B6 1, X
050-162-069	RR B6 1, NONE	RR B6 1, X
050-162-070	RR B6 1, F2 VOH	RR B6 1, F2 VOH X
050-162-071	RR B6 1, F2 VOH	RR B6 1, F2 VOH X
050-162-074	RR B6 1, VOH	RR B6 1, VOH X
050-162-075	RR B6 1, VOH	RR B6 1, VOH X
050-290-001	RR B6 1, NONE	RR B6 1, X
050-290-002	RR B6 1, NONE	RR B6 1, X
050-290-003	RR B6 1, NONE	RR B6 1, X
050-290-004	RR B6 1, SR	RR B6 1, SR X
050-290-005	RR B6 1, SR	RR B6 1, SR X
050-290-006	RR B6 1, SR	RR B6 1, SR X
050-290-007	RR B6 1, SR	RR B6 1, SR X
050-290-008	RR B6 1, NONE	RR B6 1, X
050-290-009	RR B6 1, NONE	RR B6 1, X
050-290-010	RR B6 1, NONE	RR B6 1, X

APN	Current Zoning	Proposed Zoning
050-290-012	RR B6 1, NONE	RR B6 1, X
050-290-013	RR B6 1, NONE	RR B6 1, X
050-290-015	RR B6 1, NONE	RR B6 1, X
050-290-016	AR B6 1, HD SR	AR B6 1, HD SR X
050-290-017	RR B6 1, SR	RR B6 1, SR X