



The voice of business since 1949!

VCEDA's Mission Statement: To advocate for policies, legislation and programs that stimulate business and a vital economy as the foundation for a vibrant quality of life in Ventura County.

November 9, 2020

RE: Agenda Item 47/Ordinance Section 8107-05

Honorable Members of the Ventura County Board of Supervisors:

The Ventura County Economic Development Association (VCEDA) provides our members with education and policy guidance on issues that affect the economic climate of the greater business community. As such, after careful examination and review, VCEDA respectfully opposes the action of amending the Non-Coastal Zoning Ordinance and the adoption of Ordinance Section 8107-05.

VCEDA supports efforts to ensure that the extraction of oil in the Ventura County follows clear guidelines and mandates, as well as a monitoring practice that ensures the process does not negatively impact our environment. However, those guidelines, as well as rigorous systems of oversight, are already in place as managed by the State of California and other environmental agencies.

The recently adopted Ventura General Plan faces multiple lawsuits as a result of a desire to push for adoption without adequate study and analysis. A decision to ignore legal vested rights, previously permitted by County action, will only result in additional legal challenges. As our business community, and our County Government, struggle to navigate the economic impacts of the coronavirus, the Board should hesitate to enact policy that only serves to exacerbate this crisis.

For these reasons, VCEDA respectfully requests that your Board vote no on the staff recommendations for Agenda Item 47 and continue your support for rights vested through your existing permitting process.

Sincerely,

Sandy E. Smith
Chair, VCEDA Policy Committee

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