



Protecting Marin Since 1934

January 18, 2017

Marin County Planning Commission
Community Development Agency
3501 Civic Center Drive, Suite 308
San Rafael, CA 94903
Email: planningcommission@marincounty.org

Re: 2017 Development Code Amendments and inclusion of Animal Slaughter Uses

Commissioners:

Marin Conservation League supports adoption of provisions to include small-scale on-farm poultry slaughter facilities and mobile slaughter units as a permissible use in specific agriculturally-zoned districts in Marin County, in the 2017 Development Code Amendment. These amendments are acceptable and effective means to facilitate agricultural diversification in the county. In making these amendments, MCL encourages establishing specific development standards for these facilities in the Development Code.

It is critical to MCL that the level of oversight and protections for both the environment and food safety are in accordance with Federal, State, and County regulations and requirements.

Marin Conservation League is committed to protecting the county's agricultural lands from development through multiple methods and approaches, consistent with environmental protections. This includes supporting the viability of Marin's working landscapes through agricultural diversification, which the proposed amendments facilitate. Updating the Code to permit animal livestock operations that meet the growing consumer market for locally produced meat is an important step in support of our agricultural economy.

MCL looks forward to offering specific suggestions on proposed final amendment language.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kate Powers".

Kate Powers
President

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