



January 12, 2023

Sonoma County Mayors' & Councilmembers' Association  
City of Healdsburg  
401 Grove Street  
Healdsburg, CA 95448  
ATTN: Raina Allan, City Clerk/Public Information Officer, CMC  
Email: [rallan@healdsburg.gov](mailto:rallan@healdsburg.gov)

**Re: Letter of Interest for Appointment to the Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District (Ag + Open Space) Citizens Advisory Committee**

Dear Honorable Mayors and Councilmembers:

I write to respectfully request your support for my appointment to the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District Citizens Advisory Committee.

As a member of the Cloverdale Unified School District Board of Directors, I was a tireless supporter of funding for new school facilities and amenities that benefited the community, including properties for cross-country running and hiking. I continuously pushed for programs that worked to preserve our environment, while enjoying what they offer. This experience would be valuable serving on the Ag + Open Space Board Citizens Advisory Committee. As the Mayor of Cloverdale, I have worked collaboratively with the Sonoma County Regional Parks Department on identifying opportunities to expand local parks and recreational opportunities in northern Sonoma County with a focus on expanding access to the Russian River, while repairing and preserving the area. In addition, I spearheaded a park vegetation management program in coordination with Sonoma County Regional Parks, Fish and Game, Ca. State Water Quality Control, Sonoma County Water Agency, Northern Sonoma County Fire District and County Probation Department that support public health and safety while continuing to promote public access for outdoor recreation and protection of our natural resources.

Thank you for your consideration of my appointment to the Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District's Citizens Advisory Committee. Please feel free to call or email me at [tlands@ci.cloverdale.ca.us](mailto:tlands@ci.cloverdale.ca.us) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Todd Lands  
Mayor, City of Cloverdale

cc: Cloverdale City Council



Mark Stapp  
Council Member  
City of Santa Rosa  
100 Santa Rosa Ave.  
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

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Board of Directors Appointments  
Chair  
Mayors' and Councilmembers' Association  
City of Healdsburg  
401 Grove Street  
Healdsburg, CA 95448  
ATTN: Raina Allan, City Clerk/Public Information Officer, CMC

Dear Ms. Allan,

I am pleased to submit this Letter of Interest for the available seat on the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District Advisory Committee. I was elected in November to the Santa Rosa City Council and hope to represent the City with Ag + Open Space. Protecting Sonoma County's agricultural areas and wildlands is critical to the future of our County. Our open spaces are the basis for healthy communities, vibrant ecosystems, fire resilience, and even ensuring our water supply.

I am already engaged with issues and projects adjacent to the work of Ag + Open Space, and believe my experience would be an asset to the Advisory Committee:

- In my role at Sonoma State University as Senior Director for Corporate and Foundation Relations, I partner with SSU's Center for Environmental Inquiry to secure funds to support SSU's 4,160 acres of wildland preserves, including the 450-acre Fairfield-Osborn Preserve on Sonoma Mountain and the 40-acre Los Guillicos Preserve near Mount Hood;
- I work closely with SSU's Wine Business Institute, which promotes education and research related to issues of land use and sustainability throughout California;
- I am currently Vice President for the Sonoma County Farm Bureau Foundation Board, which supports agricultural education and environmental resilience throughout the County.

On a personal note, my wife and I live adjacent to Trione-Annadel State Park and, in 2021, we both certified as Wildland Level 2 Firefighters with the intention of assisting with prescribed burns. In short, Ag + Open Space's commitment to our natural and agricultural spaces resonates with me deeply and I would be proud to serve the organization as an Advisory Committee Member. I thank the Association members for their consideration, and will be happy to provide additional information about my background and interest upon request.

Warmly,

*Mark Stapp*

Mark Stapp

Council Member

City of Santa Rosa

[707-328-7024](tel:707-328-7024)/[mstapp@srcity.org](mailto:mstapp@srcity.org)