

# AMADOR COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

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#### **MEMO**

TO: LAND USE COMMITTEE

FROM: CHUCK BEATTY, PLANNING DIRECTOR

DATE: OCTOBER 21, 2021

RE: PUBLIC HEARING NOTIFICATION POLICY

BACKGROUND: California Government Code Section 65091 requires public hearing notices be sent to all property owners within a 300-foot radius of a discretionary project site a minimum of ten (10) days prior to the hearing. In situations where the project site and all surrounding parcels are a half-acre of less in size, a notification area with a 300-foot radius will typically include 50 or more property owners (see attached Map 1). In rural areas, where parcels sizes are 40-plus acres, the 300-foot radius will only include the immediately adjoining property owners, typically less than 10 (Map 2), whereas a half-mile radius in the same 40-acre area will capture approximately 30 property owners (Map 3).

This situation is exacerbated as project sites increase in size. Map 4 displays a 900-acre parcel with a 300-foot notification radius where most of the adjoining parcels are under the same ownership. It would take a one-mile radius around the 900-acre parcel (Map 5) to capture a similar number of property owners as shown in the example of a 300-foot radius around an urban parcel.

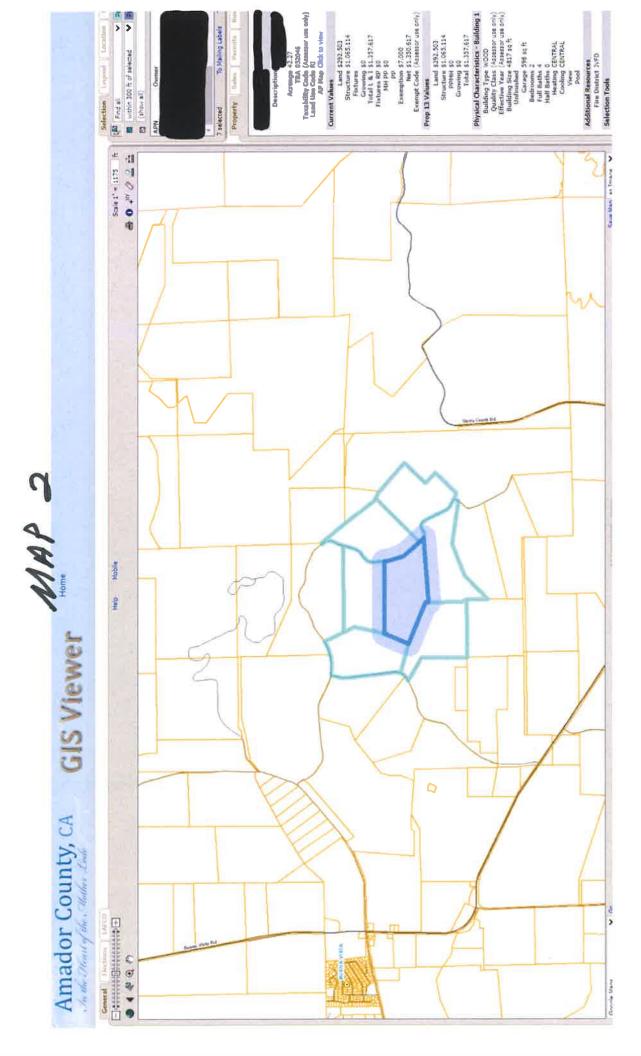
In cases where the 300-foot radius notification area only captures the immediately adjoining property owners, staff extends the notification area to between 1,000 and 2,000 feet. While this expanded area exceeds the notification requirement of the Government Code, there is no County policy on how far to extend the notification radius or how many property owners should be notified.

## REQUESTED ACTION: Direct staff to either:

- 1) Prepare a policy that establishes a notification radius based on project type and size; or
- 2) Administer Government Code Section 65091 for all discretionary projects as written (300-foot notification radius).

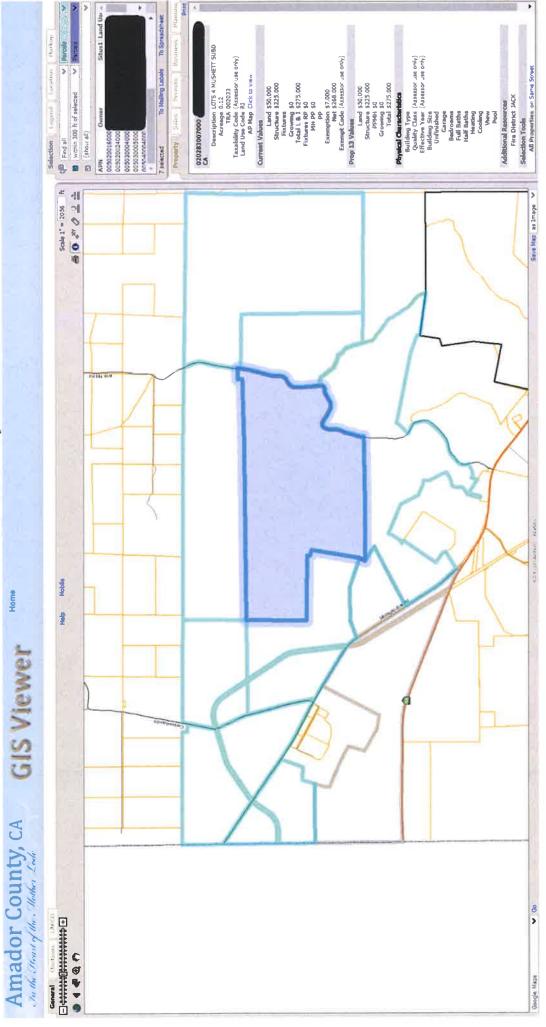
MAP 1



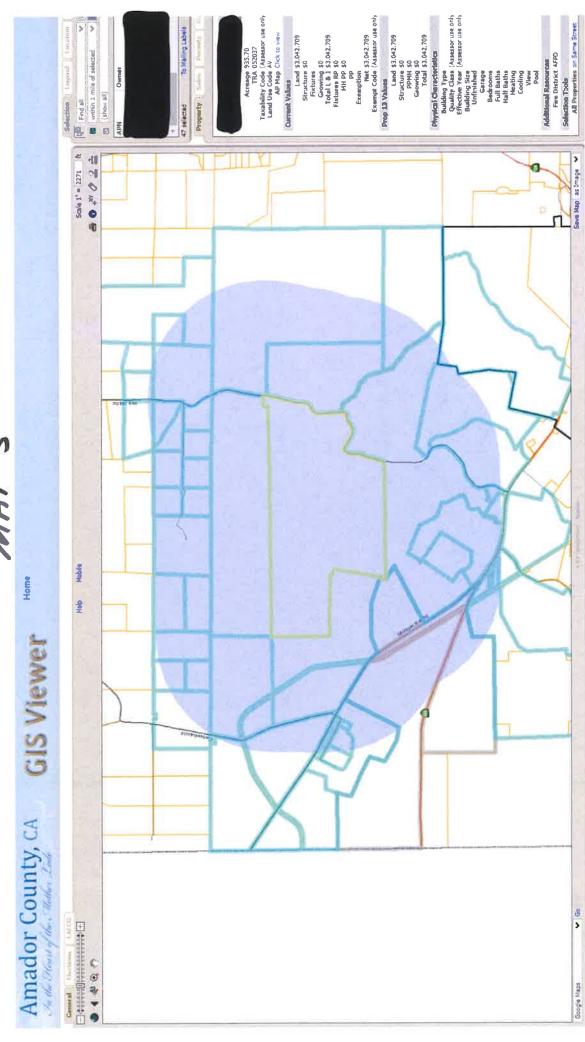


CA Description LOTS 4 MUSHETT SUBD
Acreage 0.12
The 0.0231
The 0.0331
The 0.0 To Making Labels the Find all within 1/2 mile of salemed (thou all) Property 020283007000 CA APN 012040047000 012040049000 0120400000 01205002400 01304000004 Selection Scale 1"= 2056 ft GIS Viewer Hom. Help Mobile Amador County, CA 8 

MAP 4



MAP S





#### State of California

## **GOVERNMENT CODE**

Section 65091

65091. (a) When a provision of this title requires notice of a public hearing to be given pursuant to this section, notice shall be given in all of the following ways:

- (1) Notice of the hearing shall be mailed or delivered at least 10 days prior to the hearing to the owner of the subject real property as shown on the latest equalized assessment roll. Instead of using the assessment roll, the local agency may use records of the county assessor or tax collector if those records contain more recent information than the information contained on the assessment roll. Notice shall also be mailed to the owner's duly authorized agent, if any, and to the project applicant.
- (2) When the Subdivision Map Act (Division 2 (commencing with Section 66410) of Title 7) requires notice of a public hearing to be given pursuant to this section, notice shall also be given to any owner of a mineral right pertaining to the subject real property who has recorded a notice of intent to preserve the mineral right pursuant to Section 883.230 of the Civil Code.
- (3) Notice of the hearing shall be mailed or delivered at least 10 days prior to the hearing to each local agency expected to provide water, sewage, streets, roads, schools, or other essential facilities or services to the project, whose ability to provide those facilities and services may be significantly affected.
- (4) Notice of the hearing shall be mailed or delivered at least 10 days prior to the hearing to all owners of real property as shown on the latest equalized assessment roll within 300 feet of the real property that is the subject of the hearing. In lieu of using the assessment roll, the local agency may use records of the county assessor or tax collector which contain more recent information than the assessment roll. If the number of owners to whom notice would be mailed or delivered pursuant to this paragraph or paragraph (1) is greater than 1,000, a local agency, in lieu of mailed or delivered notice, may provide notice by placing a display advertisement of at least one-eighth page in at least one newspaper of general circulation within the local agency in which the proceeding is conducted at least 10 days prior to the hearing.
- (5) If the notice is mailed or delivered pursuant to paragraph (4), the notice shall also either be:
- (A) Published pursuant to Section 6061 in at least one newspaper of general circulation within the local agency which is conducting the proceeding at least 10 days prior to the hearing.
- (B) Posted at least 10 days prior to the hearing in at least three public places within the boundaries of the local agency, including one public place in the area directly affected by the proceeding.
  - (b) The notice shall include the information specified in Section 65094.

- (c) In addition to the notice required by this section, a local agency may give notice of the hearing in any other manner it deems necessary or desirable.
- (d) Whenever a hearing is held regarding a permit for a drive-through facility, or modification of an existing drive-through facility permit, the local agency shall incorporate, where necessary, notice procedures to the blind, aged, and disabled communities in order to facilitate their participation in any hearing on, or appeal of the denial of, a drive-through facility permit. The Legislature finds that access restrictions to commercial establishments affecting the blind, aged, or disabled, is a critical statewide problem; therefore, this subdivision shall be applicable to charter cities.

(Amended by Stats. 2016, Ch. 366, Sec. 13. (SB 974) Effective January 1, 2017.)