

CITY OF MOORPARK

ITEM 9.F.

799 Moorpark Avenue, Moorpark, California 93021

Main City Phone Number (805) 517-6200 | Fax (805) 532-2205 | moorpark@moorparkca.gov

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

June 2, 2017

John and Molly Chester
Apricot Lane Farms
10700 Broadway Rd
Moorpark, CA 93021

Dear John and Molly:

On behalf of the City Council, I want to sincerely express to you that we were saddened and disappointed to learn that you have decided to not move forward with the proposed Apricot Lane Farms Restaurant and Market Place on High Street. Your project is exactly the type of project the City Council and Moorpark community have wanted for High Street, and we are asking for your reconsideration.

While we understand your occasional frustration with the required entitlement permit and building permit approval process, including the recently required soils testing, please know that numerous decisions by the City Council in support of this project are a testament to the City's strong commitment to working with you to make this project come to fruition, including the City Council's approval of the commercial planned development and conditional use permits on November 16, 2016, and the Council's recent approval on May 10, 2017, of the Disposition and Development Agreement for the sale of the City's property on High Street to Apricot Lane Market Holdings, LLC.

We recognize that rising construction costs may have affected the project budget. Please know that the City will work collaboratively with you to help address any challenges you may have, and to help you deliver a quality project consistent with the design, intent, and scope of the commercial planned development and conditional use permits approved by the City Council, including re-appraisal of the site to recognize soil conditions and changes to the Disposition and Development Agreement if needed.

Redeveloping High Street has been a City priority since incorporation in 1983. The City proactively acquired property on High Street, and has encouraged continued investment in the downtown area of Moorpark that has included investing several million dollars for infrastructure improvements, bringing the Post Office back to High Street, purchasing the historic theater on High Street along with acquiring three other properties needed to retain the viability of what is now the High Street Arts Center, facilitating relocation of the Fire Station from Moorpark Avenue to High Street, providing space for the Chamber of Commerce on High Street, enhancing and maintaining the Railroad Station and parking lots on High Street, and committing to maintain the City's Civic Center at the west end of High Street that will include a new City Library. In addition, the City has recently facilitated and approved several multi-family residential projects in the downtown area.

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JANICE S. PARVIN
Mayor

ROSEANN MIKOS, Ph.D.
Councilmember

DAVID POLLOCK
Councilmember

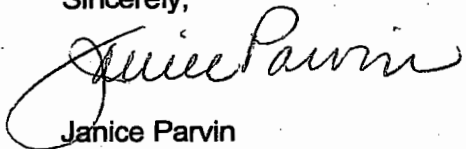
KEN SIMONS
Councilmember

MARK VAN DAM
Councilmember

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The City has been and continues to be very committed to achieving successful development in the downtown and on High Street. We hope you will reconsider your decision, and the City Council and the entire city staff remains committed to working with you to bring your unique farm-to-table food market, restaurant, and microbrewery to High Street.

Sincerely,



Janice Parvin
Mayor

cc: Moorpark City Council
Steven Kueny, City Manager
David Bobardt, Community Development Director
Jeremy Laurentowski, Parks and Recreation Director
Jessica Sandifer, Program Manager

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