

OCT 11 2023

Mendocino County Building and Planning Administration
860 North Bush Street
Ukiah , Ca 95482

RE: Support for Approval of Administrative Permit
CASE# AP_2022-0041
DATE FILED 12/15/2022
Owner/ Applicant : Yazmin Mendoza- Lopez

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Araceli Grow, a lifelong resident and former salon business owner of Mendocino County. I am writing this letter to express my strong support for the approval for a permit for the establishment of Gather Events at 4800 Burke Hill Drive in Ukiah Ca.

I have been fortunate to know Yazmin Mendoza -Lopez for many years. She is a good hearted responsible hard working young woman, who has worked extremely hard to get where she is now . She has been a business owner for the past 15 years at Mendocino Bridal and Tux and has had family experience in business for the past 30 years. She has always worked towards her dream, which is being able to own a wedding venue. Even though part of the dream has become a reality , unfortunately it's not in full effect until the necessary permits are granted .

I believe Gather Events would be a wonderful asset to the community. Unfortunately, Mendocino county does not and has never had a wedding venue with all the wonderful amenities Gather Events offers .

As a former hair salon owner I have witnessed first hand, brides traveling hours to their wedding venue , due to the lack of venue locations in the area. Therefore , hairdressers including myself would miss out on business opportunities due to the event not being held locally . We are talking about local entrepreneurs that have worked hard to build their business that are missing out on business opportunities due to not being hired locally. It's unfortunate that businesses , such as hotels , salons , rentals , photographers, bakeries , musicians, restaurants , flower shops and so on would be negatively impacted due to the lack of venues in the area.

Yazmin Mendoza - Lopez is not an amateur , she has a vision and has had one for many years . I have personally been to the location in question and have seen the transformation of the location . She has made sure to accommodate the needs of her potential clients and surrounding neighbors by doing some upgrades to make the location inviting as well as planting trees , installing sound insulation on the walls and noise control meters. And will continue to do what is needed . I also believe the location of the venue is perfect for events to take place. It's located in a rural area with both north and south access to the highway which can also help as a sound barrier .

4800 Burke Hill has been a place to gather for decades , it is the only horse arena in Ukiah . I have heard many stories from friends that have many memories from attending rodeos there growing up . And that's exactly what Gather Events is all about , it is a place where the local community can gather and celebrate memorable events that they will keep close to heart forever .

I strongly believe and have no doubt in my mind that Gather Events will make many people happy . Starting with the people that had to postpone their special event due to the pandemic and now are looking for a new location to gather with loved ones to celebrate the event they had to put on hold for so long. Also the local business owners I mentioned above, will have multiple business opportunities due to a new event venue location in town.

I am hopeful that you will grant the necessary permits to make this Event venue possible for the community of Mendocino county , an event venue that is much needed in the area. Thank you for your consideration and your time .

Sincerely ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Araceli Grow". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name.

Araceli Grow