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Planning Services Division

# SOLANO COUNTY ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

Staff Report SGN-22-03

	tion No. SGN-22-03 ( Planner: Eric Wilberg,		Meeting: April 6, 2023				
Applica Joe Cas			Property Owner same				
	iisun Valley Road , CA 94534						
Action	Requested						
Consideration of Sign Permit SGN-22-03 to construct three (3) freestanding monument signs totaling 60 square feet of sign area to identify the Bally Keal Estate consisting of a winery, distillery, and special events facility located along Suisun Valley Road, one (1) mile north of the City of Fairfield, within the Suisun Valley Agriculture "A-SV-20" Zoning District; APN: 0027-030-010.							
Propert	y Information						
Size: 79.29 ac. (total)			Location: 4286 Suisun Valley Road				
<b>APN:</b> 00	027-030-010						
Zoning: Suisun Valley Agriculture "A-SV-20"			Land Use: Winery & Special Event Facility				
General Plan: Agriculture			Ag. Contract: 116				
Utilities: Domestic water well and private septic system			Access: Suisun Valley Road				
Adjacer	nt General Plan Desigr	nation and Zoning Distric	t				
	General Plan	Zoning		Existing Land Use			
North	Agriculture	A-SV-20		Vineyard			
South	Agriculture	A-SV-20		Field crop			
East	Agriculture	A-SV-20		Vineyard			
West	Agriculture	A-SV-20		Rockville Cemetery			

# PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed signage consists of three (3) freestanding monument signs located at the property's frontage along Suisun Valley Road to identify the Bally Keal Estate which consists of a winery, distillery, and special events facility. The property has 1,820 linear feet of roadway frontage with two existing driveway approaches. Two signs are single-sided, directional, and indicate approximate distance to the property's entrance. The main entrance sign is double-sided. All signage totals a combined 60 square feet.

As shown on the development plans prepared by PDF Designs, Inc., revised February 13, 2023, Sign No. 1 is located near the north west corner of the 79.29-acre parcel and consists of 20 square feet of signage mounted between two four-foot-tall stone veneer columns. Sign content identifies "Bally Keal Estate", "BK" logo, and directional distance to the property entrance. The Sherwin Williams color scheme includes "Black of Night" as the primary and "Ellie Gray" and "Marigold" as accents. Ground mount solar powered shielded indirect lights provide illumination.

Sign No. 2 is located north of the driveway at the property's entrance. Sign dimensions, monument height, form, and lighting are identical for all three signs. Sign No. 2 is double-sided, and its content is similar to the other signage. Hours of operation, date established, and contact information is also provided near the bottom of this sign. "Ellie Gray" is the primary color and "Black of Night" and "Marigold" are accents.

Sign No. 3 is located near the south west corner of the property and is similar and consistent with other signage.

#### **GENERAL PLAN AND ZONING**

The General Plan designates this area Agriculture and the property is zoned Suisun Valley Agriculture "A-SV-20". The winery and event facility are permitted via Use Permit U-19-08 and proposed signage is supportive and incidental to those permitted uses.

# SUISUN VALLEY DESIGN GUIDELINES

The subject property is located within the Suisun Valley Agriculture zoning district and the proposed signage is subject to the design guidelines provided in the Suisun Valley Strategic Plan "SVSP". The SVSP recommends that signage be of appropriate scale relative to development within the vicinity, organized using a consistent style to orient users and clearly identify the associated business, and encourages the use of low stone monuments at entries to wineries.

The proposed signage is scaled appropriately for the agrarian setting and is of sufficient size to orient motorists along Suisun Valley Road towards the winery and event facility. The form, design, content, and color scheme are consistent throughout each of the three freestanding signs. The proposal includes the use of stone veneer columns, encourage by the SVSP.

# SIGN STANDARDS ANALYSIS

Section 28.96 of the County Zoning Regulations (Signs) specifies general and specific standards for the placement, type, size, and number of signs allowed within each unincorporated Zoning District.

Section 28.96.60 provides general sign standards, with an excerpt applicable to the A-SV-20 district provided below:

Zoning District	Allowed Sign Types (1)	Maximum Number (2)	Maximum Sign Area (3)	Maximum Sign Height	Type of Lighting Allowed	
	Awning	3	60 sf		Indirect	
	Freestanding			6 ft for freestanding.		
A A-SM A-SV-20	Projecting			As provided by Section <u>28.96.70(</u> C) for projecting.		
	Wall			Eave height for wall- mounted.		

The proposal is consistent with these general standards in that all signage is freestanding, there are a maximum of three (3) proposed signs, maximum sign area does not exceed 60 square feet, freestanding signage does not exceed six (6) feet in height, and all lighting is indirect, ground mount, solar powered.

In addition to the general standards above, Section 28.96.70 (B) provides standards specific to freestanding signage:

- a. Sign height shall not exceed six feet.
- b. A freestanding sign may be placed only on a site frontage adjoining a public street.
- c. Multiple signs shall be separated by a minimum of 75 feet to ensure adequate visibility for all signs.
- d. The sign shall not project over public property, vehicular easements, or rights-of-way
- e. To assist emergency response personnel in locating the site, a freestanding sign should contain an illuminated street address plate. Numbers should be a minimum of six inches in height. Address plates shall not be calculated as part of the allowed sign area.

The proposed signage is consistent with standards a through d, and the sign permit is conditioned to ensure compliance with "e" regarding addressing and street numbering.

# ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

Pursuant to Section 15311(a) (Class 11 – Accessory Structures) of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, the proposed project is exempt from the requirements of CEQA and would not have a significant impact on the environment. Class 11 consists of the construction, or placement of minor structures accessory to existing commercial, industrial, or institutional facilities, including an on-premises signage.

#### RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Zoning Administrator ADOPT a resolution to APPROVE Sign Permit SGN-22-03 subject to the findings and conditions of approval.

# ATTACHMENTS:

A – Draft ResolutionB – Development Plans

# SOLANO COUNTY ZONING ADMINISTRATOR RESOLUTION NO. XX

WHEREAS, the Solano County Zoning Administrator has considered Sign Permit Application No. SGN-22-03 by **Joe Cassidy** to construct three (3) freestanding monument signs totaling 60 square feet of sign area to identify the Bally Keal Estate consisting of a winery, distillery, and special events facility located at 4286 Suisun Valley Road, one (1) mile north of the City of Fairfield, within the Suisun Valley Agriculture "A-SV-20" Zoning District; APN: 0027-030-010; and

WHEREAS, said Zoning Administrator has reviewed the report of the Department of Resource Management and heard testimony relative to the subject application at the duly noticed public hearing held on April 6, 2023; and

**WHEREAS**, after due consideration, the Zoning Administrator has made the following findings in regard to said proposal:

1. The proposed signage does not exceed the standards of Sections 28.96.60 (Zoning District Sign Standards) and 28.96.70 (Standards for Specific Types of Signs) and is of the minimum size and height necessary to enable motorists and pedestrian to readily identify the facility or site from a sufficient distance to safely and conveniently access the facility or site.

The proposal is consistent with the general and specific standards in that freestanding signage is an allowed type, there are a maximum of three (3) proposed signs, maximum sign area does not exceed 60 square feet, freestanding signage does not exceed six (6) feet in height, and all lighting is indirect, ground mount, solar powered. In addition, signage is sited on frontage adjoining a public street (Suisun Valley Road, County Road No. 83). Each sign is separated by a minimum of 75 feet to ensure adequate visibility and are situated outside of vehicular easements, rights-of-way, and do not project over public property. The sign permit is conditioned to ensure compliance with addressing standards.

2. The size, location, and design of the sign are visually complementary and compatible with the size and architectural style of the primary structures on the site, any prominent natural features of the site, and structures and prominent natural features on adjacent properties on the same street in the immediate vicinity.

The proposed signage including the size, location, and design are visually complementary and compatible with the winery and event facility on-site and with neighboring uses within the vicinity.

3. The proposed signs are in substantial conformance with the sign design criteria provided in Section 28.96.50 (D) and (E) of the Sign Regulations.

The proposed signs are consistent with the applicable design criteria including color, materials, and illumination.

#### 4. The proposal is consistent with the Suisun Valley Design Guidelines.

The proposed signage is scaled appropriately for the agrarian setting and is of sufficient size to orient motorists along Suisun Valley Road towards the winery and event facility. The form, design, content, and color scheme are consistent throughout each of the three freestanding signs. The proposal includes the use of stone veneer columns, encouraged by the SVSP.

5. Pursuant to Section 15311(a) (Class 11 – Accessory Structures) of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, the proposed project is exempt from the requirements of CEQA and would not have a significant impact on the environment. Class 11 consists of the construction, or placement of minor structures accessory to existing commercial, industrial, or institutional facilities, including an on-premises signage.

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED** that the Zoning Administrator has approved Sign Permit Application No. SGN-22-03 subject to the following conditions of approval:

- 1. All signage shall be established in accord with the application materials submitted with Sign Permit application SGN-22-03 filed May 25, 2022 except as modified by the revised development plans prepared by PDF Designs, Inc. dated February 13, 2023, and as approved by the Solano County Zoning Administrator.
- 2. Any expansion or change in the project; including size, type, or location of signage may require application for a new or revised sign permit.
- 3. The permittee shall remain in compliance with the Sign Regulations as set forth in Section 28.96 of the Solano County Zoning Ordinance.
- 4. No sign shall be located within, or so that it overhangs a public right-of-way.
- 5. To assist emergency response personnel in locating the site, the freestanding monument sign at the main entrance shall contain an illuminated street address plate. Numbers should be a minimum of six inches in height. Address plates shall not be calculated as part of the allowed sign area.

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted at the regular meeting of the Solano County Zoning Administrator on April 6, 2023.

TERRY SCHMIDTBAUER, DIRECTOR RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Allan Calder Planning Program Manager



