Permitting Amendments | December 8, 2026 Board of Supervisors hearing

Replace the bracketed text and personalize the letter. Delete this instruction section before sending. Email your letter to sbcob@countyofsb.org by November 24, 2026 for inclusion in the Board packet. Use the subject line below. Public comments may be posted online.

[Date]

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
Via the Clerk of the Board: sbcob@countyofsb.org

Re: December 8, 2026 - Ministerial Permitting and Streamlining Amendments

Dear Chair and Members of the Board:

I am [a Montecito resident / property owner / business owner / other connection]. I support making permitting more efficient while preserving the review and development standards that help maintain Montecito's semi-rural character.

Please retain architectural review for new and remodeled homes in coastal and inland Montecito, consistent with the Montecito Planning Commission's recommendation. I oppose the proposed exemption from architectural review for qualifying single-story homes up to 2,500 square feet. Square footage alone does not determine how a project fits its lot or affects neighboring properties.

I also ask you to incorporate enforceable, objective standards for residential floor area in relation to lot size, building height, and detached accessory buildings into the ordinances, consistent with the Montecito Community Plan and Architectural Guidelines. Please consider a residential height limit of 25 feet and two stories in the Montecito Land Use and Development Code.

Please preserve timely notice, access to plans before approval, and meaningful opportunities for neighbors to comment and appeal. Retain historic-resource screening and appropriate commercial development protections. These safeguards help identify concerns and improve projects before construction begins.

[Add two or three sentences about your neighborhood, a permitting experience, or a specific concern. Explain why these protections matter to you.]

Please ensure the final amendments uphold the Montecito Community Plan and preserve meaningful local architectural review. Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,
[Your full name]
[Your neighborhood or community]