

Agricultural and Livestock Pass for Monterey County

Agricultural Commissioner's Office <u>Referral Response Update</u>

> BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OCTOBER 25, 2022 AGENDA ITEM NO. 20

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What is the Ag Pass Program?

Ag Pass Program may allow commercial agricultural operations limited emergency access to areas that may otherwise be restricted due to a wildfire or similar disaster with the following purpose:

- ✓ Protect or care for agricultural assets
- ✓ Provide support to emergency personnel such as identifying water points or roads
- ✓ County would provide a uniform way to vet commercial agricultural operations
- ✓ Allows for emergency staff at disaster check points to easily identify Ag Pass holders







Background-Board of Supervisors

Board Referral No. 2022.07 (Lopez):

• April 4, 2022- Received a referral to determine the feasibility of an Agricultural and Livestock Ag Pass Program.

- May 3, 2022- Ag Commissioner's presented a preliminary analysis.
 - The Board directed staff to develop an AG Pass Program to include Livestock and Vineyards.



Who will administer the Ag Pass Program?

Agricultural Commissioner's Office will be responsible for the administration of the Ag Pass Program for Monterey County.

Administration responsibilities include but are not limited to:

- Process applications
- Verification of Fire Training
- Printing and Distributing Ag Pass Identification Cards
- Record Keeping
- Renewal Notification



Ag Pass Program Development Partnership and Consultation

- Mo. Co. Regional Fire
- Cal-Fire San Benito-Monterey Unit
- Sheriff's Office
- County Counsel
- County Executive Office
- Office of Emergency Services

- District 3, BOS
- Monterey County Vintners & Growers Association
- Monterey County Farm Bureau
- Monterey County Cattlemen's Association
- California Highway Patrol
- County Animal Services
- SPCA of Monterey County



Program Development and Next Steps...

Staff has determined:

- Eligibility Criteria/Materials
- Fire Training

Next Steps:

- Finalize program by the end of this year
- Present to partnership and consultation group
- Board action in early 2023