

PLEASE JOIN ME IN YES VOTE ON MEASURE U November 1, 2012

Editor: I'd like to invite you to join me in supporting "Yes on Measure U." As a member of the Save Rural Angwin Advisory Council the past 6 years, I believe that Measure U is one of the most important measures on the ballot.

Agricultural land and beautiful open space have long been the heart and lifeblood of the Napa Valley. Thanks to visionaries, the Napa County Ag Preserve was created over 40 years ago. Without their efforts and foresight, the Napa Valley would simply not be what it is today. Instead it would contain urban sprawl like many other counties. Just as Measure J in 1990 and Measure P in 2008 reflected the will of the citizens, it's now vitally important to support Measure U.

While allowing smart and sustainable growth, Measure U protects unincorporated rural Angwin and therefore Napa County from massive, out-of-scale development that would reach into all county taxpayers' wallets. Angwin is not an "urban" area as it's currently improperly zoned. Measure U will properly label areas of Angwin as agriculture, open space and public-institutional in keeping with the precepts of the General Plan. The plan states a police to "maintain the rural atmosphere." Besides, there are already 191 houses that are approved to be built.

Smart and sustainable growth is a principle that too often gets thrown out the window when developers see dollar signs. The taxpayers would be left footing the bill ongoing for the huge infrastructure costs - everything from roads to emergency services to schools.

Angwin, a small rural village located on Howell Mountain with narrow curvy roads, is not the place for huge subdivision developments. In fact, it's a disastrous idea! Napa County doesn't need and can't afford a sixth city with a highway up remote Howell Mountain.

Once the farmlands and wild lands are paved over, they're gone forever! It's selfish and unfair for developers to line their pockets while having an almost complete disregard for their neighbors and cost to the taxpayers of Napa County.

The time is right now to preserve agricultural land, open space and Napa Valley beauty for future generations ... before it's too late. I believe we have a responsibility to do so. Napa County is worth protecting. Measure U saves agricultural land and saves taxpayers millions.

Please join me, and many others, in supporting the preservation of our beautiful agricultural and rural heritage. Please vote "yes on Measure U."

Robert Redford