

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION No. 1

For Planning Commission Agenda of:
May 6, 202

<input type="checkbox"/>	Administrative Agenda Item	}
<input type="checkbox"/>	Continued Hearing Item	} [G1]
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	New Hearing Item	}
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Attached for the Planning Commission's record and review are the following supplementary information items:

1. Public comment – email Chip Tittmann, received by email May 5, 2021.

RE: Chip's Poopinon.....May 1, 2021

- *What part of DRAUGHT does the public, the Humboldt County Health Department and the Board of Supervisors not understand?
- *Mendocino, Sonoma Counties and much of California are already in serious DRAUGHT.
- *Humboldt County will be also in DRAUGHT conditions soon.
- *Saving water should be our first and most important issue to address.
- *Flushing our human waste with pure water is antiquated and unnecessary.
- *Urine is sterile and nutrient rich. It should not be discarded using 5 (or even 1 ½) gallons of potable drinking water. Waterless urinals already exist and are licensed all over the world.
- *Humanure can be safely and hygienically recycled. Composting toilets are commercially available and used widely.
- * Any land use and housing ordinance discussion should start with SAVING WATER in these times of DRAUGHT.

Following are my comments regarding the proposed Humboldt County ordinance covering Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) Ordinance.

*In an era of growing awareness of the need to save and reuse water, our governments should be encouraging the water saving, nutrient recycling and safe usage of all our human wastes into fertilizer. Human fertilizer needs to be considered in the list of discussion items. It has been part of human practices for thousands of years. The end product is a valuable resource that should not just be "flushed down the toilet". Besides providing a soil fertilizer, composting toilets reduce water usage as draught conditions continue to be the normal.

*The County rules for On-site Water Treatment Systems (OWTS) need to also include all kinds of greywater, pit privies, out-houses, urine diverters, dry compost and waterless toilets to be used in all ADU's including: Tiny Homes, In-law units, second homes on one property and remote cabins

* We propose:

*Self enrollment: An easy, simple, one page form for filing the intent to use OSWT with plot plan, simple mechanical drawing of unit and harvest schedule along with agreement to :

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*self monitor: keep a log of activities every 6 month with pictures

*self certification: every year complete a log and file with local oversight organization (VFD, Independent sub-contractor or health department approved agent)

*Community oversight: by local VFD, Soils Engineer, approved agent or equal organization

*County enforcement: after a community oversight grievance report has been filed.

*Self-monitoring of systems should be a simple process, not one involving expensive and egregious permitting, testing and engineering, but rather careful education of the public. Saving water during these DRAUGHT times should be our first goal. Public education encouraging simplicity in permitting and allowing individual responsibility needs to be emphasized and encouraged. Saving water through the use of composting toilets and urine diverters can be done safely without allowing for public or environmental exposure to pathogens.

*Asking the public to have an engineered septic system along with a waterless toilet system (which is the current ordinance mandate) is like asking off-grid solar, water or wind power users to be plugged into the power grid before they can produce their own power.

*Grandfathering and retroactive approval of existing systems needs to be addressed. Many greywater and alternative waste systems have been used safely and successfully for decades. Section 615.3 (5) of the Humboldt County Code does mention “systems before January 1, 1984 may be approved”. This authority could be extended. I recommend it be at the date these ADU ordinances are enacted, not attempting to retroactively police what already exists. Deal with issues going forward rather than discipline those that were not permitted earlier, especially since there has been no easy protocol to get permits for such systems to date.

*Consider and allow for different parcel sizes, sites, geologies and soil types, rather than make the regulations countywide with no flexibility and “one size fits all”.

*It is well known that federal parks, state parks and other governmental agencies have used and approved waterless toilet systems all over the globe. How have they been able to balance public health concerns while

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allowing these non standard systems to exist? Those examples need to be studied and included in the ordinance for not only ADU’s but all housing.

*Before any further acceptance of this ADU ordinance we need more public input in the way of education, public meetings, and PR campaigns about healthy handling of our waste streams, septic system vulnerability and the advantages of greywater

systems and composting and dry toilets. We do not have to exclusively rely on public sewer systems and septic systems; there are alternatives and composting toilet utilization should be one of them. Humboldt County should be leading the charge to saving water, saving energy and recycling nutrients, especially in DRAUGHT conditions.

*Please insure that there is sufficient public input through workshops, committee appointments that include public stakeholders and more written public testimonies that would enable the Health Department to further craft a water saving program that meets both public safety standards and the public's preferences.

Thank you, Chip Tittmann, P.O. 49, Miranda, California 95553