

From: [Helen Keplinger](#)
To: [Hade, Jason](#)
Subject: Use Permit #P19-00408, Chateauneuf du Pott Winery
Date: Tuesday, July 20, 2021 10:35:58 PM

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Napa County Planning Commission

1195 Third Street, Second Floor

Napa, CA 94559

RE: Use Permit #P19-00408, Chateauneuf du Pott Winery

We wholeheartedly support the proposed small, family-run, estate-focused winery proposed by Aaron and Claire Pott. This low-impact, well-conceived, small production winery deserves the approval of the Planning Commission, and our community.

Aaron and Claire have lived in the Napa Valley for many years, living and working here, dedicated to making wines of the highest quality and provenance for themselves and their winery clients. They bring culture, care, mindfulness to our community. Through their winemaking craft, they have contributed to further elevate the lauded reputation of Napa Valley with the many beautifully crafted wines they have made over many years. They are involved in and support the arts, residents, culture, nature. Their two fine, intelligent daughters have always attended Napa Valley schools. They are a valued and essential part of the fabric of our community, part of what keeps Napa Valley grounded, authentic, and real.

Through many years of hard work and dedication, they have acquired two adjacent parcels on Mt. Veeder, the first of which they have owned for almost 20 years. They started their own small wine label over 15 years ago, growing it into a well-respected small winery making highly regarded, sought after wines of great integrity and purity. They have planted a small vineyard, which they farm thoughtfully, organically, with minimal water, and a mind to have minimal impact on its environment, while further elevating the quality of the Mt. Veeder AVA.

This application is the result of many years of work, much thought and careful planning. The proposed winery will be small, less than 5000 square feet. It will focus on estate grapes, eliminating the need to truck the fruit on Mt. Veeder and Napa Valley roads. It will be sited on an existing foundation, utilizing the existing footprint. It will use minimal water from an existing well of strong production. Aaron is still making his own wines – therefore there will be few employees. Tastings will be by appointment only, with only a modest number requested.

Aaron and Claire take their stewardship of their land seriously. They believe in minimal impact, respect for natural resources, being good neighbors and good friends, being strong, giving members of their community. These are the people who will ensure a good future for our valley, and a wise direction for the intersection of our wine industry, natural resources, and community. I truly wish we had more winery applications like this one.

Thank you for your consideration,

Helen Keplinger

Douglas Warner

Keplinger Wines

Helen Keplinger | Proprietor | KEPLINGER WINES | VERMILLION WINE | 707.260.5654