

From: [Hannah Woizeschke](#)
To: [PC; Balcher, Wyntress](#)
Subject: Public Comment for Rombauer Major Modification Hearing #P19-00103-MOD
Date: Tuesday, September 15, 2020 3:33:43 PM
Attachments: [PC Rombauer Hearing 16.Sept.2020.pdf](#)

[External Email - Use Caution]

To whom it may concern,

Please find attached my Public Comment in regards to the Rombauer's Major Modification Request #P19-00103-MOD. If you have any questions I can be reached by phone at (707) 339-6588 or by email at hannah.woizeschke@gmail.com.

Thank you,

Hannah E. Woizeschke

Hannah E. Woizeschke
646 McCorkle Ave, St. Helena, CA 94574

Dear Planning Commission:

My name is Hannah Woizeschke. I lived in a small cottage at 3473 Silverado Trail North while I was undertaking my degree study at the Culinary Institute of America (CIA).

The area where I lived was generally very quiet although there was quite a lot of noise on the weekends from tastings at Rombauer Winery. The noise from outdoor tastings travels very easily down the hill.

I've returned to visit a few times during Covid and have found that the outdoor tasting noise is very much louder than it ever was before. I assume this is because Rombauer is respecting the county guidelines and is moving people outside.

When I most recently visited the Kirkhams, the sound from tastings was so loud it was distracting and we found it difficult to hold a conversation.

I'm very concerned about the proposal to add a picnic table even closer to the Kirkham residence. Due to the elevation of the proposed site, the picnic table will be very close to the Kirkham's home. My understanding of the Kirkham property layout and the images of the Rombauer property included in the proposal leads me believe that the picnic area is within 350 of the Kirkham's residence, directly up hill to the North of their swimming pool, a portion of their residence, and the cottage where I lived previously. Since the Rombauer tasting room is nearly 700 feet away from the residence and the voices of guests can easily be heard from the residence, it is only reasonable to assume that a picnic area that 350 feet nearer to the residence would provide for further amplification of the noise already audible at the residence.

There is already significant noise from wine tasters/picnic people. I can't imagine adding another, closer, space, and adding in this sound from another direction.

I am also writing about the woods. For the last month Rombauer has removed several trees a day from the hillside. The situation is quite dire. There are lots of tree stumps on the hillside. I gather there are no restrictions as to removing however many trees you like. The trees that have been removed, are mostly on a slope that has a pretty steep on the south side of the Rombauer property line. The removal of trees increases the future possibility land/rock slides in the area along the Kirkham/Rombauer property line. This type of aggressive tree removal also leads to concern that upon approval of the additional picnic area, they would be able to remove trees in the area, which increase visibility to Kirkham's residence and in turn impede their right to privacy while on their own residential property.

It is for the reasons outlined above that I am asking that you deny the Rombauer application on the basis of noise.

Sincerely,

Hannah E. Woizeschke
hannah.woizeschke@gmail.com
(707) 339-6588