



July 11, 2023

District Administrator California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control 1137 Westridge Parkway Salinas, CA 93907

Reference: Capitola Mall Food Court

1855 41st Avenue, Capitola, CA 95010 (Proposed location)

Conditional Use Permit - Tenant Beer & Wine Sales

## Dear Administrator,

The applicant, Merlone Geier Partners, applied to the City of Capitola on February 2, 2023, to allow Capitola Mall food court restaurants to obtain ABC licenses, authorizing the sale of beer and wine at their businesses located at 1855 41st Avenue in the city of Capitola.

The shared facility is in police responsibility area 4401 and U.S. census tract number 1217.02. The site is in a high-crime area and the census tract is over-concentrated (23 active retail licenses) with alcohol establishments, thus any new or modified alcohol use would require a Letter of Necessity and Convenience.

Although this application does not directly require a Letter of Necessity and Convenience, the Chief of Police has considered the application for future alcohol uses that could be applied under its framework.

This letter of support is provided with the understanding that conditions placed by the City of Capitola on the businesses' special use permit are incorporated in subsequent licenses issued by the ABC. Such conditions shall include:

1. Businesses seeking ABC licenses shall participate in an employee training program, with a curriculum that includes not only business-related activities but also a section on ABC Laws. Businesses show commitment to training employees and agree to take part in future ABC LEADS (Licensee Education on Alcohol and Drugs) workshops.

2. Prior to obtaining an ABC license, each participating business shall be required to obtain a Letter of Necessity and Convenience from the Chief of Police, reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

In summary, the Capitola Mall and food court establishments have been beneficial business partners to our city, and I believe they will continue to provide positive economic vitality with very few public safety concerns should the application be approved.

Sincerely,

Andrew Dally Chief of Police

cc: Sean Sesanto, Associate Planner, Community Development Department

AD/AJD