

Community Conversations Fall Convening Outline/Proposal

Topic: Coming to Grips with the Water Situation Facing Sonoma Valley

Timing: October, Weekday evening, 7-8:30pm (or, if 2 hours – until 9pm)

Format: Moderated Panel with time for direct audience questions and comments

Co-sponsors: Sonoma Valley Fund, Sonoma Ecology Center, Sonoma County Water Agency, Susan Gorin

Location: TBD – in Sonoma Valley

Key Questions:

- **What is the water situation facing the Valley...really?** Who uses our water? Where does it come from (and for which uses)? Basics of groundwater vs. watershed sourced water. Where are the biggest, most pressing problems? What can we do collectively through policy, regulation and concerted action to address the biggest challenges?
- **What can/is agriculture and business doing to conserve?**
- **What can/are private users doing to conserve more?**

Proposed Meeting Flow and Presenters

- **Connection to First Community Conversation event and follow-up survey (Joshua Rymer/5-10 minutes)**
- **Introduction (Susan Gorin?/David Bolling)**
- **Presentation of current and prospective water situation (Richard Dale/15 -20 minutes)**
- **Presentation of what agriculture's role is (Mike Benziger/10 minutes)**
- **Presentation of homeowners' role (Carrie Pollard/10 minutes)**
- **Moderated Q&A (David Bolling/40 minutes)**
- **Concluding remarks and next steps (Katherine Fulton)**

Possible Moderator/Panelists

- **Moderator** – David Bolling
- **Panelists**
 - Richard Dale
 - Mike Benziger (for Ag)
 - Carrie Pollard (Sonoma County Water Agency)
 - Caitlin Cornwall