

# Keep Our Lands in Public Hands

## A Call to Action on the Fate of the SDC



The state of California has put the **180-acre core campus** of the Sonoma Developmental Center property up for sale. The state's Request for Proposals (RFP) outlines expectations from potential buyers and overlapping timelines that **undermine Sonoma County's specific planning process**, which remains incomplete.

This means public comment received so far by Sonoma County — all of our input into what was touted as a **community-driven process** — won't be finalized and incorporated into plans before a developer is chosen by the state prior to adoption of the specific plan.

The RFP does not specify how the ~750 acres of open space that surround the core, which elected officials and bureaucrats have always promised would be **preserved as public parkland**, will be dealt with. The fate of the SDC's precious natural resources remains in limbo.

### **This cannot stand. So we must take a stand.**

It is time to write letters. Letters to elected officials at the state and at the county. Letters to Permit Sonoma. Letters to officials at California State Parks. Letters to officials at California's Department of General Services. Letters to Governor Newsom. Letters to the editor.

It's time to ask for:

- **Transfer all open space acreage outside the campus to California State Parks immediately.**
- Hold a **public, in-person meeting** with all decision-makers so stakeholders can be heard.
- Recognize and incorporate the **community's vision** for redevelopment of the site:
  - Preservation of the open space and the integrity of the **Sonoma Valley Wildlife Corridor**
  - Creation of **truly affordable workforce housing** that is safe, sustainable, and appropriately scaled to the **rural character** of the surrounding community
  - Recognition of the **historic legacy** of the SDC, including its tribal connections and its links to individuals living with developmental disabilities
  - Redevelopment that supports **climate resiliency**
  - Redevelopment that keeps all Sonoma Valley residents **safe in the event of wildfire** by recognizing the constraints imposed by nature and exacerbated by inadequate roadways and building in the wildland-urban interface

**Act now!**

*Visit [eldridgeforall.org](http://eldridgeforall.org) now and often for information on how to contact your elected officials, sample letters, and ongoing updates about the SDC redevelopment process.*