

**LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE
TEXT AMENDMENT
Staff Report**

REQUESTED ACTION: Revise Sumter County Land Development Code definition and classification of Agritourism.

CASE SUMMARY:

An Amendment to the Sumter County Land Development Code (LDC) is proposed for the definition of Agritourism and the section of the LDC pertaining to development classification.

Changes included the following definitions for Agritourism and Agritourism operator as well as the addition of subsection (c) under Agricultural classification. The changes are provided below.

“Agritourism” means any agricultural-related activity consistent with an existing bona fide farm, livestock operation, or ranch or in a working forest which allows members of the general public, for recreational, entertainment, or educational purposes, to view or enjoy activities, including farming, ranching, historical, cultural, civic, ceremonial, training and exhibition, or harvest-your-own activities and attractions. Agritourism does not include the construction of new or additional structures or facilities intended primarily to house, shelter, transport, or otherwise accommodate members of the general public. An activity is Agritourism regardless of whether the participant paid to participate in the activity. For purposes of this definition, primarily shall mean more than fifty percent of the time the structure or facility is in use.

“Agritourism operator” means a person who is engaged in the business of providing Agritourism, whether for compensation or not for compensation.

c.Agritourism Activity. Except for applicable federal and state regulations, the regulation of substantial offsite impacts of agritourism activity, and any applicable declared state of emergency, agritourism activity on land designated with an "agricultural classification" by the County Pproperty Aappraiser, is exempt from code provisions that prohibit, restrict, regulate, or otherwise limit such activity.

This amendment is proposed to clarify and improve internal consistency of the Land Development Code.

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DIVISION STAFF CONCLUSIONS:

Staff deems the proposed text amendment in compliance with the requirements of the Sumter County Land Development Code and recommends **Approval**.