

# Grading Permit Questionnaire

GRD - 002

**Purpose:** To assist applicants in determining if a grading permit is required for a proposed project.

**Background:** Grading is the removal and/or the deposition of earth material by artificial means. Earth material is defined as any rock or natural soil or combination thereof. Grading is generally a combination of excavation (cuts) and placement (fill) of soil. Common examples of grading include constructing a driveway, creating a building pad for further development, or stabilizing a slope. A grading permit is required prior to commencing any grading or related work, including preparatory site clearing and soil disturbance, except where exempted from permit requirements by Section 11.04.020 of the Sonoma County Code.

To determine if a project requires a grading permit, please answer the following questions. If any questions cannot be answered, contact a design professional for assistance and/or consult with the Permit and Resource Management (PRMD) Grading & Storm Water staff. **Incorrect answers may cause delays processing and/or issuing the permit(s) for the project.**

- Yes  No  Unknown 1. Does the project include cuts or fills exceeding 50 cubic yards of soil?\*
- Yes  No  Unknown 2. Does the project include a cut greater than 2 feet in depth?\*
- Yes  No  Unknown 3. Does the project create a cut slope greater than 5 feet in height and steeper than 2:1 (H:V)?\*
- Yes  No  Unknown 4. Does the project include a fill greater than 3 feet in depth?
- Yes  No  Unknown 5. Does the project include fill between 1 foot and 3 feet in depth, and not intended to support a structure or surcharge, and placed on terrain with a natural slope steeper than 15%?
- Yes  No  Unknown 6. Does the project include fill greater than 1 foot in depth and intended to support a structure or surcharge?
- Yes  No  Unknown 7. Does the project include any fill within the Flood Prone Urban Area (FPUA)? See map on reverse side of this form for the location of the FPUA.
- Yes  No  Unknown 8. Does the project include any fill within a Special Flood Hazard Area designated by FEMA as subject to flooding by the 1% annual chance flood (100-year flood)?

\* A "No" answer may be selected for excavations below finished grade for basements, tanks, vaults, swimming pools, and footings of a building, retaining wall, or other structure, where authorized by a valid building permit.

## Acknowledgment:

I, as the applicant, understand that a "Yes" answer to **any** of the above questions means that a grading permit is required for my proposed project. Furthermore, the grading permit must be approved before a building permit can be approved for the site. If any answers are "Unknown" to me, I should contact my design professional immediately to determine if a grading permit is required.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Property Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Assessor's Parcel Number(s)

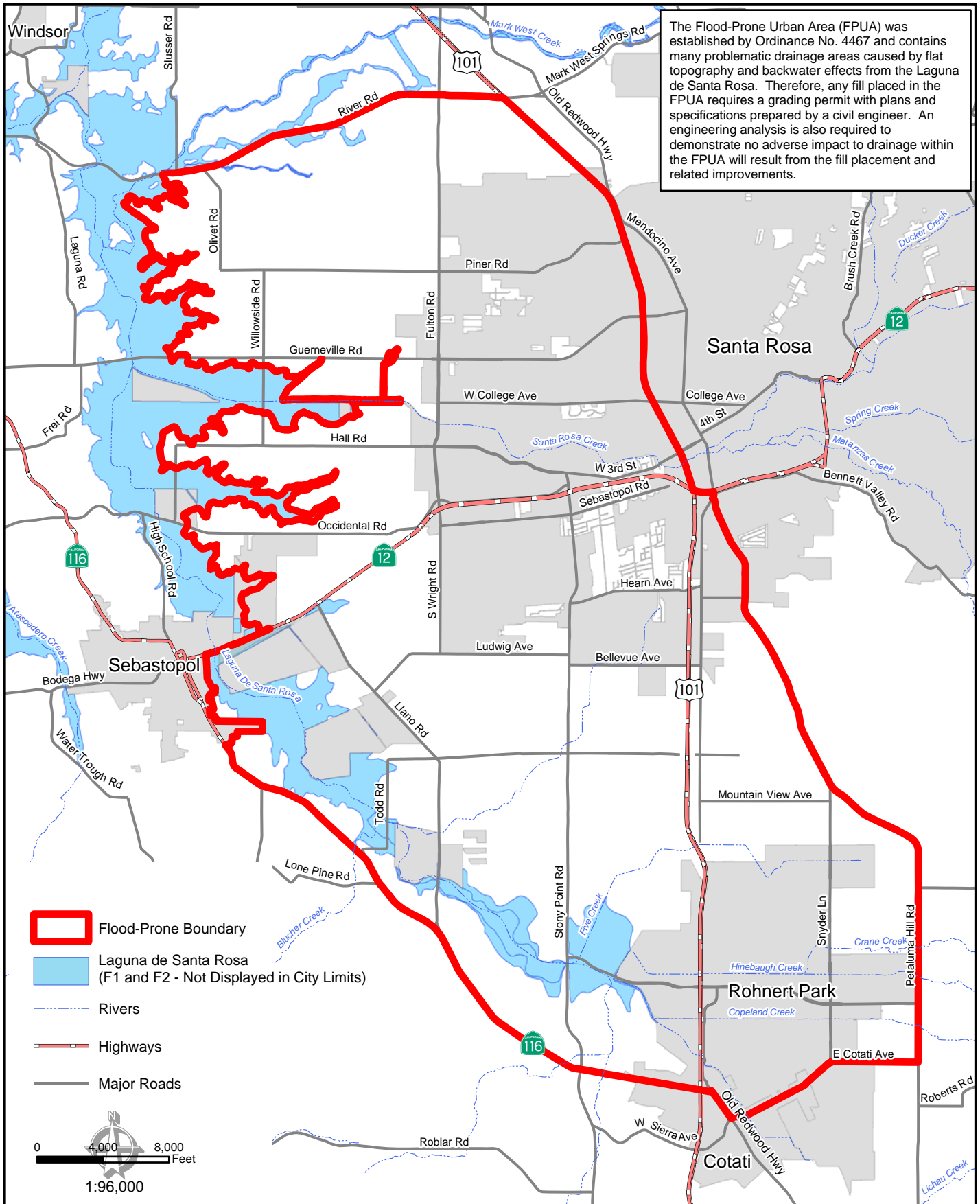
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Building Permit Number(s)






## Sonoma County Permit and Resource Management Department

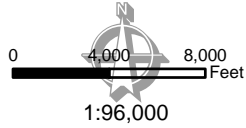
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# FLOOD-PRONE URBAN AREA



The Flood-Prone Urban Area (FPUA) was established by Ordinance No. 4467 and contains many problematic drainage areas caused by flat topography and backwater effects from the Laguna de Santa Rosa. Therefore, any fill placed in the FPUA requires a grading permit with plans and specifications prepared by a civil engineer. An engineering analysis is also required to demonstrate no adverse impact to drainage within the FPUA will result from the fill placement and related improvements.

-  Flood-Prone Boundary
-  Laguna de Santa Rosa (F1 and F2 - Not Displayed in City Limits)
-  Rivers
-  Highways
-  Major Roads



Map Scale and Reproduction methods limit precision in physical features displayed. This map is for illustrative purposes only, and is not suitable for parcel-specific decision making. Site-specific studies are required to draw parcel-specific conclusions.

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