



# COUNTY OF YOLO

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## **Mariani Nut Co. Pleased with Business-Friendly Yolo County**

(Woodland, CA) – In the past two years, as part of Yolo County’s “business-friendly,” economic development initiative to enhance customer service in the Yolo County Department of Planning & Public Works Development Services Division, county staff has been streamlining the permit review process and providing more information to the public. As a result of these efforts, the Mariani Nut Company has quickly and successfully relocated its almond processing facilities to a site approximately 1.5 miles northeast of the City of Winters.

The use permit for the project was processed in four months, compared to the typical six months or more required for similar approvals. The first 300,000 square feet of construction was completed in less than one year, for a process that generally takes two years or more. Ultimately, it was 16 months from the time the application was submitted to issuance of the Certificate of Occupancy. The Mariani Nut facility will include several phases, with a total build-out of more than 600,000 square feet on 40 acres.

In an e-mail to Yolo County Board of Supervisors Vice-Chairman Duane Chamberlain, who represents the district in which the Mariani Nut facility has been constructed, Jack McDowell, Director of Operations with Mariani Nut Company wrote, “we have been working on this project for over 18 months and it would have never happened within this time frame without (Yolo County Planning and Public Works staff) help and support.”

A similar approach is being used with Clark-Pacific, a pre-cast concrete fabricator, which is proposing to expand its construction firm to a site one mile north of Woodland. Clark-Pacific is a growing business, which is looking at an initial first phase spanning 80 acres and employing up to 250 people.

“I am very happy to see Mariani Nut Company stay in Yolo County,” said Supervisor Chamberlain. “One of my biggest priorities is to attract agricultural processors back to Yolo County, where the crops are grown. It is not enough to support preserving agricultural land. We must attract processors. We are especially pleased to see agricultural-based organizations taking an interest in Yolo County and very proud of county staff who work so diligently to provide such a business-friendly environment in Yolo County.”

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