

Barbara Price

Subject: FW: Housing Element Update

cc: All BOS
Planning
Counsel
CEO

From: Lindsay [<mailto:missionaryhere@aol.com>]

Sent: Monday, August 31, 2015 10:04 AM

To: bdofsupervisors

Subject: Housing Element Update

Good morning!

I know you hear from me often, but it seems like there are a lot of people lately dead-set on over-developing Penn Valley. I read the update on the housing development controversy, and my opposition still stands. Whatever the law is, this will overrun our systems in Penn Valley. Even if we get fined or charged money in some way for not doing this, it will be better than overwhelming our schools, streets, minimal job opportunities, etc. We don't have the jobs. We don't have the transportation. We'll get horrendous traffic. We'll stretch the resources of law enforcement. Our school system already serves a lot of low-income kids. We literally just *can't* handle this. Bottom line.

Please, *please* reject it.

Thank you.
Lindsay

PENN VALLEY COMMUNITY ACTION COMMITTEE

Hank Weston, District 4 Supervisor
Board of Supervisors, Eric Rood Administrative Center
950 Maidu Ave, Nevada City, CA 95959

August 3, 2015

RE: Nevada County Housing Element Rezone Implementation Project, PC Staff Report, July 9, 2015

Dear Supervisor Weston:

This letter is submitted to you on behalf of the Penn Valley Community Action Committee, a grass roots organization established to provide information to the community about issues relating to the proposed rezone of sites in the Penn Valley Village Center. The purpose of the letter is to communicate the Committee's support for the Planning Staff recommendation as outlined in the *Executive Summary*, dated July 9, 2015, to rezone only Tier 1 sites and amend the General Plan accordingly.

For nearly two years Penn Valley community representatives have worked with both Mr. Tyler Barrington and Mr. Brian Foss to better understand the Housing Element process and to ensure that the land use decisions made today will help facilitate a sustainable Penn Valley community for the future. The concerns expressed by Penn Valley residents during this process centered around the potential addition of a large number of high-density housing in the Village Center that would very likely result in unintended negative consequences; such as the creation of a rural center of poverty, a significant loss of economic development opportunity, a lack of jobs and insufficient services and retail offerings for the increased population.

Penn Valley has a strong appreciation for the fact that Nevada County's Planning Staff and the Board of Supervisors successfully negotiated with the State to reduce from 1270 to 699 the number of units required to satisfy the Housing element mandate. This proactive action represented a significant step that lessened the environmental and socioeconomic impact of rezoning concentrated areas in three districts of Western Nevada County.

In conclusion, it is important to emphasize that during the lengthy Housing Element process, Mr. Barrington and Mr. Foss met several times with community representatives from Penn Valley. They answered dozens of questions and conducted a well-attended town hall meeting for the purpose of presenting the *Rezone Project* to the community. Their outreach efforts and willingness to listen to residents' concerns have made a positive difference that will lead the way toward improved communication between county government and neighborhoods in the unincorporated areas of the county.

Sincerely,


Susan George
Penn Valley Community Action Committee

Cc: Rick Haffey, County Executive Officer; Alison Barratt-Green, County Counsel;
Brian Foss, Planning Director

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AUG 05 2015

NEVADA COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
EACH SUPERVISOR REC'D.

October 30, 2015

Nevada County Board of Supervisors
Eric Rood Administrative Center
950 Maidu Avenue
Nevada City, CA 95959

RECEIVED

NOV 05 2015

NEVADA COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Attention: Julia Patterson Hunter, Clerk of the Board

Re: North Star Mine – Water Treatment Project

Gentlemen:

We have recently been reading about the above referenced proposed Project apparently approved by the Nevada County Planning Department and Planning Commission. We understand that this project entails two very large ponds to be located along Wolf Creek and another wet-land pond to be placed across the road (Allison Ranch Road) from the two others. These ponds are to contain Toxic Waste Water pumped out of the Mine(s) Located all over the hill above Wolf Creek.

After reading several versions of what is to be done in this project, we gathered that the purpose of these exposed ponds are to stop the mine water from contaminating the local ground water which has been going on for many years.

Since we own a home in the neighborhood and are long time residents of Grass Valley we are concerned about having Exposed Toxic Ponds in our vicinity and more importantly, having them placed along Wolf Creek, which sounds, putting it mildly, "insane". Why would anyone put exposed toxic waste water ponds next to a natural creek OR FOR THAT MATTER ANYWHERE NEAR PEOPLE AND ANIMALS? The Allison Ranch Road area is surrounded by private homes, shopping centers, Fairgrounds and downtown Grass Valley shops, restaurants, and tourists.

I am 19 years of age and am very upset about this proposed project and want to know what a community Planning Department and their Planning Commission is thinking in letting a project like this take place in an area concentrated with families, business abundant wildlife and is heavily dependent upon tourist trade.

I rode my bike along Allison Ranch Road and inspected from the road the North Star Mine property and found that it is need of a great deal of maintenance and is a very large property. I suggest that the mining company proposing this project on the North Star property re-think

where they place these ponds as they have an enormous amount of property that would serve our community much better than along Wolf Creek.

There are already two existing ponds along Wolf Creek that belong to Grass Valley's water treatment plant that is already a nuisance as there have been many spills and horrible smells from that plant which leads me to believe they are already contaminating Wolf Creek with those spills; we certainly don't need any more exposed ponds with toxic waste water in them near that creek.

My step-father is also a signer to this letter and he fully agrees with my position on the matter. I would greatly appreciate your taking into consideration what I have suggested and presented in this letter and find a more reasonable solution to stopping any ground water contamination from the mines. I understand there are many ways to accomplish this without exposing an entire community and City to exposed toxic waste ponds.

We also drove by the Empire Mine to see what those pond look like. Floating filthy stagnant ponds in an area that is advertised as a tourist attraction in open fields. Is this really necessary, if so, who is responsible for allowing this to exists this day and age?

Please do something to stop any more of this happening in our City. Wasn't Colorado enough reason to re-think this project for Grass Valley?

Very truly yours,

Matthew Damele and
Michael Hunt