

Opposition to chain grocery store

From Cameron Black [REDACTED]
Date Mon 5/11/2026 1:55 PM
To Victoria Henkel <vhenkel@cityofsebastopol.gov>; John Jay <jjay@cityofsebastopol.gov>; City Council <citycouncil@cityofsebastopol.gov>

Greetings,

I am writing to formally oppose the proposed Grocery Outlet project in downtown Sebastopol.

I believe the City should prioritize supporting the grocery stores and locally rooted businesses that are already serving the Sebastopol community rather than approving another national chain retailer in an already saturated market.

Sebastopol already has multiple grocery options available to residents, including independent markets and community-serving businesses that contribute directly to the local economy and downtown vitality. These businesses help support local jobs, local agriculture, and the distinct community identity that makes Sebastopol unique.

Sebastopol's General Plan emphasizes preserving the city's local character, supporting independent businesses, and encouraging long-term economic resilience. I am concerned that introducing another national grocery chain could place unnecessary pressure on existing businesses while moving the city further away from the locally focused vision residents have worked to preserve.

I respectfully ask the Planning Commission and City Council to carefully consider whether this proposal aligns with Sebastopol's long-term economic and community goals before approving it.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Cameron Black