

Please Deny the Grocery Outlet Conditional Use Permit Application

From Jody Vining [REDACTED]
Date Fri 5/15/2026 9:04 AM
To Victoria Henkel <vhenkel@cityofsebastopol.gov>

Greetings,

I am writing to formally oppose the proposed Grocery Outlet project in downtown Sebastopol and respectfully urge the Planning Commission to deny the Conditional Use Permit application.

Sebastopol's unique identity and economic vitality are closely tied to its locally rooted businesses, independent character, and community-centered atmosphere. I believe the City should continue protecting those qualities by upholding the goals and policies outlined in Sebastopol's General Plan.

Sebastopol already has multiple grocery stores serving the community, including both independent local markets and existing national retailers. I am concerned that introducing another large formula grocery retailer into an already saturated market could negatively impact the local businesses that contribute directly to the city's economic resilience and community identity.

The strength of Sebastopol comes from maintaining a vibrant local business environment that supports independent businesses, local jobs, and a downtown experience that feels authentic and distinct from surrounding commercial corridors.

For these reasons, I respectfully ask the Planning Commission and City Council to deny the proposed Conditional Use Permit application for Grocery Outlet.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Jody Vining