

I am writing to formally oppose the proposed Grocery Outlet project

From marsha bell [REDACTED]
Date Mon 5/11/2026 6:05 PM
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 independent businesses, locally rooted economy, and distinct downtown environment are an important part of what makes the community unique. I believe the City should continue protecting those qualities by upholding the goals and policies established in Sebastopol's General Plan.

My husband and I are relative newcomers. We have lived in Sebastopol for the last 6 years, moving here from the midwest. We love and appreciate that Sebastopol's downtown is full of local and unique retailers and not spoiled with big box retailers. Please, let's keep it that way!

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Sebastopol already has multiple grocery stores serving the community, including independent local markets and existing national retailers. I do not believe another national chain grocery retailer is necessary in an already saturated market, particularly in a prominent downtown location. We want to support and strengthen our local retailers not dilute their ability to operate.

The long-term vitality of Sebastopol depends on maintaining a strong local business ecosystem that supports independent businesses, community investment, and the unique character residents and visitors value so deeply.

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,
Marsha Bell

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