

Grocery Outlet

From Shari Figi [REDACTED]

Date Wed 5/13/2026 11:09 PM

To Victoria Henkel <vhenkel@cityofsebastopol.gov>

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 unique downtown character are an important part of what makes the community special. I believe the City should continue protecting those qualities by upholding the goals and policies outlined in Sebastopol's General Plan.

Sebastopol has invested considerable time and money into the development of The Barlow and the nearby connecting downtown area. A Grocery Outlet in this exact area does not contribute in any way to this upscale developmental area. Grocery Outlet could be at a site further south on 116 past Fircrest. However, Sebastopol already has multiple grocery stores serving residents, including local independent markets and existing national retailers. I do not believe another national chain grocery retailer is necessary in an already saturated market.

The long-term vitality of Sebastopol and the draw of people around the Bay Area to our retail establishments, depends on maintaining a strong local business ecosystem that supports independent businesses and the distinct 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.

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Shari Figi

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Be a voice, not an echo. Albert Einstein