

FW: No Grocery Outlet!

From John Jay <jjay@cityofsebastopol.gov>
Date Mon 5/11/2026 4:19 PM
To Victoria Henkel <vhenkel@cityofsebastopol.gov>

From: suzie bellomo [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2026 4:17 PM
To: John Jay <jjay@cityofsebastopol.gov>
Subject: No Grocery Outlet!

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.

As a local business owner in downtown Sebastopol, I believe the city's long-term economic vitality depends on preserving the independent businesses and locally rooted character that make this community unique.

Sebastopol's appeal comes from its walkable downtown environment, small businesses, local food culture, and community-centered atmosphere. Independent businesses contribute directly to the city's tourism economy, local investment, and economic resilience in ways that large national chains often do not.

Sebastopol's General Plan emphasizes preserving downtown vitality, supporting local businesses, and protecting the city's distinct identity. I am concerned that approving another national chain grocery retailer in an already saturated market could negatively impact the independent businesses that help define Sebastopol's character and economic health.

Communities like Sebastopol thrive because they maintain a strong sense of place and support locally owned businesses that are directly invested in the community's future.

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

We run a small olive oil business, and we are already hurt by the local markets in the area.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Suzie Bellomo
Il Fusti