

Please Deny the Grocery Outlet Conditional Use Permit Application

From Suzie Knowlton [REDACTED]

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To John Jay <jjay@cityofsebastopol.gov>; Victoria Henkel <vhenkel@cityofsebastopol.gov>; City Council <citycouncil@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 locally rooted businesses, independent downtown environment, and unique community character are an important part of what makes the city special. 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 residents, 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.

The long-term vitality of Sebastopol depends on maintaining a strong local business ecosystem that supports independent businesses, community investment, 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.

Sincerely,
Suzie Knowlton