

Victoria Davis - Concerning Case #U_2017-0009

From: "dreamingz13 ." <dreamingz13@gmail.com>
To: <pbs@mendocinocounty.org>
Date: 12/18/2017 12:30 PM
Subject: Concerning Case #U_2017-0009
Cc: <davisv@mendocinocounty.org>

Monday, December 18th, 2017
County of Mendocino
Department of Planning and Building Services
860 North Bush Street
Ukiah, California 95482

Re: Case# U_2017_0009
Applicant: Collective Hotels and Retreats Inc.

Honorable Commissioners,

I am writing today, because I have had the pleasure to stay many times at Pine Mountain Olive Farm over the years, and I am concerned with the impact that this commercial establishment would pose if it were to be built next door. This beautiful area is home to a year round pond (which is directly adjacent to where the new parking lot is proposed) that offers water all year to numerous species of wildlife in the area. This is an important part of the local habitat, and I am concerned these animals would no longer feel comfortable visiting this crucial water source once the area becomes a host to a public campground. It is impossible to say what the impact on the local populations of foxes, coyotes, many types of songbirds birds as well as hawks, herons, migrating birds, frogs and many more might be.

Having made the somewhat treacherous drive many times, I am also concerned about the impact of more cars on this extremely narrow road. Many areas are one lane, and there are so many blind turns, having drivers that are unfamiliar with it and likely to drive faster than is safe, feels reckless. I fear it would increase the likelihood of collisions, and also impact the local wildlife.

The summers and falls are very hot and dry in this area, and it also tends to be very windy. This spells out extreme fire danger normally, even without more humans around. With this proposed campground, there would be open fire pits as well as wood stoves in each tent, which highly concerns me. I don't have to tell you how devastating the fires in this area were this fall. This very property was threatened by the Pocket Fire, on standby to evacuate should the winds have shifted in our direction. This is not the first time a serious wildfire has threatened this property as well as the proposed building site. With only one way down the mountain, it is not safe to have out of town tourists who are accustomed to the local fire dangers frequenting here, both for the threat they pose themselves to the land, and as well as the threat that is posed to them by the isolated area.

There are many other areas which would be much more suited to hosting visitors where this retreat could be built. I urge to you block this proposal.

Thank you for your time and effort on this issue.

Ingrid Linde

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