

Distinguished Members of the Board,

Thank you again for the opportunity to let me speak regarding our contract at Henningsen Lotus Park.

As I mentioned at the Board Meeting on the 19th, I am a 3rd generation resident of El Dorado County and the owner of Mikey's Kilted Kitchen's food truck.

We are not at out of town food truck coming in to take business away from the local businesses in the Lotus/Coloma valley. We are a woman-owned, local food truck known for our many philanthropic activities throughout the county including feeding Caldor Fire evacuees for free for months and feeding the homeless.

As I had mentioned in my previous letter, we were contacted by someone at the County early last year to apply for this bid, and subsequently won the contract after negotiating to give 10% of our gross receipts to the county for the ability to be at HLP. For the county to cancel our contract in the 11th hour just because a handful of businesses are scared seems wrong on so many levels. If we were a brick and mortar business, could these same few people decide whether or not we could open?

I understand the business owners fear at the thought of losing business to us being at the park, but because the majority of single vehicle traffic to HLP comes from Lotus Rd. or 49 from the HWY 50 side, who is to say how much of the actual visitors to HLP would drive into the business district in Coloma to visit these businesses? To help these businesses out, I am offering to post their menus, or other promotional information on my bulletin board- actually increasing these businesses visibility to those who might not even know that there is anything on up the river. I also want to post any local community events- the Coloma Community Market, any music at the local venues, be it, Marcos, the River Shack, the Coloma Club or Whitewater Pizza as well as any happenings on the Divide. Also, I want to mention that we will be barely visible to roadway traffic so it is unlikely we will be getting many customers who are not already at the Park.

Also, as it was indicated by the owner of Gorilla Rock Tacos- and by members of the Board, the road from HLP to the business district is dangerous for pedestrians and nearly impassable for those who may have mobility issues- wouldn't it make sense to have food onsite to keep the roadways safe as a good portion of the rafters come to the park by raft and are shuttled to the rafting companies after pulling out? They simply don't have time to walk to the business area before the busses pick them up. And for the Rafters who are making the entire trip from Chili bar to Salmon Falls they may just need to stop and grab a quick snack- they also wouldn't have time to walk all the way up to the business district for food- providing food onsite is beneficial to these hungry rafters.

Another reason that having food trucks at HLP is to provide food for those people who have been consuming alcohol all day in the hot sun, by making food and drinks available onsite, we would be helping people sober up before they jump in the river or jump into their cars.

Chili Bar isn't an option as it is not safe to drive our 14,000lb truck back and forth from and as many Rafting guides have told us, it is not a profitable spot as that is the "put-in" and the majority of visitors for that park are there early in the morning.

We have turned down numerous job offers for the season that we cannot get back, and we were counting on this season to help recoup our expenses. We would like to work with the county to mitigate

any loss to the business owners, and are offering to cut down our days from 4 to 3 or 2 days a week and possibly a week off a month as well. We also will create and display a vibrant bulletin board to help advertise the businesses and community. We are respectfully asking for a chance for us to be at HLP.

Sincerely,

Kelly Rasco

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