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PC 4/23/09
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RECEIVED
PLANNING DEPARTMENT

April 6, 2009

Jason R. Hade, AICP, Senior Planner
El Dorado County Planning Commission
2850 Fairlane Court
Placerville, CA 95667

Re: Special Use Permit S07-0020/Pacific House Auto Repair

Dear Mr. Hade:

As a 38-year resident and property owner in the Pacific House area, I was saddened to hear that one of the conditions to issuing a use permit for opening an auto repair facility includes tearing down the original gas station structure. I have talked to several other residents in the area who have agreed that it would be a shame to remove the 1920's structure without consideration of its historical value. To us, it represents a bygone era when the old Lincoln Highway had gas stations like this one from coast to coast. If this is not the last of its kind on the old highway, it is most likely the last one in California. For that reason, we would like to request that you reconsider the requirement to remove this structure. We realize it is in a dilapidated condition and in need of serious restoration; however, after it has been secured for public safety, we feel time should be allowed to see if it can be saved.

In support of the historical significance of this structure, I am including a page from a republished facsimile of the 1924 Fifth Edition of A Complete Official Road Guide of the Lincoln Highway which refers to the availability of gas and oil at this site.

We are all pleased to see the cleanup effort has started at Pacific House with the removal of many of the old vehicles and hope to see continued effort with the cleanup and maintenance of the grounds.

Sincerely,



Dan L. Harnden

Enclosures

09-0664.L.1

THE COMPLETE OFFICIAL
ROAD GUIDE
OF

THE
LINCOLN HIGHWAY

FIFTH EDITION

THE PATRICE PRESS
TUCSON, ARIZONA

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from the 1924 edition

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California

Section 30

KYBURZ
Carson Sac. Control, Silver Fork Inn.
 52.8 78.6 Eldorado County. Good accommodations. Camp site, gas.
 L. H. Local Consul, Ralph Kyburz, hotel prop.
 6.5
 Fine Gravel

WHITEHALL
Carson Sac. Summer Resort.
 59.3 72.1 Eldorado County. Good accommodations, gas, oil and tele-
 phone. Camp site.
 2.7
 Fine Gravel

RIVERTON
Carson Sac. Control at Hotel.
 62.0 69.4 Eldorado County. Good accommodations. Camp site, gas.
 L. H. Local Consul, Al Martin, hotel prop.
 4.1
 Fine Gravel

PACIFIC
Carson Sac. Control, Hotel.
 66.1 65.3 Eldorado County. Good accommodations, home cooking,
 fruit grown and preserved on the premises, gas, oil, telephone,
 1.6
 post office.
 Mrs. Estelle Poole, Local Consul, hotel prop.
 Fine Gravel

FRESHPOND
Carson Sac. Eldorado County. Soft drinks, gas, oil, telephone, camp site.
 67.7 63.7 J. B. Rupley, Local Consul.
 9.0
 Fine Gravel

CAMINO
Carson Sac. Control, Post Office.
 76.7 54.7 Eldorado County. Hotel, garage, telegraph.
 7.5
 Macadam
 Concrete

PLACERVILLE
Carson Sac. Control, Post Office.
 84.2 47.2 Pop. 3,000. Alt. 1,875 feet. County seat, El Dorado County.
 Four hotels, 4 garages. Local speed limit 10 miles per hour.
 6.4 One railroad crossing at grade, not protected. One bank,
 So. Pac. Railroad, 43 general business places, express company,
 telegraph company, 2 newspapers, Chamber of Commerce,
 Sutter's Mill and Monument at Coloma, 8 miles from Placer-
 ville, commemorating and marking the spot where gold
 was discovered in California in 1848, is well worth the detour.

Concrete

California

Section 30

LAKESIDE PARK
Carson Sac. Control, Lakeside Hotel.
 25.2 106.2 Summer resort.
 7.8 Note: Here proceed direct to Meyers on the L. H. (8 mi.)
 or detour west to Al Tahoe (beautiful summer resort) shop,
 drive, and to Tallac, thence on to Meyers (on Lincoln High-
 way) and continue to Placerville. Or the tourist can follow
 a good road from Tallac along the west shore of the lake to
 Truckee and thence west on the Lincoln Highway (north of
 the lake route) to Auburn.

MEYERS
Carson Sac. Control, Meyers Hotel.
 33.0 98.4 Alt. 6,370 feet. Eldorado County. Hotel, garage, splendid
 place to stop. Good accommodations. All road information
 to Yosemite Park.
 3.1 L. H. Local Consul, B. C. Celio, hotel prop.

Fine
 Mountain
 Grade

The climb to the summit of the Sierras starts about a mile west
 of Meyers, immediately after crossing a small stream. From
 the bridge to the summit is a trifle over two miles; you rise nearly
 1300 feet in that 2 miles, the grade averaging over 9 percent. Be-
 sure your radiator is well filled before starting up the hill.

ECHO SUMMIT
Carson Sac. Control, Sign Board at Summit.
 36.1 95.3 Alt. 7,394 feet. Eldorado County. No tourist accommoda-
 tions. Landmark only.
 2.6
 Good
 Mountain
 Grade

EASTBOUND MOTORISTS: Don't start down this hill
 with motor in high gear, get into second gear, and don't use your
 brakes except occasionally to snub your speed, if necessary.

PHILLIPS
Carson Sac. Control at Hotel.
 38.7 92.7 Alt. 6,871 feet. Eldorado County. Good accommodations.
 Camp site, gas.
 4.6
 Graded Gravel

STRAWBERRY
Carson Sac. Control at Hotel.
 43.3 88.1 Alt. 5,695 feet. Eldorado County. Good accommodations.
 Camp site, gas. Beautiful spot.
 9.5 L. H. Local Consul, J. T. Scherrer, hotel prop.

Fine Gravel

PC 1/8/09
#8a



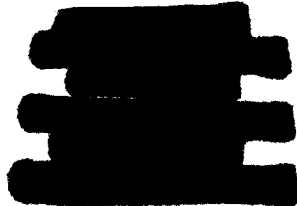
01/05/2009 09:57 AM

To <jason.hade@co.el-dorado.ca.us>

cc

bcc

Subject RE: Planning Commission hearing Jan 8 - Marion E. Long
Special Use Permit



This pertains to the January 8 public hearing of the Planning Commission to consider Special Use Permit S07-0020/Pacific House Auto Repair submitted by Marion E. Long.

I can't believe that Mr. Long is, once again, as he did last January, trying to hoodwink the Planning Commission into allowing any sort of development on the site known as Pacific House.

The Poole family owned and operated Pacific House from the turn of the 19th century until 1947, when the business and the property was leased to Demitri P. Keusseff, who eventually purchased Pacific House in 1952.

Dee Keusseff operated the Pacific House bar, restaurant, grocery store, cabins, and U.S. Post Office until his death in 1983.

Following Dee's death, the Long family bought Pacific House, sometime in the mid-80's. There has not been a legally operating business on the site since the Longs took over: The restaurant and bar are no more; the post office was removed because of illegal activity by one of the Longs; the cozy little cabins, once rented on an overnight basis by travelers along Hwy. 50, are now inhabited by debatable characters who take no pride in keeping up the property. For years residents in the area tried to get the county to clean up all the junk cars that were parked haphazardly all over the property, clear out onto the county right-of-way.

The entire site has deteriorated into a deplorable condition. What once was a beautiful site has become nothing more than a junkyard, and a place

of unscrupulous activity.

The water system has not been maintained.

I truly doubt that there is even a properly-maintained septic system anywhere on the property.

And what about all the junked cars that are dumped *behind* Pacific House, in the American

River canyon? Has the County made Mr. Long responsible for removing those cars?

Mr. Long is nothing more than a slum lord, and for the County to allow him to expand on this

would be a travesty.

Supervisor Jack Sweeney knows about Pacific House, what a nice place it was when Dee was

operating it. He was instrumental in denying Mr. Long a Use Permit in January 2008. I hope that he will step up to the plate once again and vote against issuing a permit this time.

Therefore, I [REDACTED] strongly urge the Planning Commission to DENY any sort of Use Permit to Marion E. Long. In my opinion, he is awfully brazen asking to do what he wants. Also, I feel that the Planning Commission would be grossly negligent in issuing him a Use Permit.

I ask that my name not be used at any time during the hearing.

[REDACTED]

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]