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Dollar General EIR - Public Comment

1 message

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To: "CoolGeneralRetail@edcgov.us" <CoolGeneralRetail@edcgov.us>, "edc.cob@edcgov.us" <edc.cob@edcgov.us>, "bosfour@service.govdelivery.com" <bosfour@service.govdelivery.com>

TO: Evan Mattes, Senior Planner County of El Dorado Planning and Building Department

As one of the founders of the divides preservation society I feel it is necessary to bring up multiple issues to be addressed within the scope of the EIR.

1. One of our original items of concern was public safety, as a local business owner of 15 years, (across the street from the site planned for DG) I leave that location often and it is not an easy intersection to cross unless you go to the four way stop. Even at that I have seen many near miss accidents, many stop signs run. As we all mentioned the traffic study done was inadequate. I encourage you to ensure that the traffic study this time is done at multiple times throughout the day as well as it reasonably cannot be accomplished during Covid when regular travel is limited. My concern is that you complete the study during this time and when life can return to normal we then realized the huge issue that we are dealing with. I was involved in the project that Lori Parlin referred from August of 2017 "Ideas for making Cool a Cooler Community" At the time there was discussion of putting a few roundabouts in to slow the traffic at that location. It seems with the addition of Dollar General that would almost be a requirement.
2. Within this category is the pedestrian traffic. It would be incredibly unsafe for anyone to walk along Highway 49 traveling to Dollar General. We all know that young people will definitely do that. So pedestrian traffic must be addressed and in the inclusion widening the road and providing sidewalks for safe travel, or even bike lanes as well.
3. Another issue was urban decay/blight. Again as a local business owner I am confident that Dollar General will have a negative affect on the current local businesses. I am confident that there are just not enough dollars to spread around for the addition of Dollar General. It is entirely possible that our local residences will not support dollar general and the it itself becomes the "blight" as it as it eventually becomes empty. I feel it is fiscally irresponsible to bring a business of that magnitude into our small community.
4. An additional issue that has surfaced is the septic situation and waste water removal. I don't understand The ins and outs of this issue however I know that homeowners trying to build on lots where the lots don't perk are not allowed to put an above ground septic in. Why would that exception be made for businesses? I believe this issue needs to be delved into further, and require a normal septic and wastewater removal system to no exceptions made for big business.
5. Additionally we live in a high serpentine/asbestos environment. I recently went to the county for a deck permit and was told if I moved more than 20 yards of dirt I would have to have the soil analyzed prior to building. I am confident that they are moving much more than 20 yards of dirt at that site, 20 yards of dirt will be moved with just the removal of the one Heritage Oak. It should be a requirement that the soil at that location be analyzed. Exposing an entire town and the complete downtown area as well as residents who travel through should not be exposed to the potential risk of this asbestos.

In closing I thank you for your time and attention and encourage you to include the above items as requirements in this EIR.

Sincerely,
Carolynne Knisley
Divide Preservation Society

Don't measure life by the breaths you take, but by the moments that take your breath away...