

Matt Martin

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To: Matt Martin
Subject: Sunset Meadows testimony

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As I will be out of town on November 3 and unable to attend the public meeting, please add my written comments to the public record in reference to file numbers MP 22-01/SUB 22-01/ MNR 22-02

I strongly oppose the unsustainable pace of development in Sisters. This level of growth degrades the quality of life, the safety of residents, and the very nature of Sisters. It violates the will of the citizens and indicates no respect for the Sisters Vision process, thus making a mockery of citizen involvement in local decision making.

The city planners must not look at the Sunset Meadows proposal without taking into account all the other high impact developments that are coming online. None of these ongoing housing developments take into account the cumulative effects of the unprecedented and unsustainable tide of unpleasant consequences they are imposing on the community. Sisters does not have the infrastructure for the increased traffic, the increased need for medical care, the demands on dwindling water supplies, evacuation in case of a deadly fire.

It is detrimental to the general welfare, health, and safety of Sisters for the developer of Sunset Meadows to seek modifications of the standards to increase density. It is also highly inappropriate that these houses will be completely unaffordable to the majority of those who work in low paying jobs that keep our community running. Adding insult to injury, they also don't want to pay for the necessary road improvements that their project will require.

I urge the city to reject the entire proposal outright. This would send a strong message of respect to the community and could set a new precedent for consideration of human needs over the needs of developers. I'm sure that a majority of locals would rather see their tax dollars spent on defying a state rule that would only serve to destroy our town. I'd like the city to answer Shane Lundgren's question (from the October planning commission meeting) about what would happen if the city did not comply with state mandates. If a rule threatens to ruin a town, then the responsible thing to do is to challenge that rule. I urge the city to show some courage in defying the "growth at all costs" mentality currently on display. Encouraging and permitting Laird's was a disaster and added an oversized, noisy, and ugly building to a town in which such a factory has no place.

Sisters will never be able to accommodate all the people who would like to live here. However many new residents are added, there will be multitudes more who will feel "left out". To continue on the current path will be a constant erosion to the very livability of Sisters.

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