

Glenda Wiles

From: McKibbin, Bobbie [MCKIBBIN@Grinnell.EDU]
Sent: Wednesday, October 03, 2012 5:37 PM
To: Ravalli County Commissioners
Subject: Re: sign ordinance

Commissioners,

The change being considered for the maximum allowable size for a billboard to 672 sf is not a change my household supports. The current allowable size of 32 sf is acceptable.

We live on North Kootenai Creek Road 1 1/2 miles from a very large billboard sign. It was horrible when that sign was put in and resulted in an outcry from the community thus creating the current ordinance. The bright lights on that sign line up exactly on our road. Every time I come out of my driveway at night there it is shining, it ruins the night sky, it is just plain ugly. I do not do business with anyone that advertises on that sign. It negatively impacts on the beauty of the valley and the thought of having more of them in the valley than there already are is truly distressing.

My household absolutely does not support this ordinance being changed.

You have received written public comments now placed in the record all of which are in favor of leaving the ordinance unchanged. Citizens spoke at the First Reading in opposition of changing the ordinance. No commissioner voiced support or opposition. Every commissioner should *voice* their thoughts on a matter as important as changing an ordinance. As citizens we should *always* know the thoughts that support a commissioner's vote.

We do not know who asked for a change:

- A business owner?
- A property owner wanting to lease their land for the sign?
- A sign company?
- Someone who just thinks the ordinance should be changed?

We do not know how many people have requested the change or why they want the change. This information seems to be rather pertinent to the discussion.

A county sign ordinance affects all of us in the county. It even affects the tourists visiting the valley. Before such an ordinance is changed it seems fair, no actually imperative, that the public be informed about the reasons for considering a change in the ordinance. From whom did the commission receive "telephone calls . . . asking for the change"? Would a change be in the best interest of the citizens of the county?

Finally, it only takes a few phone calls from county residents to get an ordinance changed? Really, it's that easy?

Respectfully,

Shirley & Bobbie McKibbin
372 N. Kootenai Creek Road
777-3226

Glenda Wiles

From: Barbara Michelman [barbara@michelmanphoto.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 04, 2012 7:12 AM
To: Ravalli County Commissioners
Subject: Sign Ordinance

Commissioners,

The change being considered for the maximum allowable size for a billboard to 672 sf is not a change my household supports. The current allowable size of 32 sf is acceptable.

I oppose the ordinance because it negatively impacts on the beauty of the valley. I've been working with the tourism committee on the Chamber of Commerce for over three years in order to brand the Bitterroot as a scenic destination, gateway to the largest wilderness area in the lower forty-eight, with a view to increasing the the tourism revenue coming into the state be left here in the valley .An ordinance that permits oversized commercial signage along our major corridor is short sighted. It works against all the efforts to increase our visibility as a tourist destination.

I'm a business owner who opposes this potential new blight.

Barbara Michelman

EASTSIDE STUDIO
2995 Eastside Hwy
Stevensville, MT 59870
406 381-7898
www.michelmanphoto.com

Glenda Wiles

From: Gary Knapp [grknapp@msn.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 04, 2012 1:54 PM
To: Ravalli County Commissioners
Subject: Strongly Oppose Changes to the Sign Ordinance

Ravalli County Commissioners,

This is to let you know that I am strongly opposed to any changes to the sign ordinance that would allow the proposed gigantic signs to be erected. We in the valley cherish the natural beauty that we have here and these signs do nothing to enhance our visual environment.

I don't know what could possibly be motivating you to even consider such a thing but whatever benefit that businesses think they get from those proposed monstrosities is to the detriment to the rest of us.

Please DO NOT approve these proposed changes.

Gary Knapp
Stevensville