

Glenda Wiles

From: Cary Griffin [carygriffin@me.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 09, 2012 5:46 PM
To: Ravalli County Commissioners
Subject: Billboards/ Signs

Hello,

I am a business owner and long term resident of Ravalli County. I oppose the change in signage rules along Highway 93 and encourage you to preserve the current regulations. Don't destroy the view!

Cary

Cary Griffin, Senior Partner
Griffin Hammis Associates
5582 Klements Lane
Florence, MT 59833
(406) 273-9181
www.griffinhammis.com
www.centerforsocialcapital.org

Glenda Wiles

From: Kathy Thomas [kthomas@bresnan.net]
Sent: Tuesday, October 09, 2012 5:52 PM
To: Ravalli County Commissioners
Subject: Signs in Ravalli County

I would like to discourage you from passing the ordinance that allows for the 2000per cent increase in the size of signs allowed in our county. It would seem to me that YOU, of all people, would not take a measure that would deface this beautiful valley, and devalue the property here. Someone should stand up to commercial interests and actually watch out for the natural resource that brings so many people,(and their money) here. Someone should be looking out for the quality of life here. And that someone should be you.

Thank you,

Kathleen Thomas

Glenda Wiles

From: Joanne Asker [jopaz7@earthlink.net]
Sent: Tuesday, October 09, 2012 8:28 PM
To: Ravalli County Commissioners
Subject: Ravalli county billboards

I visit Hamilton, MT about twice a year and have done so for the last 20 years. I hike, canoe and ride horses in your beautiful county. PLEASE do not ruin it with huge billboards. You live in a special place where the natural beauty has not been destroyed. I would hate to see advertisements in huge form on highway 93. PLEASE do not do it!

Thank You In Advance,

Joanne
20555 Devonshire Street
#156
Chatsworth, CA. 91311
818-335-2777

Glenda Wiles

From: Grace Shewmake [graceshewmake2011@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 09, 2012 7:12 PM
To: Ravalli County Commissioners
Subject: billboards

Dear Ravalli County Commisioners,

I will not be able to attend the public comment meeting regarding billboard regulations. However, I beg of you to keep the existing size limitations. I find that even the smaller existing billboards detract from my view of our beautiful Valley!

Larger billboards limit viewing and change the landscape dramatically!
they are unsightly and at night they add light pollution. They often obstruct the driver's view of crossing wildlife and we certainly don't need to make Highway 93 any less safe!

Thank you for letting me voice my opinion.

Grace E. Shewmake
348 Chaffin Creek Rd
Darby, MT 59829

Glenda Wiles

From: Chuck Fyfe [cfyfe@selwaycorp.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2012 6:49 AM
To: Ravalli County Commissioners
Subject: Sign Ordinance

Commissioners,

I am writing this to state that I am very much against changing the existing sign ordinance. The majority of the people I know are feel the visual appearance of the Bitterroot valley has degraded dramatically over recent years. Mainly due to unkempt properties like closed log home manufacturers and old gravel pits that have never been reclaimed. Changing the existing sign ordinance will only make a bad situation worse. I am also confused as to why this is even on your agenda. The vast majority of the homeowners are against degrading the visual appearance of our valley.

Sincerely,
Chuck Fyfe
Florence, MT

Glenda Wiles

From: Paul & Ande Odegaard [odegaard@montana.com]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2012 6:44 AM
To: Ravalli County Commissioners
Subject: Fw: Change of Current Signage Law

Dear Ravalli County Commissioners:

My husband, Paul, and I do NOT want the current sign ordinance on the size and placement of signage on all county roads to be changed. Whatever agenda is intended by whomever convinced you commissioners to even consider increasing the size, etc. has NO consideration for the beauty of our county's countryside and mountain scenery! Our previous commissioners established a sensible, sound ordinance that has been agreeable to the residents throughout our county. Why try to increase the size requirements unless your motive is to allow commercial signs to then impede on the beauty of our rural areas? This entire idea smells a bit fishy to us ... Forget about changing what doesn't need fixing and focus on more immediate issues that are currently facing Ravalli County.

Ande and Paul Odegaard
5077 Eastside Highway
Stevensville, MT 59870
Phone: 777-3389
odegaard@montana.com

Glenda Wiles

From: Steve Archibald [stevearchibald@dishmail.net]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2012 6:56 AM
To: Ravalli County Commissioners
Subject: Signs

Commissioners:

Please accept my input on the proposed changes to the current county sign ordinance. I appreciate the need to advertise but believe that current standards are certainly acceptable and do not need to be changed. Therefore, please consider the input of this citizen as opposed to any size or quantity increases and allow the current policy to stay in place in our county. I appreciate the opportunity to provide this input since I am unable to attend the scheduled meetings.

Respectfully,
Steve

Steve Archibald
stevearchibald@dishmail.net
406-821-0885

Glenda Wiles

From: Rick Langlotz [rmlanglotz@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2012 7:47 AM
To: Ravalli County Commissioners
Subject: billboards

Dear Madam and Sir Commissioners,

Please do not change the size of billboards allowable through the Bitterroot valley. The gorgeous views would be ruined, and for what. Some ad dollars. Please back away from the proposal.

Thanks,
Rick Langlotz
5575 Whitetail Lane
Florence, Ravalli County, Montana
59833

Glenda Wiles

From: Mary FT [maryft@optimum.net]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2012 12:52 PM
To: Ravalli County Commissioners
Subject: Bigger signs along 93?

Dear County Commissioners,

I just learned about the perhaps not-altogether-well-publicised move to allow more and bigger billboards along 93, and I cannot support it. The Valley is still a beautiful place, and more signs would certainly mar that quality. Surely this part of the US doesn't have to sell out?

Thanks for your attention,

Mary Fahnestock-Thomas
Hamilton

Glenda Wiles

From: Sarah Roubik [sroubik@cybernet1.com]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2012 1:37 PM
To: Ravalli County Commissioners
Subject: Sign Ordinance - Andy's letter to commissioners
Attachments: Sign Ordinance - Andy's letter to commissioners.docx

Please distribute to the commissioners and enter the attached letter into the record regarding the sign ordinance.
Thank you. Andy Roubik

10/10/2012

To the Commissioners

I am writing to you today about your intention to change the citizen initiated sign ordinance. Any time a citizen initiated ordinance is up for a change of ANY kind it should be front page news! The only notice that you gave the public of your intention to gut the ordinance was in the fine print of the paper. Very sneaky. Remember, it is the citizens of this county that elected you. If it were not for a letter to the editors of local papers you would have gotten your way almost unopposed.

Now that the people know what you intend, you are hearing that your idea is quite unpopular and against the will of the people. Suzy Foss has now stated that she thinks that a citizen committee could be set up to discuss this as long as there are people on both sides of the issue. Well, public comment has no individual on record who says that they are for changing the ordinance.

Suzy Foss has Highway 93 frontage and has stated publicly that she wishes that she had put up a billboard before the sign ordinance came into effect for the extra money. I ask that she recuse herself from further discussion or voting on this issue for both moral and ethical reasons.

Please leave this ordinance intact. Next time one of you decides to change a citizen initiated ordinance, please make your intentions known. Thank you for considering this letter.

Andy Roubik

961-4143

Glenda Wiles

From: Judith Burhop [jmburhop@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2012 3:51 PM
To: Ravalli County Commissioners
Subject: sign ordinance letter

October 10, 2012

I am appalled at the idea of allowing double billboard- sized signs up and down our beautiful valley. My understanding is that you commissioners are close to passing an ordinance that would allow just that. We Bitterrooters are so lucky and blessed to have our magnificent views of the mountain peaks. Do we really want it blocked by advertising? Also, tourists come from miles away to enjoy and be calmed by the sight of the Bitterroots and the Sapphires. (They also bring money to help support our economy while they're here.) I'm asking you to please reconsider passing such an ordinance.

I feel strongly against having huge billboards in our valley. Please don't allow the size allowance to be increased. Thank you.

Judith Burhop

P.O. Box 557

Darby, MT 59829

Glenda Wiles

From: Amy Ling [amyinmontana@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2012 5:01 PM
To: Ravalli County Commissioners
Subject: Bill Boards along Hwy 93

I recently became aware that the Ravalli County Commissioners are considering changes to the Sign Regulations along Hwy 93. I wonder why this is taking place. Will Ravalli County benefit and if so, how? I am one of many, many citizens who waited YEARS for the bike path to be completed so that I can safely ride my bike through this beautiful valley. I do not want to look at huge advertisements as I ride along the bike path. Huge bill boards will ruin the scenic views. Don't do it! We love the open vistas. I am against any changes to the sign ordinance that will allow an increase in the size of bill boards. It is bad enough that we have to look at those ugly political signs for months.

Thank you for your consideration.

Amy Ling
405 Charlos Street
Stevensville, MT
59870
406.531.1731

Glenda Wiles

From: ldsebastian@q.com
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2012 8:06 PM
To: Ravalli County Commissioners
Subject: Sign Ordinance

Commissioners,

As home owners in the Kootenai Creek area of Stevensville since 1990 we are opposed to any changes of the current sign ordinance. The current ordinance was put in place to protect the scenic values of the place we call home and we would like to keep it the way it is.

Thank you,
Doug & Lynne Sebastian

Glenda Wiles

From: David Parsons [dparsons.mt@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2012 10:50 PM
To: Ravalli County Commissioners
Subject: Signing proposal

Hello.....Commissioners Iman, Foss, Burrows, Chilcott and Stoltz:

We urge you not to change the current signing regulations for Ravalli County. The current guidance was decided following a citizens task group studied the issue in 2000 and we do not see how conditions have changed enough to consider any revision of that outcome. We need to recognize that the scenic beauty of our county is it's greatest asset; and, while it is important to attract business to our local establishments we do not believe that larger signs will accomplish that. Instead, they will detract from the natural beauty of our surroundings.

We do not understand why you would even spend your precious time on this issue. If there are special interests supporting this change, please make it clear to all of us who and what those interests are.

Thank you for rejecting this unnecessary proposal.

David Parsons and Marjorie Kimzey
Florence