

TOWN OF STEVENSVILLE

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Town of Stevensville has long encouraged retail and commercial development in our historic downtown and surrounding retail area on a scale that preserves our historic qualities and supports the local community and employment ; and

WHEREAS, the Stevensville Trade Area includes the valley floor and foothills east and west of the Highway 93 corridor, from Florence to just south of Victor; and

WHEREAS, a large-scale retail facility is defined as a retail facility having equal to or greater than 60,000 square feet; and

WHEREAS, unemployment and low wages are a chronic problem in Ravalli County; and

WHEREAS, large-scale retail facilities often result in reduced employment, lower wages, and increases poverty; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Stevensville may expect to see decreased property tax valuations as a result of commercial vacancies due to a large-scale retail facility; and

WHEREAS, Stevensville's unique character is largely defined by a network of locally-owned independent businesses and local non-profits; and

WHEREAS, areas dominated by large-scale retail facilities tend to lose their unique qualities, and see diminished charitable contributions, social capital, and civic participation; and

WHEREAS, largescale retail facilities cause sprawl, light pollution, noise pollution, increased traffic, and increased demands on emergency services; and

WHEREAS, prices at chain stores are not always better than at local independent retailers; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Stevensville wishes to preserve opportunities for entrepreneurship and to avoid retail hegemony.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Town of Stevensville Town Council declares its official statement that to ensure the health, safety, and general welfare of its citizens, the Town Council signs this proclamation on November 13th, 2014 opposing the construction of large-scale retail facilities in Ravalli County.

Absent
Bill Perrin, Council President
[Signature]
Jim Crews, Ward 2

[Signature]
Robin Holcomb, Ward 1
[Signature]
Tim Hunter, Ward 1

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Ravalli County Commissioners

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