

Glenda Wiles

From: Bethany Andersen <sassy_classyphotography@live.com>
Sent: Monday, November 17, 2014 5:51 PM
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Subject: Information for the people of the county

To whom it may concern:

We now have a petition for a Box store. Here is what it says. I now have 150+ signatures in less than 24 hours. Please look into this and read the information below. This actually is very important to the valley. As well as I see points from both sides, I also see why it's needed.

I am writing this petition on the behalf of the citizens of Ravalli County. The citizens are urging for a proposal of a box store to move into Ravalli County. Not only will it bring in more jobs, which we highly need, it will also help the city of Hamilton with the intent of helping our County.

We see people as far as Salmon ID, who come and travel and pass right on through our towns along the way to Missoula. Honestly, how much money do you think that could bring into the city of Hamilton, MT. If we had a store that offered what people wanted or needed, it would keep the money in Ravalli County instead of Missoula. People would shop at the box store, spend money down town for food, and take the stroll around and maybe shop at our other unique shops we have to offer. From there it's all about word of mouth. People ask questions, everyone has a suggestion where to shop, eat, and play. That money alone from Salmon ID would help our town.

*I drive from Salmon ID to Missoula, at least twice a month. To get the necessary things I cannot find here. I do not stop in Hamilton or the other towns along the way, unless it is for gas. I would love to see Hamilton get a box store; it would save me so much gas. I would rather stop in the town and shop then spend another hour in the car.

~ Anonymous Salmon, ID

The people in the Valley, our county (Sula – Florence) are so tired of driving to Missoula to get the necessities they need for their house hold. The stores we have here already do not provide hardly anything. Unless you want to pay outrageous prices on things you need but, could find other places for a better price. Bringing in a box store here, will help keep that money spent other places such as Missoula in our county. We are trying so hard to keep our county going, and it makes it difficult to do so without the right resources.

*Most of the stores in Hamilton don't carry the same goods as the big box stores do. I would rather see Ravalli County and Idaho folks shop here than drive to Missoula and pay for their infrastructure when ours could use the revenue. Plus we damn sure need the jobs.

~ Trevor Ogden-Sanchez Darby, MT

*We need this for the public convenience so we don't always have to drive to Missoula

~ Sandy Batson

The topic of jobs has also been brought up on several occasions. We want to see more jobs come down here in our county. We need employment, a paycheck, some sort of stability. We would like to see our families become families again. Most parents are so busy now driving back and forth to and from jobs and do not get enough

time with their kids. Think of what they are missing out on. A lot of people are now leaving our county to find work elsewhere, some leaving families behind and leaving the state. A box store would bring in more jobs, full time, part time jobs, for the unemployed people who live here. From the mom or dad, teenagers just starting out, retired who just want to work again. It would benefit everyone in some way.

*It will create a lot of employment opportunities and help a lot of people out ..I don't think it will harm the local stores because people are loyal and will keep going there but a big box store will help with everyday ordinary things. I'm all for it and hope it happens so the community can grow.

~ Cassy Kempf Darby, MT

*I have 3 kids and it's almost impossible to provide for them in this valley. I am happy to support local companies, as long as they aren't trying to "rob me" with their prices! A Walmart would not only make it easier to support my family but also provide so many jobs for people around here! Like it or not, the valley is growing and we need more jobs and cheaper options!

~ Jilliana Teresa Key

*It will bring in 200+ Jobs our valley needs. A lot of people who live here in Ravalli County do not have the education needed to work at the labs, or a great paying job, or the job skills. We have a lot of single mothers/fathers who live in the valley who struggle every day.

~ Anonymous Hamilton, MT

We in Ravalli County need a change; we need a change for the better. Building a box store would bring a start of a change we need. Times have changed, things have changed, in order to follow that change; we need growth for our county. We need something big to happen, so we can better ourselves, our families, and our community. We need that money to stay in our county, not go to Missoula. We need that sense of independence back, pride, and integrity.