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Ravalli County Commissioners

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November 1, 2015

Ravalli County Commissioners
215 S. 4th St.
Suite A
Hamilton, MT 59840

Dear Commissioners:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposal to use the north portion of the Fairgrounds as a motor sports arena. I am opposed to this idea. Numerous people live close to the fairgrounds and should not have to put up with the noise produced by an activity that is used by a limited number of people—many of whom will not be Ravalli County residents. Please consider the following items when identifying the benefits and disadvantages to having this facility on county land.

- 1) The fairgrounds are a county resource, funded by county taxes. Development of this area should benefit the greatest number of Ravalli County residents as possible. County residents should not support through our taxes, a commercial endeavor that benefits a limited number of county residents. If the motor sports enthusiasts believe such a facility is needed, they should form a non-profit or corporation and raise funds to purchase and develop a facility on their land, not that of Ravalli County residents.
- 2) Numerous homes-100 of them, are within a ½ mile radius of this area. This area was identified as appropriate to residential development and is now filled with over 640 houses and apartments interspersed with various light, quiet, commercial enterprises and the high school.
- 3) The intersection of Fairgrounds and Old Corvallis Road was recently upgraded to handle the traffic from increased residential traffic and that coming from the high school. Will this intersection be safe when traffic increases from motor sports enthusiasts accessing the north Fairgrounds area?
- 4) Moderate to lower income families moved to the neighborhoods surrounding the fairgrounds because they were affordable, pleasant, and quiet. They couldn't afford to; or appreciated the convenience of living near town; or didn't choose to purchase properties outside the city limits far from other homes surrounded by acres of undeveloped land. It is unfair to expect these residents to live with noise, dust and increased traffic associated with a motor sports arena just because they happen to not 'live out of town'.
- 5) I am one of those homeowners who live in the south end of the Arbors, one of the neighborhoods near the proposed motor sports site. I hear the noises from the fair, the occasional demolition derbies, rodeos, downtown street dances, fire sirens, and other sometimes noisy events at the fairgrounds. I accept and can live with occasional noise-its part of living in town and sometimes it's fun to hear the events taking place! But I do not want to live with noise many days of the year!

November 1, 2018

Ravalli County Commissioners

215 S. 4th St.

Suite A

Hamilton, MT 59840

Dear Commissioners:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposal to use the north portion of the Fairgrounds as a motor sports area. I am opposed to this idea. Motor sports people live close to the Fairgrounds and many of whom will not be Ravalli County residents. Please consider the following items when identifying the benefits and disadvantages to having this facility on county land.

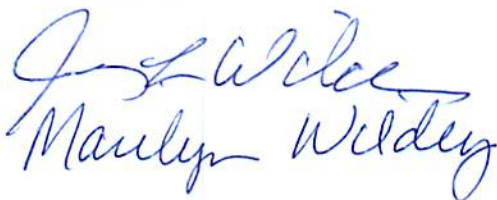
- 1) The Fairgrounds are a county resource, funded by county taxes. Development of this area should benefit the greatest number of Ravalli County residents as possible. County residents should not support through our taxes, a commercial endeavor that benefits a limited number of county residents. If the motor sports enthusiasts believe such a facility is needed, they should form a non-profit or corporation and raise funds to purchase and develop a facility on their land, not that of Ravalli County residents.
- 2) Thousands of people-100 of them live within a 1/2 mile radius of this area. This area was identified as appropriate to residential development and is now filled with over 600 houses and apartments interspersed with various light, quiet, commercial enterprises and the high school.
- 3) The intersection of Fairgrounds and Old Corvallis Road was recently upgraded to handle the traffic from increased residential traffic and that coming from the high school. Will this intersection be safe when traffic increases from motor sports enthusiasts accessing the north Fairgrounds area?
- 4) Moderate to lower income families moved to the neighborhood surrounding the Fairgrounds because of the low cost of housing. Many of these families did not choose to purchase properties outside the city limits far from other homes surrounded by acres of undeveloped land. It is unfair to expect these residents to live with noise, dust and increased traffic associated with a motor sports area just because they happen to not live out of town.
- 5) One of these homeowners who live in the south end of the Ahdors, one of the neighborhoods near the proposed motor sports site, I hear the noises from the fair, the occasional banishment banishes, bebop, downtown street dances, the sirens, and other sometimes noisy events at the Fairgrounds. I accept and can live with occasional noise-its part of living in town and sometimes it's fun to hear the events taking place! But I do not want to live with noise many days of the year.

- 6) Much of the old part of Hamilton would also be impacted by noise created by the motor sports arena as most of the town is located within 1 mile of the Fairgrounds.
- 7) Construction of the motor sports arena would result in increased traffic on Old Corvallis Road, Fairground Road, and other roads providing access the motor sports arena. Those are the roads my family, I, and my neighbors use to go grocery shopping, go the gym, and attend school events. Enthusiasts leaving races would be "pumped up" and 'racing' about on streets neighborhood kids and residents are using to ride bikes and drive back and forth to downtown on. You may chortle at this idea but after experiencing thrills of racing mountain bikes I would drive more aggressively than normal and would expect that those experiencing the thrills of motorized racing would behave in a similar manner!
- 8) It is likely that I'll retire and live in the Arbors neighborhood the rest of my life. I like to be outside, working in my yard and garden, enjoy my quiet neighbors, walk on quiet streets, have my windows open all night, enjoy the fresh air, pleasant climate our valley offers and listen to the birds and neighborhood kids playing, and most of the time hear no noise at all.
- 9) Also, consider the bigger, long term impact of this activity: Internal combustion engines are contributing to global warming and depletion of fossil fuels. Promoting this activity increases this effect upon our environment. We should look for ways to live, and entertain ourselves that reduce our use of and dependence on fossil fuels instead of promoting it!

No matter where the motor sports facility is placed there will be nearby residents who oppose its location! In fact it is likely the only people who want the facility anywhere in the valley are those that want to use it to run their equipment on. The current location would affect 100's of residents, while a location further from a populated residential area would affect fewer residents. The racing facility should be located farther from population centers instead of in the middle of the most densely populated are of Ravalli County.

Sincerely,

Marilyn Wildey, Jerry Wildey
100 Sage Lane
Hamilton, MT

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Marilyn Wildey". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "M".

6) Much of the old part of Hamilton would also be impacted by noise created by the motor sports arena as most of the town is located within 1 mile of the Fairgrounds.

7) Construction of the motor sports arena would result in increased traffic on Old Cornwallis Road, Fairground Road, and other roads providing access to the motor sports arena. These are the roads my family, I and my neighbors use to go grocery shopping, go to the gym, and attend school events. Entrances leaving faces would be "pumped up" and racing about on streets neighborhood kids and residents are using to ride bikes and forth to downtown area. You may scoff at this idea but after experiencing thrills of riding mountain bikes I would give more aggressively than normal and would expect that those experiencing the thrills of motorized racing would behave in a similar manner!

8) It is likely that I'll retire and live in the Arbor neighborhood the rest of my life. I like to be near the water and enjoy the view of the harbor. I don't want to live in a noisy area.

9) My windows open at night, enjoy the fresh air, pleasant climate, and listen to the birds and neighborhood kids playing, and most of the time hear no noise at all.

10) Also, consider the bigger, long term impact of this activity: Internal combustion engines are contributing to global warming and depletion of fossil fuels. Promoting this activity increases this effect upon our environment. We should look for ways to live and entertain ourselves that reduce our use of and dependence on fossil fuels instead of promoting it.

11) The matter where the motor sports facility is placed there will be nearby residents who oppose its location. In fact it is likely the only people who want the facility anywhere in the valley are those that want to use it for their equipment on. The current location would affect 100's of residents, while a location further from a populated residential area would affect fewer residents. The racing facility should be located further from population centers instead of in the middle of the most densely populated area of Rowell County.

Sincerely,

Walter Wilby

Hamilton, VA