

Jocelyn Gonzalez-Thies

From: Jacklyn Ng <jacklyn.ng@comcast.net>
Sent: Thursday, September 7, 2023 9:48 AM
To: bos; Julia Krog; pbscommissions
Cc: Tony
Subject: Sep 12 BOS meeting re tents in Mendocino

Mendocino County

SEP 07 2023

Planning & Building Services

Hello!

My husband and I live in Novato, California, about 2-1/2 hours away from Mendocino. We spend at least a week in Mendocino every 2 months. (And when I say we spend, we really do *spend!*) For our lodging we alternate between hotels, B&Bs and vacation rentals. While in your beautiful community, we dine out for breakfast, lunch and dinner each and every day. We always have our small dog with us and, because we are still very cautious about our health with regard to the pandemic and ongoing epidemic, we choose 100% of the time those dining establishments with outdoor seating.

In our experience, we have found the tents at Trillium, Goodlife Cafe, and Patterson's Pub to be indispensable for the following reasons:

- Coastal weather can be quite changeable and the tents ensure that we do not need to cancel our dining plans.
- We feel safer, health wise, dining outdoors.
- Most if not all lodging forbids leaving dogs unattended; therefore, we bring our 10-pounder wherever we go.

Those are just our personal reasons; however there are other rationals that affect not only us but the entire community:

- The tents helped many businesses survive the worst of the pandemic.
- The tents allow tourists to continue to enjoy (and spend money in) your community.
- The tents allow the businesses to hire or retain more employees than they would have otherwise.

I have searched in vain for reasons as to why what appears to be a very small minority feels the tents must come down and I have failed to come up with anything more than that they "are tacky." My husband and I have found the tents in Mendocino to be quite the opposite. The Trillium tent is beautiful and adds to the ambiance. The GoodLife Cafe and Patterson Pub tents blend in so well with the restaurant that it they are barely noticeable from the street; they certainly don't stand out as an eyesore.

I hope you will consider the needs of your community before continuing to make things so preposterously difficult for some of the most hardworking and kindest people in the restaurant business.

Best regards,

Jacklyn Ng
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