

Jocelyn Gonzalez-Thies

From: Karen Lewis <klewis@mcn.org>
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 9:57 AM
To: pbscommissions; bos; Julia Krog
Subject: Keep Tents in Mendocino Please
Importance: High

Mendocino County
SEP 11 2023
Planning & Building Services

Dear Planning Department, Board of Supervisors, and interested Community Members,

Our family supports Restaurant Tents in Mendocino including the historic district. Outdoor seating fosters community and allows those of us locals who might otherwise avoid crowded indoor seating to patronize the eating establishments. Our out-of-town guests have also told us many, many times how much they love the outdoor seating now available in Mendocino.

Outdoor seating creates a pedestrian-friendly atmosphere where people can stroll around town and “see and be seen” by patrons in the outdoor seating.

Outdoor seating enhances the seasonal opportunities for eating establishments to stay open “in all weather” instead of needing to close during the blustery wintertime or foggy summertime. This fortifies the economy of our impoverished area, creating jobs and livelihoods for dozens (or hundreds) of families that depend on food service employment.

In the historic old days, the original settlers (indigenous) existed with less formal building structures.

If we remain chained to historic precedents, there would be no automobile parking, no paved roads, no electricity in the town.

Please let common sense prevail and keep the one wonderful silver lining of the Covid Pandemic: outdoor tented seating.

Thank you for considering my opinions and thank you for your good service to the community.

Sincerely,

Karen K. Lewis
Parent - Senior Citizen - Small Business Owner - Patron of Local Small Businesses and Restaurants
PO Box 790
Albion, 95410 California
(707) 357-0592 mobile/text

4c) Discussion and Possible Action to Direct Staff to Deprioritize Enforcement of Restaurant Tents within Coastal Zoning for 1 Year and Facilitate Collaboration with Mendocino City Community Services District, Mendocino Historic Review Board, California Coastal Commission and State Water Resources Control Board for Tent Policy within the Mendocino Historic District; and **Direction to Planning and Building Services to Inform the Mendocino Historic Review Board that the Board of Supervisors Supports Tents within the Historic District and Advises They Are Compatible with Historic District** (Sponsor: Supervisor Williams) Recommended Action: Direct staff to deprioritize enforcement of restaurant tents within

Coastal Zoning for 1 Year and facilitate collaboration with Mendocino City Community Services District, Mendocino Historic Review Board, California Coastal Commission and State Water Resources Control Board for Tent Policy within the Mendocino Historic District; and direct Planning and Building Services to inform the Mendocino Historic Review Board that the Board of Supervisors supports tents within the Historic District and advises they are compatible with Historic District.