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By James Feenan at 7:50 am, Aug 15, 2024

From: [Carla Markmann](#)
To: [pbscommissions](#)
Cc: [Haney Greg](#); [Stuart Alice Marie](#); [Crystal Johnson](#)
Subject: Zoning changes to allow camping
Date: Thursday, August 15, 2024 7:39:24 AM

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Dear Mendocino County Commissioner's,

I wish to strongly protest and disagree with your proposal to change zoning to allow RVs and campers on private properties near the coastal zone in the Inglenook area. This is a TERRIBLE idea. I will explain the reason for my objections below.

I have resided in the Inglenook neighborhood since 2008. However, I have visited the coastal zone of Mendocino county as a tourist with my family for over 50 years. We always valued the scenic, rural beauties of this area.

I and my current Inglenook neighbors reside here, by choice, because it is remote from urban areas. We value our privacy and the unique natural resources of the area. Our neighbors group assess ourselves fees for road maintenance and take voluntary measures for other aspects of habitat preservation. We value the close proximity of McKerricher State Park and the Ten Mile dunes area.

Changing zoning to allow camping on private property in the Inglenook neighborhood is a terrible idea for many reasons. The property owner could be voluntarily or legally responsible for many adverse impacts with no training or regulatory authority. There would be no centralized oversight or maintenance. There would be many costs and very minimal benefits to allowing camping and or RVs on private lands.

Your proposal for rezoning could have many serious adverse impacts on the environment and quality of life. Encouraging tourists to camp in residential neighborhoods would increase the potential risk of wild fires, theft and other criminal behavior on private property, traffic and road damage from traffic over use, increased noise, trash, and air pollution, as well as potential injury to wildlife as well as campers, and risk to ignorant campers from marauding bears and mountain lions. This neighborhood already experiences property damage from hungry wildlife.

The adverse impacts could affect both campers and residents. We could expect an increase in pollution from inadequate trash and sewage handling, over use of water resources as well as habitat degradation and increased introduction of non native weeds.

The property owner would be responsible for preventing adverse effects that are normally regulated by trained park staff in public camping areas. This proposed zoning change is unrealistic, dangerous, and legally risky. The entire neighborhood; residents, wildlife, and surrounding lands would be adversely affected and put at risk by the presence of tourists not invested in maintaining the safety or resources of the area.

Far better to expand camping resources in existing parks such as McKerricher, Cleone or near Fort Bragg where there is already trained supervisory staff and maintenance.

Sincerely,
Carla Markmann

Sent from my iPhone