Letter to Citizens: Your Opinion Counts!

<u>The Issue</u>

Recently, our Town Council, by a vote of 3-2, approved rezoning of a bylaw, the effect of which allows a major strip mall development of over 60,000 sq ft and 300 parking spaces to go ahead on the highway. The development would include 11 Businesses and Services that would seriously impact the Community, Vitality and Economy of Revelstoke. We appreciate Council's time on this matter, and a sincere effort was made by two councillors to delay a decision that will change how our town operates.

However, we do not agree with the decision.

This major decision runs counter to over 30 years development and investment as per our Official Community Plan, and other initiatives.

For 30 years, the focus of planning and the spending of millions of taxpayer dollars has been to make Revelstoke a town that people had to come *in to* rather than only stop on the outskirts. This approval runs counter to our historical effort.

Perimeter strip mall development never benefits a small town.

The research and literature on this for the past 20 years is very clear – perimeter strip mall development never benefits a town overall! There is not one case study that says it does. So why would the experience here be any different?

Votes by councilors did not reflect the written and verbal submissions made.

Of the 50 plus submissions made to council either in writing or at the hearing, 72% were NOT in favor of this bylaw amendment.

Who are the Silent Majority that are in favour of the bylaw amendment adding grocery, pharmacy, health services, entertainment to the zoning?

Major decisions should have major input before being made.

Citizens did not have enough information on the pros and cons nor has enough time has been put into research and citizen preference.

We want council to revisit this decision and to make the final decision with appropriate research and input from the people. We want real representation rather than individual councilor speculation and guesswork. Our future is at stake!

WHAT YOU CAN DO (it's not too late!)

Sign the petition/Write a letter to Mayor and Councillors and media

Get informed: Council Meeting agenda/minutes at

Cityofrevelstoke.com

Type in Hall Pacific at Times Review, Revelstoke Mountaineer, Revelstoke Current

Please sign below to support our call for Revelstoke Town Council

to revisit their strip mall decision and to ensure proper research, input, and debate is done before a final decision is made.

Name (print)	Address	Signature

Thank you for supporting our call for better representation!

Letter to Businesses

Please Join Our Protest

We want council to revisit this decision and to make the final decision with appropriate research and input from the people. We want real representation rather than individual councilor speculation and guesswork. Our future is at stake!

We are papering our windows to raise awareness of this issue and indicate what Revelstoke might look like if a number of businesses were forced to close because of additional competition by chain stores with lower operating expenses. (at \$38 sq.ft., they could only be chain stores).

This would diminish the community of Revelstoke, reduce business volume, and possibly lower the resale value of your business, if you could sell it at all. Most businesses welcome competition, but there are numerous empty lots and buildings available to be developed in Revelstoke.

Revelstoke is becoming a destination because tourists like coming into our downtown vs. many towns that have dead downtowns and perimeter strip malls. People live here and choose to move here because Revy has a Fun, Vibrant, Engaged, and Centralized downtown.

Banff is a destination town but you don't see them building a strip mall on the Buffalo

Paddock. They want to preserve the historic nature of their town by drawing tourists into their downtown.

Tuesday night: Brown Paper Windows for Wednesday a.m. leave up for 2 days minimum, till Sunday if you

can

Wednesday a.m: Post petition at the till until Sunday, will Pick up Monday.

Sign the petition

Write a letter to Mayor and Councillors and media

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Current

What is next: (it's not too late!)

Approval by Ministry of Transport

Adoption of Amendment by Council

Development Permit where details on development will be shaped with

public input.

If you need, paper will drop if off Tuesday afternoon.+