

Friends of Grant Creek Summary of Petition Results

To the Honorable John Engen, Mayor, Members of the Missoula City Council and staff of Missoula Development Services: In late May, Friends of Grant Creek (FOGC) mailed the attached petition to 635 residential addresses in Grant Creek north of I-90 to state FOGC's position and obtain the opinions of residents about this proposal. Three hundred twelve petitions signed by 349 residents were returned from 287 unique addresses--a remarkable response rate of 45%.

Seventy percent came from city addresses, 30% from the county. Every respondent supports the existing zoning and opposes the rezoning request. One hundred fifty-four residents added personal comments or concerns, summarized below.

By far the biggest added comment was *Traffic Congestion and Safety* mentioned by 60%, with *Public Safety and Evacuations* following at 26%. As these concerns were also clearly stated in the petition itself, it's clear that 100% of respondents are concerned about the number of cars this rezoning would add to the already-congested Grant Creek Road/I-90 interchange. Several mentioned additional traffic on the overburdened Reserve Street Corridor. A few suggested solutions: a much-needed second way out of Grant Creek via a new I-90 underpass, or a frontage road leading from Expo Parkway to Airway Boulevard.

The remaining personal comments were wide-ranging, including: support for mixed development that would create a cohesive neighborhood, need to complement the existing neighborhood character, inadequate infrastructure (public transportation, streets and parks), distance from shopping areas, and impact on Hellgate Elementary School.

The petitions are attached to this Summary for entry into the official record pertaining to the request for rezoning at 2920 Expo Parkway.

Thank you for your attention to our concerns on this important matter.

Wendell Beardsley, President
Friends of Grant Creek