

I live in upper Grant Creek and have been a resident since 1976. After attending a Friends of Grant Creek virtual meeting, I learned in more detail about the proposed rezoning request scheduled for July. Even though I live outside the city limits I would like to add my voice to those opposing a change in the zoning. I drive down Grant Creek and Reserve probably 5 times a week, and so increasing the density of folks using Grant Creek and Reserve directly effect me.

In many respects, changing the zoning to higher density does not meet the goals of the Missoula Planning Guide. However, there are two, which I want to address. The first is safety. The infrastructure on lower Grant Creek road cannot handle the extra cars attempting to enter the main road or to access the freeway. This creates an even more dangerous intersection with businesses patrons, homeowners, cyclists, and walkers attempting to enter it.

In addition to safety, I would like to to consider the general welfare. The crowded Reserve Street corridor, which is one of the most dangerous roadways in the state, will now become even more hazardous with extra cars. It seems to me that the bottlenecks to travel and growth in Missoula are the freeway entrances and the bridges. If large apartment units are built in Missoula, locating them south of the freeway entrances would eliminate some of this pressure.

Let me urge you to keep the zoning now in place on the gravel pit area at the entrance to Grant Creek to keep the population density lower in the future. Please share this letter with other members, who will determine the outcome of the zoning change. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Sally Tibbs