

5427 Prospect Drive
Missoula, MT, 59808

July 20, 2020

Dear Mr. DeGrandpre and Members of the City Council:

I write in opposition to the proposed rezoning of the Quarry at 2920 Expo Parkway. I have several concerns, which I know are shared by many residents throughout Grant Creek. I will focus on the concerns that directly affect my family.

Traffic Safety:

We moved to our house on Prospect in 2010 to raise our family and to be part of a beautiful and safe community. I feel that the proposed rezoning dramatically impacts traffic safety and evacuation safety. Simply put, there is only one way out of Grant Creek. In the case of an emergency, such as a fire, I question how a quick and safe evacuation could occur – even today and prior to any additional developments. Secondly, the flow of traffic, which is already quite congested throughout the day, would be increased well beyond capacity. As it is, traffic regularly backs up not only at “rush” hour times, but consistently throughout the day. This poses added safety issues for all, including our district’s School Bus system.

Transportation:

Grant Creek does not have adequate transportation for the population that would live in the proposed units. There is no City bus system or safe bike route for residents. It is irresponsible to consider such a large development without providing safe and reliable transportation opportunities for the community. Without these transportation opportunities, residents will not have safe and easy access to downtown or essential businesses.

School District:

The Hellgate School District is also already at or near capacity. The recent growth on Mullan and the surrounding area was considered with the recent building addition at Hellgate, but the proposed growth here in Grant Creek certainly was not.

While I share only three specific concerns, I am also worried about the environment, the type of build that is proposed, and the overall impact this development would have on our trails and traffic. I realize that the area in question is already zoned for single-family residents. Such a development fits with the landscape and is a responsible addition to the Grant Creek community. I urge all parties to realize and accept that the proposed rezoning of the Quarry is irresponsible and it puts at risk the safety of our community.

Respectfully,

Jennifer Cavanaugh