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Title:

Comments: After attending the meeting October 4th at Seeley Elementary and observing, it is very clear that the developers and owner will never have the backing of this very special community or others that have commented through out the country.

As I drove by the Holland area after the meeting on Highway 83, it was pitch black. The road to the lake you didn't notice until you drove by. Very important, because this is the way it needs to stay. Then I started imagining just what will happen if this project comes to fruition. Lights shining into the mountain area - we all know dark lights are not dark - lights are lights. Signs and lights along the now and always has been dark highway. No one from the transportation department represented at these meetings. The only plan put forth was the one to build and decimate.

You have a "historic" property built in 1924 and rebuilt in 1947. 98 years/75 years. Generations of current families have visited over those 98 years and continue to visit. They want it preserved AS IS. Saving the history of the Valley is one of the Forest Service jobs. The USDA Forest Service says, "The Caring for the Land and Serving People". Your purpose is of preservation especially since this Valley is not like others - pristine is a word that comes to mind. Don't blemish the Crown of the Continent with the greed. Take back the land.

Our family was once again on the lodge grounds in May and walked over along the west shore. The boys found a baby Painted Turtle along the edge and appropriately named it Holland. (See attached photos) The National Audubon Field Guide says it's habitat is "marshy pond, slow streams, river backwaters; walks on land between waterways". Do you honestly think that finding this baby turtle would be possible once they start displacing all that land along the edge? It will be a flooding nightmare - especially with the 200 trees gone - there isn't even a natural embankment along the water's edge. Anyone with common sense can automatically tell you without question that the environment will be hugely affected. All those septic, trees gone, pavement - no clear water in the lake anymore.

An environmental impact study must be done regardless of size. This project would be detrimental to the lake. It's funny all those hardworking, salt of the earth people at the meeting can already tell you what the answer will be because of the magnitude of the project. It's interesting that this project has been treated in a far different manner than Whitefish Mountain when they were just trying to cut trails on the backside. Right off the bat they were instructed they must have an environmental study. The water impact will be huge - all the displacement of the earth in a fragile area and pollution will most definitely happen. Goodbye clear water, hello algae..look at BigSky and the Gallatin River - all publicly blamed on "ballooning development ". This will harm the fish and bugs they feed on and it's ugly. Christian needing to make more money off the property is of absolutely NO priority. To pitch that was really ridiculous and very offensive.

The only logical answer is to keep the current footprint of these buildings. The only "sustainable " is to renovate in the present footprint of the buildings. It is time to consider the National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 and involve the USDA Forest Service Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. Saving the History and Heritage of the Valley is of the utmost importance.

Another important point would be to really listen to the gentleman from Condon regarding the fire department - one ambulance, 28 volunteers, very limited trucks and no paid positions.

Another gentleman asked how do the people of the area fit into this picture - he called them a "soulful" community and that we are - the soul is in saving all our families way of life that live here and make it what it is in

this very special place.

There has been nearly a century of memories passed down. It is a must that we protect and preserve the same experience for these generations to come.