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Organization:

Title:

Comments: My name is Christian Rodriguez, I've been a full time valley resident for 8 years. Thank you for the

opportunity to be heard.

Reading what one can of the EIS report and socio economic study, the common theme I saw is that Teton Valley, Idaho will bear the direct expense of growth without the direct benefit from it. The level of impact, both natural and social, on our county varies based on the different versions of expansion, but the impact is there and irreversible.

With that understanding, I'm bothered by certain questions, some emotional and some logical.

Logically speaking, if we know that Teton Co, ID is suffering from traffic and maintenance issues with our roads, lack of public services, overcrowded schools, and unaffordable housing -- then why increase the burden on these systems for no benefit?

And if it is the county commissioner's roles to oversee the management of these services how is shrugging their shoulders and saying "What are we going to do? It's Wyoming" an acceptable answer? This has been a pending issue for many years at this point. No doubt, it is a complex problem. And that it requires a creative solution -- but I'm not sure that's it.

Which brings me to my subjective and emotional response to the expansion. We have no shortage of people flocking to our area. And I don't think it's contentious to say that the draw here is that this valley has held onto something a lot of other great places have lost to over-development. Those towns will never reclaim their landscape or their communities.

If you want this expansion where does it stop? The data shows it won't benefit Teton Co, ID directly, so then by what metric do we count on? What are the "indirect benefits?" Some businesses in town will get more customers, and Airbnbs and hotels will see more occupancy and fetch higher prices. Yes, some people in Teton Co, ID will benefit from that. But by how much? And the people that live here will endure even more problems with traffic, less public services, a worse housing crisis until ... what? What is the vision of the county commissioners if this is what they want to happen?

If we have publicly funded studies highlighting the pitfalls of the expansion, then it would be a curious decision if the Forest Service and County choose any direction that does not heed the advice in them.

Thank you.