Jamie Gray

From:

Stacy Corless <scorless@mono.ca.gov>

Sent:

Wednesday, July 14, 2021 2:18 PM

To:

Michael Vanderhurst; jenb2374@gmail.com; Paul Chang; eckertinmmth@verizon.net;

Jessica Kennedy

Cc:

Haislip Hayes; Jamie Grav

Subject:

7/14 Meeting, Item 4.2/Old Mammoth Transit

Dear Commissioners,

Unfortunately, I can't attend today's meeting, so am sending some comments regarding Item 4.2, the presentation on transit in Old Mammoth. As the county supervisor for this area, I've been very involved in advocating for neighborhood transit needs and concerns since 2015.

I'd like to encourage the town and ESTA to explore other options for a Red Line turnaround beyond the proposed site at Woodman in the short term. Longer term, I'd also encourage the town and ESTA to explore innovative transit solutions for the Old Mammoth area.

I understand that the town and ESTA are in a tough position with the issue of locating a bus turnaround in Old Mammoth for the Red Line. There is no easy solution. There is serious and warranted concern and opposition for the planned turnaround at Woodman and Old Mammoth, and without other alternatives presented by town staff, it seems that the choice before the town and ESTA is to build the turnaround at Woodman or to eliminate needed service to neighborhoods currently served by the stop on Club Drive.

There are other, bigger issues to consider around transit needs to the entire Old Mammoth area, but these issues are not the most pressing, nor will the proposed turnaround at Woodman truly address these other issues and needs.

The priority now must be to strike a balance between maintaining current transit service and addressing valid quality of life and safety concerns of residents impacted by the proposed turnaround.

I urge the commission, town staff and ultimately town council to seriously consider and present other options for a bus turnaround beyond the Woodman proposal, and then to present all the alternatives, in a written report, so that decision makers and community members have all the information they need to understand this complex situation.

Town staff members have worked hard to do last-minute community outreach, but the sense among residents is that the decision has already been made, and that presentations at outreach meetings serve to back into that decision.

It's a lot of work, but ultimately a more thorough and transparent decision-making and outreach process will yield a better result, both short and long term.

Thank you for considering my comments,

Stacy

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