

Attachment 4

**Public Comments for the
March 2, 2022 Continued
Public Hearing**

From: [Michael Peterka](#)
To: [Michael Peterka](#)
Subject: FW: Villas III - Planning and Economic Development Committee notice
Date: Wednesday, February 23, 2022 3:53:36 PM

From: Jaime Pollack <pollacknv@gmail.com>
Date: February 18, 2022 at 8:03:45 PM PST
To: Lynda Salcido <lsalcido@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov>, John Wentworth <jwentworth@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov>, Bill Sauser <bsauser@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov>, Kirk Stapp <kstapp@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov>, Sarah Rea <srea@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov>, Jamie Gray <jgray@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov>, mrvanderhurst@visitmammoth.com, jenb2374@gmail.com, Paul Chang <pchang@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov>, eckertinnmth@verizon.net, jessicarskennedy@gmail.com, Sandra Moberly <smoberly@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov>, Pam Kobylarz <pkobylarz@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov>
Subject: Villas III - Planning and Economic Development Committee notice

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[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Dear Mammoth Planning and Economic Development Committee Members, Town Council Members and Mayor Salcido:

This email is in regard to the Villas III Public Hearing(s). First of all, thank you to all the members and council members, who took the time to speak to me one on one.

To continue the conversation around this matter, I would like to request to be put directly in touch with the project developer/applicant, Mark Rafeh, in order to work on a list of compromises around the deep issues that have been raised in the previous hearing and by the community at large. As already discussed with many members on this email, it is the intention to find a fair middle ground here.

That being said, there seems to be a continued lack of proper public review around this application and its process. Even after raising concerns that the initial public hearing was smack in the middle of the work day, the next scheduled meeting was set during work hours again. And now, the new hearing date of March 2, is even sooner and starts at 9am. It is impossible for most members of the community to attend the hearings and to have their voices properly heard. In all circumstances, across the state and country, public hearings for similar matters are scheduled during evening hours. This continues to be a bad look.

Secondly, in addition to the previous CEQA issues raised, the current application itself, pushed through via addendum after a 30 year old EIR, violates the spirit of CEQA and in effect bypasses proper public review. This is another real legal issue that the Town should take seriously.

After continued consultation with local counsel, it is clear that the Town's determination that the applicant's addendum to the original EIR does not pose new or increased environmental impacts is not a proper conclusion. It very easy for the Town to immediately delay any hearings and request that the developer take the proper steps in applying for its project. This will also allow for the community to have a meaningful discussion with Mark Rafeh and his project, and allow for him to take the proper legal steps with public review opportunities.

Thank you in advance,
Jaime Pollack
SJV resident