

Received

AUG 30 2005

To the Examiner:

I respectfully submit a brief note of concern in opposition to the encroachment and intrusion of the super conglomerate Wal-Mart into the Yelm community. I have purchased property, of which I am building my home for the future and for anticipating my retirement years in a couple decades.

I purposely chose to move to a rural area to be out of the "city" congestion, chaos, rapid development and all the side effects that accompany densely populated areas. Along with the city life comes "conveniences", which I trust the corporations use to market their services and products in their demographic plans for the future. Most people like their conveniences that make life simpler. They can and do live in the cities for this reason. However, along with that luxury one must make compromises.

1) added density brings potential for varied levels of income and poverty, noise pollution and

potential for impact on health and safety. This draws in the box stores.

2) box stores offer lower prices but also lower income potential. It is well known that Wal-Mart

opposes organized labor that emerges from the inconsistent labor practices of lower or non-existent benefits, hiring practices and passing onto consumers the economic savings

at the expense of the workers.

For Example: It has been my personal experience in a Wal-Mart that hired most of their workforce who could not speak English and were paid minimum wage; not

offered full time work thereby saving on employee benefits. The volunteer organization I was

working with had to send tutors out to the workers to teach them English as a second language so they could better serve the customers!

3) box stores often put family "mom and pop" stores out of business for they cannot compete

with the lower prices and high volume.

4) therefore the social inclinations for varied populations follow the demographics and I would wager that higher **crime** is on the list.

In conclusion, for these reasons I chose to live in a rural community that did not give over to the increasing promulgation of corporate America's idea of growth in the "big box stores".

If I want to shop at these stores for their products, then I am willing drive the extra miles to get there. This affords me the peace of mind and body when I get home. I also enjoy purchasing from local merchants who are in business for themselves as a part of their lives and way of being in the community. It is old fashioned charm, a bit in the Norman Rockwell image, but that is getting rare in this country today.

Why not keep it that way.....

Thank you

Reni Storm

19625 Cougar Mt. Airport Rd.

Yelm, WA 98595