

From: Bev Alexander [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, February 27, 2023 3:58 PM
To: -- City Council <CityCouncil@cityofpetaluma.org>
Subject: Tonight: Public Hearing - Davidon/Kelly Creek

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I don't envy you - needing to make decisions on issues that may have strong proponents and opponents.

One of those issues is the deal worked out for Kelly Creek.

On the one hand, the compromise looks like a good deal. The development is much smaller than originally proposed and Putnam Park gets expanded. No lawsuits from a developer. It is definitely the easier choice.

But is the easier choice the best choice in the long run? Should you care about the long run? Are we about to make a decision that will be regretted in the future? Will fiscal considerations continue to outweigh our well-being?

Sometimes, when I have a difficult decision to make, I think about how I'll feel about it sometime later. I have come to realize that in the long run, the better choice is usually the more expensive choice!

With the compromise (allow development) choice, what do we get?

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- A connection to Putnam Park
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- A parking lot
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- Housing that has no place to buy food or clothing or hardware in walking distance
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- A park like many other city parks, with paths, bicyclists, children playing
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- Loss of biological diversity
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- More contribution to climate change
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- More traffic
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- More run-off, more pollution and flooding downhill
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- Special homes for special people
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If we don't compromise (rewild the land) what do we get?

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- We protect threatened species - which cannot speak for themselves
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- We protect the Kelly Creek riparian habitat - having destroyed so many other riparian habitats
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- We will have a natural wildlife preserve to treasure - there is so little left!
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- We and our children and grandchildren will have the opportunity to see how beautiful a re-wilded place is.
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- Meet our city's goal of being less car-dependent
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- We can take pride in doing everything possible to mitigate climate change
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I am aware that it is highly unlikely that the decision will be made to take the high road, to protect what is disappearing, and to speak for the plants and animals that have no voice. I see that money generally trumps beauty and nature. Yet I still hope that enough of you would have the vision to make a wise decision and act to completely protect this treasure.

Sincerely,
Bev Alexander



Petaluma

Beverly Alexander
Protect Wild Petaluma

"Hope is not the conviction that something will turn out well, but the certainty that it is worth doing, no matter how it turns out." - Vaclav Havel