

**From:** [Julia](#) [REDACTED]  
**To:** [McDonnell, Kevin](#)  
**Cc:** [Barnacle, Brian](#); [Cader-Thompson, Janice](#); [Healy, Mike](#); [Karen Nau](#); [Pocekay, Dennis](#); [Shribbs, John](#);  
[REDACTED] [-- City Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Downtown Housing and Economic Opportunity Overlay  
**Date:** Monday, August 7, 2023 3:59:46 PM

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Greetings,

I am writing to add my name to what I'm sure is a growing number of Petaluma citizens voicing dismay and outrage to the downtown overlay. How can you seriously be considering what will be a drastic change to our historic downtown when it is not even part of the city's general plan? A plan that should be the lynchpin of what we stand for, requiring months/years of thoughtful input from qualified members of the planning commission and the city council, etc.? I smell a rat here.

The proposed hotel would be better suited for Newport Beach, Mike Jolly's development company's headquarters, certainly NOT Petaluma. And for so many reasons: do we really need another hotel (especially one that will require a fast track change in the number of stories allowed in our downtown buildings); the proposed garage surely will not provide enough parking; there will be more noise and increased traffic congestion adding exhaust emissions onto our streets which are now bike and walk friendly. The architectural profile is so completely out of step with what this town represents and its distinctive character which is refreshingly unique from all of the other cities close by. We need to preserve our attributes. This proposed project would begin to eat away at what makes Petaluma so special for both locals and tourists.

I sincerely hope you will not let the wool be pulled over your eyes on this one. Nothing wrong with smart change and growth, but this would set a truly ugly precedent in more ways than one.

Sincerely,  
Julia Allen