

RE: Rocket Donuts **Exhibit C** Public Comments
Fiona E Starr to:
Bcc: Jackie Lynch

11/29/2011 03:44 PM

Fiona Starr
Planning & Community Development
City of Bellingham
360-778-8357

----- Forwarded by Fiona E Starr/planning/cob on 11/29/2011 03:44 PM -----

From: James Talbot <James.Talbot@wwu.edu>
To: "fstarr@cob.org" <fstarr@cob.org>
Date: 11/29/2011 03:41 PM
Subject: RE: Rocket Donuts

Attached is a picture of the Flinders St station in Melbourne. Maybe a little more dramatic than Rocket!

Please forward to members of HPC.

Jim Talbot
Bellingham, WA

Some links:

<http://faculty.wwu.edu/talbot/>
has links to Roadside Geology of Wales, geology pictures and Bellingham city center photos:

Family and travel photos:
<http://picasaweb.google.com/GrumpyGrandpa32> for latest pictures of family and travels.

From: fstarr@cob.org [fstarr@cob.org]
Sent: Wednesday, November 23, 2011 3:45 PM
Subject: Notice for Rocket Donuts, hard copy is in today's mail

FYI this notice was mailed out today. You will receive the agenda and packet information closer to the meeting. Happy Thanksgiving!

Happy Thanksgiving!
Fiona Starr
Planning & Community Development
City of Bellingham
360-778-8357



DSCN1782.JPG



PostedDate: 12/06/2011 10:21:08 AM

From: t-treat@comcast.net

SendTo: JLynch@cob.org

CopyTo: Lowell Lewis2 <jlowlewis@me.com>,KNabbefeld@cob.org,jeffmcclure@rmarchitects.com,"S. Mitten-Lewis" <mittenl@tpg.com.au>

Subject: Fairhaven Project

Hi Jackie,

Thank you for the response to Ms. Mitten-Lewis. I would enjoy the opportunity to speak with her about our project.

Suzanne, will you send an e-mail or call anytime? I look forward to meeting you.

Teri

Teri Treat

Sage Management I LLC

3716 Home Road

Bellingham, Washington 98225

c360-739-6969 f360-647-2894

From: JLynch@cob.org

To: "S. Mitten-Lewis" <mittenl@tpg.com.au>

Cc: "Lowell Lewis2" <jlowlewis@me.com>, KNabbefeld@cob.org, jeffmcclure@rmarchitects.com, t-treat@comcast.net

Sent: Tuesday, December 6, 2011 9:52:07 AM

Subject: Re: garden shop in Fairhaven - better than donuts - 1212 11th

Ms. Mitten-Lewis,

Thank you for your email about the Rocket Donuts proposal. I am taking the liberty of forwarding your email to the applicant, Jeff McClure and the owner's representative, Terry Treat, with hopes that they will respond directly to you.

As well, the Historic Preservation Commission will be reviewing the design of this building on December 20th at 7pm in the City Council Chambers, here in City Hall. You are welcome to attend, but please know that they can only review the appearance of the building. Please also know that the owners propose to allow A Lot of Flowers to have a space on the alley end of the site. Perhaps Mr. McClure can also brief you on their plans to incorporate greenery into this building.

Please feel free to email or call me if you have any more comments, or any questions.

Sincerely,

Jackie Lynch

Jacquelyn Lynch

360-778-8350

PCDD, 210 Lottie, Bellingham WA 98225

NOTE: All of my emails are subject to public disclosure.

From: "S. Mitten-Lewis" <mittenl@tpg.com.au>

To: <jlynch@cob.org>

Cc: "Lowell Lewis2" <jlowlewis@me.com>
Date: 12/05/2011 08:58 PM
Subject: garden shop in Fairhaven - better than donuts

I'm writing to express my disappointment that a Fairhaven landmark ? the garden store named 'A Lot of Flowers' ? may be displaced by Rocket Donuts.
I have two categories of objection, economic and esthetic:

ECONOMIC

Having a garden store at the corner of 12th and Harris will benefit neighboring retailers much more than having a donut shop. You might say, 'There is already a florist around the corner on Harris St.' That is true, but a florist is not a garden store. Garden stores cater to people who have gardens, i.e. homeowners such as myself. I often come to Fairhaven to visit the garden store, and combine this trip with other errands in the district. Homeowners tend to have a bit more money to spend (even in these times) than students do, and will stroll around the district buying books, lunch, bread, gifts, jewelry, art, etc. Whereas a donut shop is probably not a primary destination ? not a reason in itself to visit Fairhaven. To be frank, health-conscious, middle-class homeowners are not likely to go to Fairhaven just for donuts. And Katie's cupcake shop is right around the corner, for those with a sweet tooth. (Cupcakes are somewhat healthier, because not deep-fat-fried.) On the other hand, donuts are popular with students: filling and inexpensive. Maybe Rocket should consider a site closer to WWU...

ESTHETIC

The garden in the back of A Lot of Flowers is a pleasant green zone in the middle of an urban environment. Its shrubs, vines and flowers add charm to the neighboring historic buildings. The low, single-storey profile is a nice contrast, and suggests a cottage. (Will the new donut shop resemble its parent in Bellingham ? an evocation of 1930's Flash Gordon serials?) I have heard that there is an objection to the fence on Harris St as being 'unfriendly' because it closes out passers-by. Not a serious objection; replacing a few sections of the palings with something like lattice panels, and training vines onto them, would invite the passer's gaze without sacrificing the delightful aspect of an old-fashioned, walled garden.

You might say, 'There is a large green space in the common, just down the alley.' True, but that is a public space, and is mainly grass. The garden behind A Lot of Flowers suggests a private space ' a time out from busy-ness ' a space for reflection. People who slow down and reflect will spend more time in Fairhaven. They will stroll, and perhaps spend more money than people who are rushing through, grabbing a hunk of fast food to cram into their mouths ' hardly tasting it ? while they run off to do something else in some other part of town.

If I write that A Lot of Flowers is a space that refreshes the soul and stimulates creativity, will that mean anything to you? I can try to link these ineffable qualities to economics: arts, handicrafts and creativity are part of what makes Fairhaven special. People visit Fairhaven because it is unique, and if you start replacing businesses that contribute to its unique character with spin-offs imported from other locations, then you are damaging the attributes that make people want to come there in the first place and keep returning.

Thank you for your kind attention. I hope that it is not too late to make a difference, and that this process is genuinely consultative and not merely a nice veneer concealing a pre-determined outcome. I hope that the decision-makers will consider the good of the whole neighborhood in their deliberations.

Sincerely,
Suzanne Mitten-Lewis
913 W Pacificview Dr
Bellingham WA 98229

From: John Lowell Lewis <jlowlewis@me.com>
Subject: Flower garden
PostedDate: 12/06/2011 12:02:18 PM
SendTo: jlynch@cob.org

Just writing to echo my wife's concerns about changing the flower shop/green space into another high rise and franchise. Please don't do it.

This is the trend that is making our country go down the tubes. Fairhaven is a precious jewel in the midst of rampant homogenisation.

Please help preserve it. Sincerely, J. Lowell Lewis, Ph.D.