



WRITTEN COMMENTS

Agenda #/Topic Downtown Bus

District

Flagstaff Resident? Yes No

FOR AGAINST

Thank you for participating in your City government. We value your written comments. If you wish for the Council to have your written comments at tonight's meeting, complete the form below and submit it to the Recording Clerk who will deliver it to the Mayor and Council for you. The City Council will take your comments into consideration as part of their deliberative process.

NAME Lance Roederer

DATE 1/7/14

(Required for the record)

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS OPTIONAL AND WILL BECOME PART OF THE RECORD

ADDRESS 122 E. Route 66

PHONE 556-9054

COMMENTS See attached.

Stacy Saltzburg

From: Meg Roederer
Sent: Tuesday, January 07, 2014 2:07 PM
To: Stacy Saltzburg
Subject: FW: Comments For Mayor/Council RE: Downtown Business Improvement District

From: Lance Roederer [<mailto:Lance@azmusicpro.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, January 07, 2014 1:43 PM
To: Council
Subject: Comments For Mayor/Council RE: Downtown Business Improvement District

Dear Mayor and Council,

Please consider my comments regarding the Downtown Business Improvement District...

I am very opposed to this new tax burden. We already pay an exorbitantly high property tax and this could quite literally be the straw that breaks the camel's back for many retail operations downtown. Local businesses are the heart and soul of our downtown and measures like this will ensure that the only tenants able to afford the already high rents are national chains and of course.... more Bars. Please don't allow this to contribute to the decimation of the character our downtown. We've worked too hard over these past 20 years to build what we have and this will only serve to benefit a select few.

- What is the tax rate being discussed, and how will it be accessed?
- The AZ Daily Sun mentioned a manager would be hired? How much will the downtown business manager be paid and who is paying the salary and are the board members paid as well?
- The AZ Daily Sun mentioned this has been an issue for eight years, yet this is the first I have seen it as front page news and now council action tonight!
- If there is a new tax it will certainly be passed on to the tenants from the landlord increasing rents making it more difficult to keep the doors open in these difficult economic times and increased Internet competition.
- Not all business in downtown is tourism related which seems to be the public perception.
- The information on the special downtown district has not been provided to the tenants that will be directly impacted.
- Input from the tenants in downtown should be sought out prior to action.
- Tenants in the area need to be involved in the process without fear of retaliation from the property owners.
- City residents already pay taxes to keep city streets, sidewalks, fixtures, etc. maintained which includes the downtown area. This should include painting the light fixtures, replacing the pavers and installing benches if necessary.
- If a special district tax is implemented in downtown it is only fair that other areas become special districts as well such as 4th street, woodlands, route 66, Sawmill, ect.
- What kind of guarantee is there that the tax collected will go directly back into downtown maintenance and improvements?

Thank you,

Lance Roederer

Owner



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