

May 20, 2024

To: Lyons Board of Trustees, Mayor, Members of the Planning and Community Development Commission, Town Staff.

This letter is in support of our local businesses, our Community, and the proposed changes to the River Bend venue PUD.

The Chamber of Commerce has previously submitted a letter in support of the proposed changes which articulates well the many benefits, the greater good if you will, the town as a whole will enjoy from a successful River Bend business. I would like to emphasize the notion that our local businesses are a part of our Community.

We speak often in this town about nurturing and supporting our Community. This must include our local businesses. They need our support. They need a level playing field. They need clarity and certainty. And WE need their success. The fruits of that success will spread throughout the community. Importantly, it will also signal to others with ambitions of starting a business in our precious town that indeed a symbiotic, collaborative business with true community roots will be supported and can succeed.

Regarding the specific asks from River Bend, these are rational asks. They are put forward from a business with clear intent to be here for the long term. Let it not be lost that the new owners are hardly new to Lyons. They are very long term residents, active and extremely community minded with a long history of volunteerism, and positively impacting others. They have not only the success of their business in mind, but the success of our community as a whole.

This is an opportunity.

Respectfully,

Charles Dean
Lyons Resident