

Carolyn Purdy

Subject:

FW: Agenda Item - Lucerne Hotel Proposal

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To: Lake County Board of Supervisors
Jim Steele, Chair; Jeff Smith; Tina Scott; Moke Simon; Rob Brown
cc: Carol Huchingson
Date: 6/24/18
Re: Lucerne Hotel Proposal

In November, 2017 – in response to Marymount College’s abrupt departure – we wrote a letter to the Board of Supervisors respectfully requesting the Board and Lake County departments listen to and work with the community to develop the Lucerne Hotel site.

Since then, two proposals for future use of the hotel have been submitted – Lucerne Area Revitalization Association (LARA) and the Romero Institute’s New Paradigm College. While both project proposals are excellent and would be of great benefit, we feel the proposal by the Romero Institute – which includes purchase of the property – would be in the best interest of the County.

The New Paradigm College proposal blends the original intent of Marymount College with many past projects from the Redevelopment Agency. As stated, origins for New Paradigm College included ecological, permaculture and natural building projects sponsored by Lake County along the Northshore of Clear Lake between 2006 and 2010.

We were fortunate to have participated in several of these projects with then-Supervisor Denise Rushing as well as USF faculty and students, and saw firsthand the amazing and inspiring public outreach, with hundreds of volunteers and community members coming together to work towards a common goal.

The devastating fires and floods in Lake County over the past two years – and the current one in Clearlake Oaks – has drained financial resources that otherwise could have focused on developing the county. The establishment of a forward-thinking college with convention center, working with the community on diverse projects focused on global issues and local environment, could be a kickstart to re-energize our communities.

We wholeheartedly support the Romero Institute proposal and respectfully request the Board of Supervisors follow the unanimous endorsement by the selection committee.

Sincerely,
Holly Harris/Chuck Lamb

Clearlake Oaks
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