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Cascade County Commissioners
RECEIVED

SEP 20 2018

September 19, 2018

Jane Weber
325 2nd Ave. North, #111
Great Falls, MT 59401

Dear Jane:

In regards to the Wheat Ridge development, as business owners and property owners here in Great Falls - we wanted to express our opinions against the development.

While the development of Wheat Ridge will definitely be a boon to the landowners, developers and contractors - this is a short-term economic result at the cost of limiting a long-term partner of our city. Malmstrom AFB is one of several key components to our economy here in Great Falls, and limiting it's usefulness - no matter how unlikely it may be that we get another mission - could invite potentially negative outcomes at the expense of benefiting the few. Our collective goal in this kind of decision-making should be to preserve the solid economical foundations of our community.

Great Falls' population increases remain minimal - and developers continue to create wonderful homes and apartments for our citizens, much like what we would see with Wheat Ridge. But, as a community, we also need to address the slow-encroaching blight that these new homes create as the income gap brings down property prices in older neighborhoods as people move to newer ones.

We hope the City Commission will weigh the long-term effects of this development against the short term benefits and find that Great Falls will have other opportunities down the line that don't jeopardize our important community partnerships.

Sincerely,

Tara and Jason Beam
Roadhouse Diner