

County ignores its own codes

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Editor:

Most people spend a lot of time deciding where they want to live. They save up thousands of dollars for a down payment on their home and then spend 35 percent or so of their gross income on mortgage, insurance and property tax.

This county approved the parceling of the land between the rock quarry at Hogan Dam and Highway 26 for residential use a long time ago, which encouraged people to build and buy homes there. Also, years ago, the term asphalt was taken out of approved uses for zones M-1 and M-2. If one looks at the county zoning map they see that the quarry land is zoned M-2. One of the uses for M-1 and M-2 zone is "concrete mixing and batch plant. Ready-mix." There is no mention of asphalt production among uses.

Those who bought homes in the area were OK with the quarry and possible concrete production there. Asphalt production was not even imagined to be a use at the quarry and should not be there. An asphalt plant will increase traffic on Silver Rapids Road and beyond. The same trucks coming in, and going out hauling rock and gravel today will be joined by additional trucks coming in, and leaving hauling open loads of hot odorous asphalt paving material and others hauling in the liquid asphalt and leaving.

Hazardous materials will be used at the plant and if the Board of Supervisors approves this plant without any kind of conditional use permit and complete environmental impact report, they are robbing people of their hard-earned money and their right to a healthy environment and this county has basically misled and lied to the public through their poorly written county code.

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