

To Paso Robles Planning Commission and Planning Staff:

I was a member of the Paso Robles Planning Commission when this hotel project came before the Commission for review and approval. It appears that the applicant has not made significant progress toward initiating construction since that time and has requested reconsideration review. The corner of 14th and Pine is a prominent location in downtown Paso Robles now and will become much more prominent and busier if this project does proceed. At the time I served on the commission, I voted against approval of this project because of the dismissive treatment of that corner. Turning the development's back to the City at that corner is disrespectful to our community. Pasting pictures on opaque "windows" is not equivalent to interaction between the hotel and City. Visual connection and vitality will not exist, but rather only a solid wall adjacent to the street and sidewalk of our downtown. And why is this designed to turn its back? To accommodate a second story swimming pool used exclusively by a few hotel guests during a few months of the year. Is the compromise and sacrifice of our downtown environment worth that? This site may simply not be large enough to accommodate all of the amenities the developer would like to have. The hotel and its ancillary uses are just fine for this location with the exception of this disrespectful and unnecessary corner use and resulting design. Please consider our community over this niche amenity.

Thank you.

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