

Laurie Hire

From: bcc
Sent: Monday, July 09, 2018 12:42 PM
To: Laurie Hire; Heather Peters
Subject: FW: Open space bond

Sarah Bell

Administrative Assistant

Board of County Commissioners

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From: Teri Wing <terifoleywing@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 08, 2018 8:27 AM
To: bcc <bcc@missoulacounty.us>
Subject: Open space bond

Commissioners,

While more open space is nice and attractive, Missoula County needs to put it in perspective regarding priorities. Middle and low income families in Missoula County can't really go pitch a tent there when they can't find affordable housing. I have two daughters in their early 30s, who with their husbands, have recently purchased homes in Missoula. Their mortgages are astronomical and in one case require my son-in-law to work 80 hours a week to maintain their payments. A person who works 80 hours a week really has little time to enjoy Missoula's open spaces. He is not among those lucky, wealthier folks who can take a couple of weeks off to go hiking in the wild.

As a retired person on a fixed income, I gladly voted for the school bonds because updating our schools was a real priority, even though my mortgage payment went up \$80 a month this year. But if my taxes are going to go up at all, I would rather see them rise as a result of the county addressing housing affordability than obtaining more open space for the benefit of the elite who can afford the time to recreate there.

Please vote no on this bond and turn your attention instead to affordable housing, both for renters and those who want to purchase a home. Thank you.

Teri Wing
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