

## Peter Gutowsky

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**From:** DIANE KOSMAN <dianekosman@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 13, 2015 7:13 AM  
**To:** Peter Gutowsky  
**Subject:** Citizen request

My husband and I have lived in Tumalo since 1977. During this time there has been a tremendous change in Deschutes County. Some bad and some good. We both have lived in larger towns and cities. The fact that we moved to Tumalo was because of its small town ambiance, not because it had convenient shopping nor dining amenities. Because Tumalo is small there is a problem with providing infrastructure for mass quantities of visitors. Unsightly porta potties have been tried (and smelled) on our town streets to provide visitors a convenient place to comfort themselves. My husband and myself believe if businesses are inviting people to come and play in Tumalo then they should also open their doors to provide our visitors a place to comfort themselves. Having owned and operated several businesses in the past, I understand how they operate. I personally did a small survey last summer of random residents within the Laidlaw town area. The one question I asked was "Why did you move to Tumalo?" The primary and number one reason was because it was quiet, small, and people friendly. Among other popular responses was because the elementary school was a great school, of which I agree, we have 2 daughters that attended school there. Another popular response was because of low crime and ability to safely walk the streets at night.

We understand Deschutes County is growing. We believe in controlled growth, not explosive unreigned special interest driven growth. There have been many special interest driven decisions made regarding Tumalo area. Most were not well publicized to most of the Laidlaw residents before they were slide under the rug and passed by the County. One thing in common there are many people who love living in the Tumalo area but have different visions for it's future. Unsightly porta potties on our town streets is not a vision shared by residents who have to deal with potential property devaluations. Another issue we have is riparian destruction along the Deschutes River and willful removal of rivers edge vegetation by visitors to increase river side access. Deschutes County was unable to provide any help with these type problems. The residents are witnessing the destruction of the very things they moved here for.

We would like for Deschutes County to recognize the residents of Laidlaw/Tumalo and know we are taxpayers, as well as businesses. We want a safe clean community where we feel we have a say in important matters that affect our property and well being. Most working people don't have the luxury to attend night meetings after a hard days work. However, notification of those special meetings affecting our community is only fair. Please, do not think that everyone reads the Bulletin, they don't. Special interest money and special interest groups have been making decisions that affect Laidlaw area residents. We want the County to recognize Laidlaw area residents as a viable and respectable group of people who are invested in their community.

Respectfully,

Jerry & Diane Kosman  
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