Public Comment:

Hi. My name is Liane Herrick, I am the owner of Coachwhip Cafe in Coleville, I am here today asking for assistance with a compliance complaint. This complaint was brought to the county in bad faith by the KOA/Meadowcliff who we are beginning the process of legal proceedings with to sort out through the court system (there is a long history here). In fact, this complainant's unpredictable behavior and tactics make it so we do not feel that our property would be safe if it were left unattended.

I have been ordered by the county to move the RV from our property or face tremendous fines due this complaint. This RV has openly been my home for over 14 months, and without any issues or awareness regarding any violations of policy. This is where I've been residing as I await the approval of the ADU housing plans for the dwelling I plan to build on my property.

Ordering us to leave our property and find alternate housing at this time would cause us severe duress. You would be displacing us from our home and our property with no safe options for relocation, much less in such a short period of time. As I'm sure you're all aware, there is a housing crisis we are facing in Walker/Coleville and throughout the Eastern Sierra. The Mountain View and Tamarack Fires have taken the homes of many locals and you have initiated a temporary emergency dwelling (TED) to allow for some flexibility in our area.

The TED ordinance was designed to protect the victims of the fires and we believe that the limited housing available in our area puts us in the same category. We are experiencing all the same challenges as the people the TED is intended to protect. Some of these challenges include: finding housing, longer time frames for building, increased costs and delays, there are many people waiting for their homes to be built and only so many available contractors. We also have a rescue dog that needs a safe and stable environment.

The compliance office has stated that they will work with us to find a suitable and fair solution, but have yet to agree to or offer any. And that's what brings me here today, is to ask your assistance in helping me not lose my home and allow me the same protections of TED offered to everyone else who are displaced and cannot find housing due to the fires.

Please grant us one of the many options that we have provided to you: a compliance agreement, a TED, or mixed use permit.

You've acknowledged that we have a major housing issue, which is why I am here at the board of supervisor's meeting making a public comment and hoping that I can appeal to your humanity because it isn't safe, healthy, fair, or reasonable to make me leave my home where I have no other alternatives for dwelling just as the TED is designed to protect.

We are contributing members of society, we opened a much needed business in Coleville during the Covid pandemic, we are part of the community there, we participate in the local events, we've given to dozens of fundraisers, we're part of the CHS Booster Club, we've started programs here that the community benefits from. When you buy something at Coachwhip Cafe, you are supporting four other local businesses. We work with the Marines, we have some great projects in the pipeline that you would be greatly jeopardizing. We're Pacific Crest Trail Association members and the first in the Eastern Sierra to adopt a section of the PCT, we scout and maintain 32 miles of trail, from Sonora Pass to Ebbetts Pass!

I have a long, impressive Culinary resume, I have a Masters degree in food studies, I've taught culinary school in multiple states. I'm here because this is where I want to be. We love the Eastern Sierra, this is our home. We are residents of Mono county, as your residents you have made promises to us, you have policies in place that you say you uphold:

https://monocountydistrictattorney.org/generalplan/housing-program

Policy 1 Facilitate the provision of housing in unincorporated communities to meet local housing demand. I should be able to just stop there!

Policy 5 Plan for adequate sites and facilities to be available for housing all segments of the population, including the homeless; citizens in need of short-term emergency shelter housing (e.g., victims of natural hazard occurrences or accidents and temporarily homeless); and seasonal workers, including farm workers and ski industry workers.

Policy 7 Consistent with the Land Use Element, designate adequate sites for a variety of residential development in each community to help establish self-sufficient communities that balance job locations with housing; i.e., develop a sufficient year- round residential population in communities to support local schools, commercial services, and other services.

How can you be unwilling to work with us to find a solution when these policies are in print on your website. By asking us to move you are contradicting your own language. You are attempting to displace us during fire season with poor air quality, and Fall going into Winter when most seasonal business begin to close. This seems completely unreasonable, cold and heartless. You have programs that you are actively working on with regard to housing so I know that you are aware of the ongoing housing shortage.

Program 1:16

Support a balance of jobs and housing in Mono County communities and the associated reduction in resident commute times by facilitating community job growth through economic development programs. Pursue grant funding for economic development projects that grow jobs and healthy communities capable of supporting more resident housing.

Program 1:17

Implement provisions in the General Plan and Subdivision Ordinance that permit smaller minimum lot sizes where consistent with area plans and available infrastructure.

Program 1:19

Continue to allow for mixed-use development as a method of increasing the land base available for housing.

Program 1:20 | like this one!

Continue to allow for residential development in the commercial land use designation to more efficiently and economically utilize the county's limited land base for housing.