From:	Nate Galpin
To:	gmoore280@msn.com; markjohnstone@cox-internet.com; jrfugate@cox.net; mikepogue@gmail.com; owen@mclaughlinarchitects.com
Cc:	Beth Robrahn; Rick Davis; Don Keirn; Fritz Haemmerle; Martha Burke
Subject:	Letter Against Quigley Annexation
Date:	Saturday, November 05, 2011 3:23:11 PM

Saturday, Nov 5, 2011

To: Hailey Planning and Zoning Commission Members Geoffrey Moore, Mark Johnstone, Owen Scanlon, Mike Pogue, and Janet Fugate.

Dear Commission Members:

As a life-long resident of the valley and a decade-plus resident of East Hailey, I would like to express my opinion regarding the annexation of Quigley Canyon. Many residents of Hailey have outlined the arguments against annexation convincingly and in great detail.

Water
Failed developments
Economy
Sprawl
Wildlife habitat
Quality of life.

I believe that any one of these issues are capable of standing alone as a reason not to annex the last undeveloped side canyon in the valley, but taken together, there is no question that annexation would be the worst thing Hailey P+Z/City Council could ever do to this city.

Water. We live in a desert. We've started water schedules by street address because we recognize that its a scarce resource that needs to be respected. Golf courses and hundreds of luxury homes will not solve this problem for our valley no matter how much the developer wants to make it so. I'll take Wendy Pabich over a developer with a conflict of interest all day, every day.

Failed developments. If the city wants to make an investment in its future, why not consider a bond to buy the land in question to preserve it from development? The thing that makes Quigley Canyon unique even within the Wood River Valley is that it IS undeveloped. You can go from city hall into the wilderness in roughly 15 blocks. THAT is quality of life. Luxury homes and golf courses are everywhere. Why embrace that failed model that is busy running aground everywhere in the west and demonstrably in Hailey?

Economy. Look at the foreclosures. Look at the difficulty in getting a loan even with perfect credit. Look at the densities. Look at real estate trending. Annexation is clearly the worst thing Hailey could do.

Sprawl. Why develop a beautiful side canyon when it's clearly unnecessary? Developed the first time means developed forever. You'll NEVER get it back. Ever. All it does is push the reason we live here farther away. If you want development everywhere, go to California, Colorado, or Utah. It's there.

Wildlife habitat. Quigley Pond is NOT for wildlife; it is for irrigation, but the point stands. There is value in recognizing habitat as contiguous. The more you stress an ecosystem, the more you stress an ecosystem. Potential private profit aside, there is no compelling need or reason to develop Quigley Canyon. It would be a priceless loss for Hailey to lose its character and push its access 3 miles farther out the road through cavernous empty homes and vacant lots.

Quality of life. Make no mistake: Trails already exist out Quigley. Hiking already exists out Quigley. Cross country skiing already exists out Quigley. Mountain bike riding already exists out Quigley. Development does not add these amenities, it parasitically claims them. We rely on you guys to look

after the best interests of the city and its inhabitants. All other issues aside, putting a private developer's profits in front of the best interests of the community is dereliction of duty. Preserve the quality of Hailey by recommending denial to the city council. Annexation is not in the best interest of Hailey in any way at all.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Nate Galpin

641 East Croy Street, Hailey, Idaho

(C) 208 948 0301

Share photos & screenshots in seconds...
TRY FREE IM TOOLPACK at http://www.imtoolpack.com/default.aspx?rc=if1
Works in all emails, instant messengers, blogs, forums and social networks.