Argument Against the Wal-Mart Initiative

We, Citizens For Smart Growth, urge a no vote on this ballot measure because the location selected by Wal-Mart requires the Town of Apple Valley to change our General Plan and make another exception to it similar to last year's McRae Group rezoning.

The Town expended hundreds of thousands of dollars, hiring numerous consultants to establish a General Plan that citizens agreed to after public hearings. We set precedent and defeat the purpose of the plan by allowing deep pockets to decide for us how our Town will develop.

We agree that we need Wal-Mart sales tax and jobs, We disagree that we need it at that location and so badly that we should potentially sacrifice our environment.

This measure will allow a change to the Town Development Code that minimizes California Environmental Quality Act laws that protect our environment. Wal-Mart is pushing for five superstores in the High Desert, all connected to wastewater infrastructure which needs \$91 million in improvements. Fifty million gallons of raw sewage spilled into our sole source aquifer due to the Upper Narrows pipeline failure. The Victor Valley Wastewater Reclamation Authority requires that two subregional treatment plants and interceptor improvements must get done or the State may impose a regional builders moratorium. Without clean water we turn into Hinckley, CA.

This project will sell alcohol within 600' of where Apple Valley students swim, children play at Civic Center Park, and will block views at the Sunset Concert Series, while adding to our growing list of empty "Big Box" spaces.

Robert G. Sagona

John Putko

David Mueller

Georgetté D. Phillips

Richard Turnbull