

Town Clerk

From: Ann Boehm <megittyann18@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2020 11:06 AM
To: Town Clerk
Subject: Dollar General

I'm strongly opposed to the construction of a Dollar General Store in the Town of Caroline. I have never seen one that sells good quality merchandise and was not an eyesore. In addition, the proposed location is absurd, since the turn-off from the highway onto Landon Road would be abrupt and disruptive of traffic, and it looks to me as though that corner location is already wet and would require either extensive mitigation or intensive neglect to build on.

I have thought for a long time that Caroline might support a high quality General Store which would contribute to the community by relieving people of the need to drive to Ithaca or Dryden, and I'd welcome something carefully tailored to the needs of our rural community. But nothing I've heard convinces me that This is That.

Dollar General would invite other similar changes to our community and promote the idea that ubiquitous, cheap business gestures are what we want to attract here rather than establishments locally derived, designed and staffed to be responsible to the carefully selected needs of particular places. The difference I am talking about is nicely illustrated by Brookton's Market. In fact, that establishment has gone through several sea changes since it first opened, but it still caters to the tastes and wishes of the people of this town. If somebody wanted to open a small(!) store to fulfill other needs and could make a go of it without being propped up by some corp a zillion miles away that doesn't care what dull commodities it offers to us to buy, maybe it could contribute valuably to our town too. But This isn't That.

At the very least, until our Comprehensive Plan has finished determining what will fit and serve our needs and the kinds of things that ought to be prohibited, this DG project ought to be suspended.

Ann Boehm