

May 11, 2020

My comment is in favor of passing the Proposed Land Use Moratorium and an update of the 2006 Comprehensive Plan.

It is without question the retail chain store, Dollar General, has tangible impacts on the small rural communities in which it operates. Dollar General influences the consumer behaviors of those most vulnerable in the community with its sale of low quality food and retail products - proverbial snake oil. Here, we have a duty and the right to pass a land use moratorium in order to appropriately measure the effects of a Dollar General in our community, and more importantly update our 2006 Comprehensive Plan.

As it stands, a Dollar General is incongruous with the current Town of Caroline 2006 Comprehensive Plan. Our current comprehensive plan already asks the following questions:

- Will a Dollar General store increase our town pride or civic engagement (barring voicing opposition to it)?
- Does a Dollar General support local business?
 - How does Lasher's grocery on Harford Road, the Dandy Mart in Slaterville Springs, Brookton's Market in Brooktondale answer that question?
 - In fact, the above retail businesses already provide the basic food items needed by community members often within fewer than 10 miles of their homes. Moreover, the P&C at East Hill Plaza, Dollar Store and Walmart in Ithaca are also within 10 miles of the proposed Dollar General store site.
- Will Dollar General provide goods and services that are unique, necessary, unduplicated? Further, does it create viable opportunities for new home-based business?
- How does Dollar General support the health and well being of our families and children?
- What impact does the Dollar General have on our natural environment and clean rural culture?
- Importantly, how will it affect the wetland present in the proposed build area?
- What impact will it have on our infrastructure, traffic, air, water?
- How does a Dollar General store address our energy independent goals?

Thank you for the work you do that ensures our community remains protected.

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