



September 16, 2008

Mega King Soopers not worth \$8 million

Approximately 8:30 tonight, following the regular City Council meeting, (the City Council acting as the Urban Renewal Authority) will decide whether to commit up to \$8 million urban renewal tax dollars on the proposed mega King Soopers on North College. Did you know:

1. This King Soopers would be three times the size of Albertson's next door. It would be open 24 hours a day. Already, the Dumpster lids slamming and delivery trucks unloading can be heard early mornings from Albertson's. We were told at the informational meeting that *noise* is a valid concern. Albertson's would likely go out of business, and we'd have another abandoned building like the Steele's grocery downtown.
2. The "restaurants" and other commercial businesses mentioned in the Coloradoan are actually to be fast food drive-through types and a gas station. We have these already. This is not in keeping with an area zoned community commercial.
3. Since when is developing open space considered urban renewal? Most of this 30-acre site is natural meadow and trees. Removing blight? Most of the man-made structures there are staying, according to the informational meeting. There will be mitigation for the wetlands destroyed? I'm sure the wildlife won't stay when their home is "replaced" along Willox.
4. The North Fort Collins Business Association hopes to improve its property values. What about the homeowners who will see a mega building, parking lot, lights, smell and noise where once was a natural area? We're all supposed to spend \$8 million of our tax money for this?

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