

ATTACHMENT 5
PUBLIC COMMENTS

February 22, 2024



Redwood Christian Center
6000 Humboldt Hill Road
Eureka, CA 95503

RE: Letter of Support for the Redwood Christian Center Sign

Attention Humboldt County Planning Commission,

We are writing this letter in support of Redwood Christian Center's sign at 6000 Humboldt Hill Road, Eureka, CA. We have owned the property right next door for over 50 years and their sign has been prominently displayed in the same location in all that time.

I do understand the importance of avoiding excessive nighttime light noise. But, as residents that have lived on Humboldt Hill Road for over 20 years, it has always had inadequate overhead light projection for residents and recreation safety.

The Redwood Christian Center sign has helped illuminate two separate cross walks within 50-75 feet on both sides of the sign that were installed within the past five years. This sign is doing a better job of providing proper illumination in a hazardous area than the counties overhead LED lights. When the sign was hit a few years ago and did not illuminate, there were numerous close calls with people getting hit in the cross walks due to inadequate lighting. My family has personal experience with the situations and did call and report the incidents to the California Highway Patrol, Humboldt County Planning Department and Rex Bohn our District Supervisor.

As we write this letter of support, we walked outside at 8:30 p.m. this evening and the entire bottom of Humboldt Hill is almost completely dark. Meaning, the drivers will not see people crossing the road, which happens to be on a corner until it is too late. At least with the Redwood Christian Center's sign the parents, kids and dogs stand a chance of being seen by the drivers who travel on Humboldt Hill Road. We stand in support of the Redwood Christian Center's sign, one for promotion of their business, and two for community safety.

Thanks,

Kristen & Bryan Kelley

Kristen and Bryan Kelley
6060 Humboldt Hill Road, Eureka, CA 95503



Statement of Support for Redwood Christian Center being able to operate their sign

Name BRYAN & Kristen Kelley
Address 6060 Humboldt Hill Rd.
Eureka, CA

- No, the light from the sign does not bother me. I am in support of Redwood Christian Center being able to operate their sign
- Yes, the light from the sign bothers me. I do not want Redwood Christian Center to be able to turn it back on.

Kristen Kelley
Bry Kelley
Signed
2/22/2024
Date

From: Ian Schatz <ianschatz@icloud.com>

Sent: Tuesday, December 6, 2022 4:29 PM

To: PlanningBuilding <planningbuilding@co.humboldt.ca.us>

Subject: Public Comment - Request for denial of Permit number PLN-2022-17994

Caution: This email was sent from an EXTERNAL source. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Greetings,

I am writing to submit public commentary about permit number PLN-2022-17994.

My understanding is that this permit application is for a large video-type electronic sign, which was installed a few years ago without a permit, at 6000 Humboldt Hill Road, by Allpoints Signs on behalf of Redwood Christian Center.

That sign was in operation for a while, and then was shut down via a directive from Humboldt County's Code Enforcement unit because it was not permitted prior to installation, and because it was causing hazardous conditions to drivers, pedestrians, and other users of Humboldt Hill Road and cross streets near the location of the sign. The sign is quite bright in daylight, but at night, it's 'blinding', illuminating far more than the nearby streetlamp does, directly in the face of traffic from both directions on Humboldt Hill Road and nearby cross streets.

Here are my three main points of concern:

A: To the best of my knowledge, a portion of the parcel on which this sign was installed is in the California Coastal Zone, where this type of sign is not allowed at all, but I don't know if the sign itself is in that portion of the parcel.

B: In addition, my understanding is that the parcel is zoned residential, and I don't believe that this type of sign would be allowed without a special use permit and related review phases required for that.

C: The location and brightness of this sign cause hazardous conditions to drivers, pedestrians, and other users of the public right of way near the sign.

I may have my terminology wrong here, but the principal concerns stand.

I respectfully request that this application be denied, *unless all three of the following conditions are met:*

- 1) The sign type shall be determined by Planning Department Staff to be allowed at this location, in accordance with any zoning and / or coastal zone overlay requirements that may be present.
- 2) The sign and structure that was erected shall be inspected by the Building Department and determined to meet whatever engineering & electrical requirements would qualify it as having been built 'to code'.
- 3) The self-illuminated video sign shall NOT be operated after sunset and before sunrise unless its light output levels are SUBSTANTIALLY dimmed to a level at or below the ambient lumens of the nearby streetlamps, as measured at street level from approaching vehicles in either direction of travel during those sunset-to-sunrise hours daily. *(NOTE: Those hours change each day and seasonally, so an automated control/timer/light sensor system would be required to ensure it operates properly during appropriate hours).*

I have attached prior correspondence with Code Enforcement about this particular sign, along with a video demonstrating how overly bright this sign is at night, causing a clear and present safety hazard when in use between sunset and sunrise.

Thank you for your consideration,
Ian Schatz

707-496-4223

ianschatz@icloud.com



Eureka, CA 95503

On Oct 5, 2022, at 8:16 AM, "Meynell, Karen" <KMeynell@co.humboldt.ca.us> wrote:

Thank you. We will follow-up.

Thank you,

<image002.png>

Karen Meynell

Code Enforcement Manager

[Planning and Building Department](#)

3015 H Street | Eureka, CA 95501

Phone: 707-268-3747

Email: kmeynell@co.humboldt.ca.us

From: Ian Schatz <ianschatz@icloud.com>

Sent: Monday, October 3, 2022 6:29 AM

To: Meynell, Karen <KMeynell@co.humboldt.ca.us>

Cc: Code Enforcement <codeenforcement@co.humboldt.ca.us>

Subject: Re: Code Violation Causing Traffic Hazard - 6000 Humboldt Hill Road

Caution: This email was sent from an EXTERNAL source. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Good morning,

The sign has been turned on again; I noticed it Sunday morning and it's still on this morning. My understanding is that the owner has not obtained the permit required to operate the sign. Please send code enforcement folks to have this abated.

Thank you,

Ian

On Mar 9, 2022, at 11:23 AM, Ian Schatz <ianschatz@icloud.com> wrote:

Thank you - much appreciated.

Ian

On Mar 9, 2022, at 10:14 AM, Meynell, Karen
<KMeynell@co.humboldt.ca.us> wrote:

Mr. Schatz

We are sending a letter out next week with the corrective actions which include turning the sign off.

Thank you,

<[image003.png](#)>

Karen Meynell

Code Enforcement Manager

[Planning and Building Department](#)

3015 H Street | Eureka, CA 95501

Phone: 707-268-3747

Email: kmeynell@co.humboldt.ca.us

From: Ian Schatz <ianschatz@icloud.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 8, 2022 10:03 AM

To: Meynell, Karen <KMeynell@co.humboldt.ca.us>

Cc: Code Enforcement

<codeenforcement@co.humboldt.ca.us>

Subject: Re: Code Violation Causing Traffic Hazard - 6000
Humboldt Hill Road

Thank you for the update.

Given that it was not permitted before it was installed and put into service, and that this type of signage would not be permitted without a variance due to the zoning type for that location, could your team at least require that the sign be turned off until the matter of permitting is resolved?

It's a real traffic hazard in its current mode of operation; way brighter than and far larger than oncoming headlights on a sweeping, high-traffic corner in a residential area.

With appreciation,
Ian Schatz

On Mar 8, 2022, at 8:51 AM, "Meynell, Karen"
<KMeynell@co.humboldt.ca.us> wrote:

Hi Ian,
Both the contractor and owner have contacted us to see how to remedy this violation. We informed both of them that an after-the-fact permit would be needed. I do not see that they have applied for said permit yet.

Thank you,

<[image001.png](#)>

Karen Meynell

Code Enforcement

Manager

[Planning and Building](#)

[Department](#)

3015 H Street | Eureka, CA

95501

Phone: 707-268-3747

Email:

kmeynell@co.humboldt.ca.us

From: Ian Schatz <ianschatz@icloud.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 8, 2022 8:03 AM

To: Code Enforcement

<codeenforcement@co.humboldt.ca.us>

Cc: Meynell, Karen

<KMeynell@co.humboldt.ca.us>

Subject: Re: Code Violation Causing Traffic Hazard - 6000 Humboldt Hill Road

Good morning,

Are there any updates regarding case number
CE22-1469?

With appreciation,

Ian Schatz

707-496-4223

On Jan 28, 2022, at 3:00 PM, Code
Enforcement

<[codeenforcement@co.humboldt
.ca.us](mailto:codeenforcement@co.humboldt.ca.us)> wrote:

6000 Humboldt Hill Rd, Eureka,
CA 95503

APN (Accessor's Parcel Number):

306-391-004-000

CE22-1469

Hello Ian Schatz,

A code enforcement case has
been opened based on the
complaint you filed. It is case
number CE22-1469. You are
listed as a confidential
complainant on this case.

Katie Seltzer

LOA in the Code Enforcement Unit
County of Humboldt Planning &
Building Dept.

3015 H Street, Eureka, CA 95501

707-268-3771

KSeltzer2@co.humboldt.ca.us

From: Ian Schatz

<ianschatz@icloud.com>

Sent: Friday, January 28, 2022

1:58 PM

To: Code Enforcement

[<codeenforcement@co.humboldt.ca.us>](mailto:codeenforcement@co.humboldt.ca.us)

Subject: Code Violation Causing
Traffic Hazard - 6000 Humboldt
Hill Road

Greetings,

I had submitted a violation form at your office for this issue back in early 2020, but I hadn't heard back or seen any action so I figured I'd better send it again.

This is a clear and present hazard for vehicular traffic on Humboldt Hill Road, and my understanding is that there was no permit issued for installation, and the type of sign installed is not allowed by zoning codes at this location.

Along with the Code Violation form, I've attached a video file of the issue here (it's only 12 seconds long), but toward the end of the clip, it clearly demonstrates how bad the problem is. I had to reduce the file size in order to email it, but I'd be happy to drop off the full-size video file on a thumb drive if that would be helpful.

Thank you for your attention to this matter,

Ian Schatz
707-496-4223
ianschatz@icloud.com



COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT
PLANNING AND BUILDING DEPARTMENT
DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

3015 H Street, Eureka, CA 95501
Tel: (707) 445-7541 Fax: (707) 268-3792

COMPLAINT OF POSSIBLE CODE VIOLATION FORM

Please complete the form with as much detail as possible and return to the address above.
Photos or a site drawing are helpful in determining the exact location and nature of the complaint.

1. Date Complaint First Observed:

I submitted a code violation form back in early 2020 about this, and had not received any response.

2. Location (attach location map if necessary):

Redwood Christian Center, 6000 Humboldt Hill Road, Eureka, CA, 95503

3. Assessor Parcel Number (if known):

(Unknown)

4. Name, Address, Phone Number of Property Owner (if known):

(Unknown)

5. Description of Complaint (use additional sheets if necessary):

When a new, video billboard was installed after the prior illuminated sign was installed, it was apparently not permitted, and is not allowed in this location due to the zoning this parcel is in.

Not only is it not an allowed type of signage in this location, it is exceedingly bright after dark - it does not appear to auto-dim when the sun sets. It is very distracting and causes visibility problems for drivers on Humboldt Hill road from both directions (it's a two-sided video billboard).

I have included a video file of the sign, which was taken at twilight, before full darkness - it's even worse after dark. The latter part of the video demonstrates that parts of the video content they display completely 'daylights' Humboldt Hill Road, far brighter and larger than other vehicle's headlights, making it impossible to see pedestrians, animals, and even other vehicles while the sign is in view.

Complainant

The information below must be provided in order to process the complaint.
This information will remain confidential and will not be disclosed unless directed by court order.

Name of Complainant

Address, City, State, Zip

Telephone

Email

