The Press Democrat

Letters to the Editor, Friday, April 4

Reject gas station

EDITOR: On April, 10 the Santa Rosa Planning Commission will hold a public hearing about a gas station proposal that's been in the works since 2006. It's the zombie gas station proposal that won't die.

The site for the proposed gas station, on North Wright Road near Highway 12, is a location where there are 10 stations within a 5-mile radius. It is not needed.

The site is a wetland, is adjacent to the Joe Rodota Trail and is adjacent to a large propane service center. All of these realities and more add up to a very bad land use choice.

Even if Santa Rosa had never adopted a Climate Emergency Resolution in 2020 (it did) or a ban on new gas stations in 2022 (it did), this project should be rejected based on conflicts with long-standing rules like the general plan and zoning code.

The environmental review on which a decision will be based is more than 12 years old. It is outdated as so much more is known about negative health impacts of exposure to gasoline and about the consequences of the climate crisis.

On April 10, the Planning Commission should weigh the facts and reject this anachronistic proposal.

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