

3 Minute Public Comment - 9/27/21 Weaverville Town Council Meeting

Start: I am here today to discuss the Water Treatment Plant Expansion Plan.

I learned about the expansion plan eight days ago. I began collecting information and reaching out to those around me only to find that none of them was aware. I created a website, made signs and brochures, filed and received 501c-3 status all in an attempt to spread the word to our community that this is happening and for those that want to be involved to contact me. In the week SavelvyRiver.com has been live it has had 500 visitors and counting. Through the contact email provided on the site dozens of connections have been made ranging from property owners along the Ivy to concerned citizens in both Madison and Buncombe counties. I have made connections with subject matter experts in public works, environmental law, environmental advocacy, state and local government, and etc.

Unfortunately I have already received threatening and condescending messages calling this initiative a nuisance and it is divisive. The intentions are the absolute opposite. I am not here to divide our community. I am not here to say that our community shouldn't or can't grow. I am here to tell you that we have alternative options and we can collectively change our approach to growth. I am here for that purpose and vision. The goal of SavelvyRiver.com is to educate, include, and unify our community and when I say community that includes Madison county as they are our neighbors and downstream partners.

Our intentions are as follows:

1. To limit the current water capacity removal from the Ivy River to 1.5 Million Gallons per day in perpetuity.
2. To collaborate with you and other stakeholders in our community to develop an alternative water sourcing strategy that includes short term actions to extend the current capacities demand curve.

The task of providing our community with safe, reliable, and if I may add **sustainable** water should not fall solely on your shoulders. The water treatment plant and the current capacity are not a topic of this initiative. In fact the benefits that this plant has provided to our community are immense. Weaverville has done an excellent job being proactive and preparing for future water demand and coupled with short term water preservation initiatives this provides us an opportunity to spend the necessary time with due diligence.

Today we have the opportunity to lay the groundwork for a sustainable water community...Not just for our time on this beautiful earth but for the time when we become ancestors and our descendants inherit our work.

My ask is that you agree to add a monthly Town Council agenda item (with a 15-20 minute limit) on the Alternative Water Sourcing Strategy so that all voices can be heard on this critical topic.

End.