Mitzi Van Arsdell <mvanarsdell@tetoncountyidaho.gov>

Spud Drive In

2 messages

kathryn brown [email redacted] Tue, Aug 4, 2026 at 12:47 PM
To: mvanarsdell@tetoncountyidaho.gov

Thank you for informing us about the application regarding the Spud Drive-In property and its Conditional Use Permit. We appreciate the opportunity to comment.

A drive-in movie theater is one thing; a concert venue is something entirely different. We hope the County will make a clear distinction between these two uses when considering the future of the Spud Drive-In.

Live concerts have significantly impacted our neighborhood through late-night noise, increased traffic, and, when alcohol is served, the possibility of intoxicated individuals wandering through nearby residential areas. To help protect the surrounding community, we respectfully request that any live concerts be required to conclude no later than 10:00 p.m.

We also seek clarification regarding the Conditional Use Permit. Since the property is not currently zoned for public concerts, will a separate permit be required for each concert, or does the language allowing "other entertainment for patrons seated in their vehicles" include live concerts? Clear guidance on this issue is important to the residents who live nearby.

We built our home in this neighborhood 17 years ago with the understanding that the Spud Drive-In would continue to operate as a drive-in movie theater, consistent with its long-established purpose. We never anticipated that the County would consider allowing the property to evolve into a concert venue.

We respectfully ask the County to continue protecting the quiet residential neighborhoods surrounding the Spud Drive-In. While we understand that property owners seek opportunities to operate successful businesses, those opportunities should be balanced with the rights of neighboring residents who have invested in their homes and have enjoyed the peaceful character of this community for many years. We hope the County will carefully consider the long-term impacts of expanding the property's use beyond its traditional purpose and ensure that any approved activities are compatible with the surrounding neighborhoods.

Thank you for considering our comments.

Mike and Kathryn Brown

Mountain Meadows Subdivision

Mitzi Van Arsdell <mvanarsdell@tetoncountyidaho.gov> Tue, Aug 4, 2026 at 1:23 PM
To: kathryn brown [email redacted]

Hi Kathryn,

Thank you for sharing your comments regarding the Spud Drive-In CUP. Your input will be included in the information packet provided to the Commission.

Best,

Mitzi
[Quoted text hidden]
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Mitzi Van Arsdell
Associate Planner

Mitzi Van Arsdell <mvanarsdell@tetoncountyidaho.gov>

MD SUP Input, Neighboring Residential Lot.

2 messages

Linsay Alexander [email redacted] Thu, Jul 30, 2026 at 8:19 AM
To: "mvanarsdell@tetoncountyidaho.gov" <mvanarsdell@tetoncountyidaho.gov>

Hello Mitzi,
We live on the lot directly next to MD. We bought our house in 2019, before the operations on the back lot were so large and noisy with the current owners — we had field space next to our home, operations were smaller scale and quieter. We totally regret buying here now, and wish we could move, but the current market is hard, houses are ridiculously expensive for the average community member. We love our neighborhood other than living next door to MD. Our regrets stem from daily wake-ups in the morning from super loud back up beepers in the MD lot, among other loud truck noises, lots of dust, back up beepers and trucks all day, overall just a not peaceful environment, as is what we were seeking in living here in Teton Valley. It is a bummer to love your home but regret buying due to the business next door.
We did love the old Spud, it was a super cool business and a value added to our community. We are just hoping that these events — “other entertainment”, are not really loud. Our bedroom faces The Spud, so we are hoping not to be kept up until midnight and beyond from loud events, and then be awoken early by back up beepers and dump truck loading…… a drive-in theatre with sound contained in vehicles mainly is lovely…..hopefully people will be respectful with waste also, as any litter also blows into our yard.
This is our input as the neighbors directly next door. I’m sure it won’t make much of a difference, but thank you for your time.
Warmly,
Linsay and Aidan & family

Mitzi Van Arsdell <mvanarsdell@tetoncountyidaho.gov> Thu, Jul 30, 2026 at 9:17 AM
To: Linsay Alexander [email redacted]

Hi Linsay,

Thank you for taking the time to provide your input regarding the MD SUP. Your comments will be included in the information packet provided to the Commission. It is very important for the commissioners to understand the impact of their decisions on the community.

Best,
Mitzi

[Quoted text hidden]

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Mitzi Van Arsdell
Associate Planner
(208) 776-8240 ext. 216
mvanarsdell@tetoncountyidaho.gov
Fake emails impersonating local government officials have been targeting permit applicants as payment scams. The County will never request that you wire money. Stay cautious!

Mitzi Van Arsdell <mvanarsdell@tetoncountyidaho.gov>

Spud drive-in special use permit/ in favor in the of the SUP

2 messages

lloyd moss [email redacted] Sun, Jul 26, 2026 at 8:30 PM
To: "mvanarsdell@tetoncountyidaho.gov" <mvanarsdell@tetoncountyidaho.gov>

Dear Mitzi Van Arsdell and members of the Teton County Planning & Zoning Commission,

I am writing to express my strong support for the Special Use Permit (SUP) application submitted by MD SPUD LLC regarding the restoration and expansion of the historic Spud Drive-In located at [address redacted] 33. The Spud Drive-In has long been an iconic cultural landmark and a cherished piece of Teton Valley's history. Restoring its historic drive-in theater footprint as an open-air facility will revitalize a beloved community asset, providing safe, wholesome, and nostalgic family entertainment for both residents and visitors. Furthermore, the addition of a public restaurant and an event center will bring significant economic and social benefits to our community. It will create local jobs, support economic growth, and offer a much-needed multi-use gathering space for local events and celebrations. By approving this permit, the county will help preserve our local heritage while responsibly adapting the space to serve modern community needs. I fully support this application and urge the Planning & Zoning Commission to approve the Special Use Permit. Thank you for your time and consideration of the community's feedback.
Sincerely, Lloyd and Ronda Moss

[address redacted] [address redacted]

Mitzi Van Arsdell <mvanarsdell@tetoncountyidaho.gov> Mon, Jul 27, 2026 at 11:12 AM
To: lloyd moss [email redacted]

Thank you Lloyd. Your public comment will be included in the information packet provided to the Commission.

Best,
Mitzi
[Quoted text hidden]
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Mitzi Van Arsdell
Associate Planner
(208) 776-8240 ext. 216
mvanarsdell@tetoncountyidaho.gov
Fake emails impersonating local government officials have been targeting permit applicants as payment scams. The County will never request that you wire money. Stay cautious!