

**Public Comment regarding Sabine Brunner's Appeal**

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**From** Annie Ritchey <annieritchey@gmail.com>

**Date** Wed 10/22/2025 2:59 PM

**To** cdd <cdd@fortbraggca.gov>

To Whom it May Concern:

As a former Fort Bragg retail business owner, I fully support Sabine's appeal to the ridiculous and unenforceable rules written by the City of Fort Bragg, I'm sure with Jacob Patterson looking over their shoulder. As a former business owner, I can tell you from experience that the city of Fort Bragg is not business friendly and does not encourage innovation or walkability. Ten years ago, I asked for better signage on Franklin and it's been ten years...and it looks like the only signs were made by the business owners. Which by the way, it was illegal to put up sandwich boards when I had my business. I don't know if this is a rule simply not enforced, or it's changed.

This is a liability for the city as it sets a precedent for future retail businesses and does not align with their vision for mixed use zoning: Policy H-1.2 Mixed-Use Development: Encourage the development of mixed-use projects that include multi-family residential uses (upstairs and at the rear of properties) in conjunction with commercial enterprises on the street frontage in commercial zones and use Design Review to minimize conflicts between residential and commercial uses.

Additionally, this is a punitive and discriminatory action that does not reflect existing structures in the vicinity and all of the downtown planning code that is enforced depending on who you are. There are numerous examples of code violations in downtown— for example these buildings cannot be used as storage — see Matt Huber's hoarding pile on Franklin. I have attached pictures of the these buildings across the street from Sabine who all have no open store front and unpermitted living units. These exist all over Fort Bragg — and they should. So why are you punishing the one person who is trying to do this correctly?

Thank you,  
Annie Ritchey  
707-397-0775





