

## Public Comments – El Capitan Enterprises

Compiled on February 12, 2026

### Public Comment #1

**Travis Ladner:**

Dear Council Members,

My name is Travis Ladner and I own a business in the town of Alpine as well as live here. I am in finance and wanted to make one point that I believe should also be considered when deciding on which business to give the liquor license to. If you remember back to economics in college there is something called the multiplier effect. Which is that just because a company moves into a town/city they don't just hire people and that's the end of it. Those jobs have a multiplier effect on the town's other businesses, homes, apartments etc. Each situation is different depending on the size of the town, the company and how much the people will get paid. If you look up our town and the income that the businesses would be paying people that multiplier is 1.3 to 1.6. I broke the numbers down for you below:

1. If you have a business paying an employee \$40k per year and the multiplier effect is 1.3 that means that person has the potential to be a total gain to the town of \$52k per year. If you go off the high end of 1.6 that is \$64k per person.
2. According to most economists' low-income jobs like these the people tend to keep more of the money locally because they are buying groceries, paying for an apartment/home etc. Unlike, higher income individuals who will use more of their funds on investments, vacations etc.
3. When you break this down between a liquor store who may employ one or two employee's vs a business that has the potential to employ 20 people you are talking about a potential of two person business generating \$104k to \$128k per year for the town. Versus a business with 20 employees that would potentially generate \$1,040,000 to \$1,280,000 per year.
4. Short term thinking is get the money now from a two person business. Long term success comes from the big picture of what a 20-person business can do for the town.
5. This council has been so forward thinking about how you have governed. You have put together a master plan so that there is a roadmap to the future success of this town. I believe from a number's standpoint and long-term planning the Walters vision falls in line with the long-term master plan and the continued smart growth of this town

6. I listed one reference and their website below. Once you go to the website go to search and type multiplier effect and it will break it down for you

1. American Independent Business Alliance

<https://Amiba.net/local-muliplier/>

## Public Comment #2

**Keith Wortman:**

Good evening,

My name is Keith Wortman and I am a long time resident of Alpine.

I have had the opportunity to review the building plans and to read the letter to the Town of Alpine From ECE and I would like to voice my support for this project.

Dave Walters has proven to be an asset to the Town of Alpine through his dedication of his previous business (Alpine Adventure Rentals) that bolstered the tourism in the area as well as offering options for locals like me to rent boats in the summertime and to take my visiting family and friends on trips into the backcountry.

Dave also has committed a large portion of his time to the Volunteer Fire Department locally here in Alpine and has proven to be a leader as well as a community team player that has contributed uncountable hours of his time to the safety and well being of our community.

The next stage of Dave's career depends on the Town of Alpine to approve his family friendly plan that not only will enhance our experience as residents in the area but will also provide another viable option for visiting tourists to experience.

Dave has also collaborated with the Town of Alpine as well as the Forest Service to provide an annual concert series that has evolved into a destination for many travelers in the Rocky Mountain West. The most recent success was the Reggaefest North of Alpine at the 4H Camp that was a beautiful family experience. The most notable component of the Reggae in The Rockies was the organization and attention to safety for all of the visitors. There was sufficient infrastructure to create a safe and relaxing atmosphere with hired security and ambassadors that kept a close eye on the concert goers to make sure everyone was safe and accounted for.

If there is a person that has dedicated more time and effort to the progress and usability of Alpine I don't know of them.

Dave has proven time and time again that through organization, hard work and attention to the needs of the community we can have an outlet to recreate responsibly and with consideration to all parties involved.

Please grant ECE the permit to proceed with their business plan so we have another option for safe, family fun in Alpine.

Thank you for taking the effort to read my email and giving me a voice in this decision process that will have the opportunity to make a profound impact on the people of Alpine.

- Keith Wortman Local Real Estate Agent.

### **Public Comment #3**

#### **Skylar Atkins:**

Hi my name is Skylar Atkins and I have owned a home in Alpine since 2010. I would like to voice my support for applicant Dave Walters. Dave is an outstanding member of the community through his volunteer work with the fire department and tourism board. He is also a long standing business owner in Alpine and has exhibited stellar diligence in compliance with town business codes and taxes. He is personally one of the most generous people I know and always has the best interest of the community in mind. His proposal of using the liquor licence for a restaurant setting is the best outcome for the town and its community. We are very limited in dining options in Alpine and the upper valley in general. Another option for food means the entire family can benefit not just those over the age of 21. In my opinion, the last thing Alpine needs is another liquor store. We already have essentially 3 full on liquor stores with brolims, bull moose, and tavern. That covers all hours of the day someone can buy if they want. I think Dave's proposal is the best because it truly has all members of the community benefiting. Especially since we lost a dining option with the closure of Driftwood. Please take my comments to heart as I love this community and plan to spend the rest of my life being a part of it.

### **Public Comment #4**

#### **Maria Fugazzi James:**

Dear Members of the Alpine Town Council,

I am writing to express my support for the application for a retail liquor license for the proposed wine bar and food truck court project in Alpine, Wyoming.

Dave and Becka Walters' project would be a meaningful and positive addition to our town. The combination of a welcoming wine bar and an outdoor food truck park offers a space that encourages community connection while remaining family-friendly and inclusive. It would provide new opportunities for residents and visitors alike to gather for outdoor events, casual dining, and community activities, as well as indoor catered events such as birthday celebrations, weddings, and professional business meetings.

As a small town, Alpine benefits from thoughtful development that enhances quality of life without compromising our character. This project supports local businesses, encourages responsible social gathering, and adds a versatile venue that serves a wide range of

community needs. It reflects a careful balance between long-term economic growth and preserving the welcoming atmosphere that makes Alpine special.

I ask that the Town Council think big and not succumb to the pressures of a quick or uninspired decision. I can personally envision my family—and future generations—gathering at this park and new building not only in the next two years, but for 10 to 15 years and beyond.

I believe this project will be responsibly managed by Dave and Becka, and will contribute positively to the vitality of our community. For these reasons, I respectfully encourage the Town Council to approve the retail liquor license for this development.

Thank you for your time, service, and consideration.

Sincerely,

Maria Fugazzi James.

#### **Public Comment #5**

##### **Kristy Ladner:**

Good morning! As a member of the Town of Alpine Master Plan Committee, I'm writing to support the Wine House + Dining Park proposal from Dave and Becka Walters as the applicant that should get the liquor license. It is the option that most clearly reflects what residents said they want in the Master Plan survey conducted last year.

Key reasons for support:

- Residents said the most successful new businesses would be "local restaurants" and "family-friendly entertainment".
- Most survey respondents said the long-term vision for Alpine is a "vibrant community that values people and natural space".
- The Walters' concept creates a true community gathering place in the heart of the town—something Alpine lacks today.
- Research shows gathering spaces increase social connection, well-being, and community involvement; creating stronger towns.
- Tourism-oriented spaces like food-truck yards generate multiple tax streams and support food-truck owners, suppliers, artisans and musicians.
- The concept is only possible with a retail liquor license because of the food-truck model.
- Alpine already has 4-5 places to buy alcohol; adding another liquor store does not advance community goals.

- Higher concentrations of liquor stores are associated with increased alcohol-related incidents and higher youth drinking rates.
- The Walters' proposal brings a community hub, job creator, tourist draw, and economic engine—not just another point of alcohol sales.

I encourage the council to consider how closely this project aligns with the values and priorities residents expressed during the Master Plan process.

Thank you for your consideration.

#### **Public Comment #6**

**Doug Walker:**

Walters proposed wine bar and food truck lot I am in support of this project. It will be a great addition to Alpine.

#### **Public Comment #7**

**David Jenkins:**

Dear Council and Mayor,

I wanted to write a letter of support for El Capitan Enterprises (ECE). Owner Dave Walters has been a huge asset and successful business owner in the town of Alpine.

He has successfully brought to our town Reggae in the Rockies, this event brought thousands of people and business to our town.

Dave has been a big volunteer in our town with the Alpine Fire department giving countless hours of his time away from his family helping the community. Dave always donates to every charity event that is happening in our town.

After reviewing his project If you give the business license to Dave Walters, I know he will bring something magical to our town and put his heart into it. I don't feel that you will have any regrets. Thanks for your consideration.

#### **Public Comment #8**

**Kelly Shackelford:**

Dear Mayor and Members of the Town Council,

I am writing to express my strong support for granting the available liquor license to El Capitan Enterprises, the applicant who is proposing to open an event space, restaurant, and wine bar / package store in our community.

This proposal represents a thoughtful and forward-looking use of the license—one that prioritizes community gathering, local economic growth, and long-term amenity value. An establishment that combines dining, events, and a curated wine bar would provide a

welcoming space for residents to gather, celebrate milestones, and enjoy local culture in a responsible, social setting.

Compared to a standalone liquor store, this type of venue offers significantly greater benefits to the town. It encourages foot traffic, supports local employment, and contributes to a vibrant downtown or neighborhood atmosphere. It also keeps alcohol consumption tied to hospitality, food service, and community events, rather than purely retail sales.

Most importantly, this proposal reflects an investment in the long-term character of our town. A well-run restaurant and event space becomes part of the community fabric—hosting weddings, fundraisers, local meetings, and everyday gatherings—while also attracting visitors and supporting nearby businesses.

Dave and Becka Walters have proven their ability to run a successful business with Alpine Adventure Rentals. In addition, they have been integral in bringing community events to Alpine, such as the weekly summer music we all enjoy, and the reggae festivals at the 4H camp. Their commitment to our community goes even further with their volunteer work. Dave spends his time at the fire house and on the tourism board, while Becka donates time and care to the food bank, alongside other philanthropic local efforts. In other words – they have a proven track record of being invested in Alpine. I know that any project they propose will be thought out, purposeful, and well done. While it may not be the quick turnaround that a liquor store alone would be, I believe that the benefits their project would bring to the town would far surpass that of another retail sales business. In a town that already has 6 retail outlets for liquor and beverage purchases, this idea brings much more than simply another package store.

I appreciate the time and care that the Mayor and Town Council have taken to address issues such as the master plan, planning and zoning, and a myriad of other issues that affect the future of our town, and what it will look like years down the road. I encourage you to thoughtfully consider your support for the liquor license with a business that would add value to the growth of our community.

I believe this applicant's vision aligns well with the values and future goals of our community, and I respectfully encourage the Mayor and Town Council to give this application serious and favorable consideration. Thank you for your time and for your continued service to our town. Sincerely, Kelly Shackelford, Old Alpine Resident.

### **Public Comment #9**

#### **Ash Ehlers:**

Good morning team, I heard there's an upcoming vote to decide who gets the liquor license in Alpine and I would like to reach out in support of Dave and Becka Walter with El Capitan Enterprise. I believe as community members, they would serve the Alpine community and economy well with their business and plans for the future. Thank you so much for your consideration, and be careful on the roads out there!

### **Public Comment #10**

#### **Monica Atkins:**

Good afternoon,

I am writing in support of Dave and Becka Walters / El Capitan Enterprises liquor license application. The Walters are incredibly generous members of our community and have already demonstrated their ability to run a successful business in town. They are constantly thinking of new ways to bring our community together, and I can't think of a stronger candidate for this liquor license opening. Their proposition would not just be a financial asset, but also an opportunity to uplift our community in a meaningful and positive way.

Thank you, Monica Atkins Alpine resident

### **Public Comment #11**

#### **Ezekiel Carpenter:**

Good morning,

I was reaching out about the upcoming vote to decide who gets a liquor license. Dave and Becka Walter with El Capitan Enterprises really stood out to me. This space would allow for multiple other small businesses (food trucks) to come and contribute to our economy and bring more delicious food to our community and it wouldnt be complete without a space to serve alcohol. On top of that they are also looking to build a liquor store, basically combining everyones request into one space. Dave and Becka have also been long time community memebers, successfully contributing to the economy with other small businesses and by serving as a Captain with the Alpine Fire department. As a resident of the area this seems like the clear choice. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best regards, Zeke Carpenter

### **Public Comment #12**

#### **Krissy Bender:**

Please consider the Walters project for approval. I am from St. Louis Mo and lived here for 6 years and honestly do not go anywhere to have a social experience due to the level of alcohol consumption and unhealthy behavior.

Having a low key safe space to have a drink can invite safer communities with healthier substance culture and promote music and artistic support.

Please approve the request from community members who have we huge supports in the Alpine community for success!

## Public Comment #13

### Molly Matthaei:

Dear Members of the Alpine Town Council,

I am writing to express my strong support for the liquor license application submitted by Dave and Becka Walters for the proposed wine bar that will anchor and support a local food truck court in our community.

As a rural mountain town with a growing tourism economy, we are at an important moment of transition. Visitors are increasingly seeking high-quality, locally driven dining and gathering spaces, and our community has an opportunity to thoughtfully expand in a way that reflects our values. At present, our town has limited dining options that meet this demand, particularly those that encourage people to linger, connect, and support multiple local businesses at once. This proposed wine bar and food truck court would directly address that gap.

It is also important to consider how this proposal differs from other liquor license requests currently under discussion. A freestanding package liquor store does not address an unmet community need, as packaged liquor is already readily available at two nearby locations. In contrast, the proposed wine bar is tied directly to a hospitality-focused concept that supports local food vendors, enhances the visitor experience, and creates a shared community gathering space. This distinction matters when evaluating which proposal best aligns with the town's long-term economic and cultural goals.

The Walters have long been a pillar of our community and have demonstrated a proven track record as responsible, successful business owners. Over the years, they have consistently invested in the town not only through their business ventures but also through their support of community events, charitable drives, and local initiatives. Their commitment to this community is well established, and they have earned the trust and respect of residents and fellow business owners alike.

Granting this liquor license would enable Dave and Becka to create a welcoming, well-managed space that supports small food entrepreneurs, encourages responsible social gathering, and enhances the overall vitality of our downtown area. The wine bar concept is thoughtfully aligned with our town's character—focused on quality, moderation, and community rather than excess—and would complement, not compete with, existing establishments.

I believe this project represents the kind of intentional, locally rooted economic development that benefits both residents and visitors. I respectfully urge the Council to approve this liquor license application and support business owners who have consistently demonstrated their dedication to our town's success. Thank you for your time, consideration, and continued service to our community. Sincerely, Molly Matthaei, Alpine Wyoming

## **Public Comment #14**

### **Jordan Kurt Mason:**

Dear Mayor and Members of the Town Council,

In the years I have lived in Alpine, I often hear big dreams about the future of our town. A public school, a recreation center, and large parks and pathways that connect it all. These are wonderful goals, and the pursuit of making them realities is a noble cause.

A critical part of these dreams coming true is the right type of growth. Growth that attracts young families and individuals who also share these dreams for Alpine. The project Dave Walters is proposing brings more than just another liquor store to town. It creates the type of environment that brings people together and the type of establishment that makes the decision between raising a family in Victor or Alpine more comparable.

Until the day comes when we are no longer a bedroom community, we must put a concerted effort into creating community and attracting families who want to grow here. Projects like this help do exactly that.

For these reasons, I ask that you seriously consider Dave Walters's application for a liquor license and support development that helps Alpine grow in the ways we all hope it will.

Thank you for your continued efforts to make this town what it is today and what it will be tomorrow.

Sincerely,

Jordan Kurt Mason

## **Public Comment #14**

### **Leah Black:**

To the Alpine Town Council:

We are writing in strong support of Dave and Becka Walters' application for the available liquor license to develop a wine house with food truck park and community gathering space.

Alpine does not need another liquor store. We have ample options for purchasing alcohol. What our community genuinely lacks are quality food options and welcoming public spaces where residents can gather, connect, and build the social fabric that makes a town thrive. Additionally, we don't believe another liquor store would draw people to the area or add to the town's revenue as many presenters argued, but would simply divide existing revenue streams among more competitors.

The Walters' proposal addresses real community needs: a variety of food vendors, outdoor dining with fire pits, and green space designed for people to linger and enjoy our beautiful surroundings. This is the kind of third space—neither home nor work—that strengthens

communities and attracts the families and young professionals we want to retain and recruit.

We understand the Council may be keen to prioritize projects that can open quickly. While we appreciate the desire for immediate results, we urge you not to let timeline pressure drive a decision that will be with us for years. Liquor licenses are rare and valuable. Once granted, they shape our town's character for the long term.

Responsible town planning requires patience. A project that takes several additional months or even years to fully develop is vastly preferable to a quick solution that adds nothing meaningful to our community. We have one opportunity to use this license wisely—to create something that enhances Alpine's quality of life rather than simply adding another place to buy what's already readily available.

We respectfully ask that you prioritize community value over speed of implementation and approve the Walters' application.

Sincerely,

Leah and Owen Black