

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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November 30, 2017

Mayor John Kostichek
Walcott City Council Members
Walcott City Hall
128 West Lincoln, PO Box 247
Walcott, IA 52773

RE: City of Walcott's proposed amendment to its Urban Renewal Area Plan in order to authorize the use of tax increment financing as an economic development incentive for an expansion of the I-80 Truck Stop.

Dear Mayor Kostichek:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the City of Walcott's most recent proposed amendment to its Urban Renewal Area Plan. The Scott County Board of Supervisors has reviewed the information provided to our TIF Review Committee by your City Clerk Lisa Rickertsen. The Board supports the use of Tax Increment Financing when it is used as an economic development incentive for businesses adding primary jobs and that strengthen the local and regional economy. The Board opposes the use of TIF to reimburse City's for administrative and legal fees. The Board also does not support the use of TIF for businesses that compete with other local businesses in the retail or service sectors. The proposed expansion of the I-80 Truck Stop does appear to strengthen Scott County's economy but it also competes with other businesses in Scott County for the same retail business.

The Board of Supervisors recommends that all tax increment financing projects be for the minimum dollar amount to make the commercial or industrial project feasible and also be of the shortest possible duration.

The Scott County Board of Supervisors wants to continue the spirit of cooperation with the City of Walcott on economic development projects and we look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,

Carol Earnhardt, Chair
Scott County Board of Supervisors

cc: Scott County Board of Supervisors
Mahesh Sharma, Scott County Administrator
Lisa Rickertsen, Walcott City Clerk