

Faizon Corporation wants to put a 10-pump gas station and convenience store in Redwood Valley, at the bottom of the hill coming south from Willits. CalTrans has submitted reports establishing a volume of traffic that would require a center median to prevent crossing the freeway, and new approach and re-entry lanes for northbound traffic.

On 3-25-24, Faizon submitted a new traffic study by West Trans, a company on the Faizon payroll. They said that due to the pandemic more people work from home, shop online, and drive economy cars and all of this will decrease traffic, with the intention of Faizon not having to pay for the 101 freeway improvements. I submit they took new data and made flawed conclusions. Mendocino County has very few people that work from home based on our service economy. Most people shop online after work. And the fuel economy of cars only justifies increased driving, not the other way around. A new, unneeded, large gas station would ATTRACT cars to stop (when they could just as easily stop at Lake Mendocino Drive for gas). As in any attraction, if you build it, they will come. Faizon's argument that there will be less traffic than predicted in the CalTrans report is self-serving.

The Board of Supervisors should deny the gas station permit. The 8-county company has a record of multiple pollution and mislabeling violations, the Mendocino County 2016 Formula Business Ordinance does not allow the convenience store, the Redwood Valley Design Guidelines (found on the RVMAC website under Resources) does not allow for it, and the people of Redwood Valley have expressed a resounding NO against the project as unwanted and unneeded.