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Some ideas for prosperity

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To The Editor: We have a great community that people from other places want to move to. Our downtown is the envy of most other towns. I believe we need to protect this asset by planning ahead. Our city manager and council did a great job handling the cemetery issue without tearing up graves. We need more of this kind of thinking.

Instead of giving out-of-state developers water and sewer lines at taxpayer expense a 1 percent impact fee should be instituted. This can be passed on to a home buyer like other communities.

I'm also concerned about the convention center idea, which according to the engineer could cost with a hotel approximately \$50 million which we have to borrow. The interest on this debt plus a \$500,000 annual shortfall would cost us \$3 million a year.

Couldn't we achieve a similar increase in traffic by leasing a couple of parking lots using vacant land and postponing construction activity during our tourist season?

At least 10 percent of our aged and handicapped folks would come to downtown again and maybe more than that. Scheduling activities which increase traffic and don't block access would also help.

Don Verber

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