

Walmart's scouting land in southwest Fresno

February 11, 2015

Debbie Darden asks a great question in her Jan. 29 letter "Why no Walmart in southwest Fresno?" and I appreciate the opportunity to respond.

We've been serving Fresno for more than 20 years. We've watched the city grow and change, and we are excited to be part of revitalization efforts happening near Ashlan and Blackstone avenues and also on Cedar Avenue.

Like in both of these areas, we recognize there is a need for economic investment in communities throughout the city, and there are many neighborhoods where residents would benefit from access to affordable groceries.

Over the last few years, we've met with area leaders who have expressed an interest in having a Walmart in their communities, and we've even scouted potential store locations in southwest Fresno. While we look forward to someday announcing plans for a new store to serve residents of southwest Fresno and providing an economic boost to the community, to date we have not identified a suitable property.

We are always looking for ways to better serve our customers and bring affordable shopping options to new communities. We will continue to evaluate opportunities throughout the city, and we hope to someday have the pleasure and privilege to open a store in southwest Fresno.

Chester Gray

Walmart Regional General Manager

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