

Schroader, Kathy



From: Tilton, Rebecca
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2016 8:47 AM
To: Orjiako, Oliver, Schroader, Kathy
Subject: FW: Washougal Urban Boundary

Just want to ensure you receive any comments we receive (may be duplicates)
Thanks!
Rebecca

From: LaRocque, Linnea
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2016 8:07 AM
To: Tilton, Rebecca
Subject: Fwd: Washougal Urban Boundary

Another. I cannot tell who did or did not get copies on this or the other comments

Bee well! ☺

Begin forwarded message.

From: "Taylor, Bob (DT - IPG PTP-ICE)" <bobt@hp.com>
Date: February 13, 2016 at 11:58:32 AM PST
To: "marc.boldt@clark.wa.gov" <marc.boldt@clark.wa.gov>, "julie.olson2@clark.wa.gov" <julie.olson2@clark.wa.gov>, "david.madore@clark.wa.gov" <david.madore@clark.wa.gov>, "jeanne.stewart@clark.wa.gov" <jeanne.stewart@clark.wa.gov>, "tom.mielke@clark.wa.gov" <tom.mielke@clark.wa.gov>, "Linnea.LaRocque@clark.wa.gov" <Linnea.LaRocque@clark.wa.gov>
Cc: Mari Harmic <shoaqha@gmail.com>
Subject: Washougal Urban Boundary

Hello to our Clark County Councilors,

Though I would like to attend this coming Tuesday's meeting where the expansion of the urban growth boundary near Washougal, I unfortunately have work commitments that will keep me away. I do, though, want to pass on my thoughts and concerns regarding the proposal by Kaysar Logging to move parcel 130047-000 inside the urban growth boundary.

This property was recently part of an agreement with the Clark County forester to limit logging and development of this parcel in exchange for the right to log and develop (at 1 acre lot densities) an adjacent parcel. The remaining land, which is in an ecologically sensitive watershed of the Washougal River, was to remain unlogged and developed. Kaysar is now attempting to bypass the agreement they just made by working through the city of Washougal to have the property annexed. As a long term property owner in this area, I am quite concerned about this for several reasons:

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- The character of the Mount Norway area north of Washougal is rural and agricultural, and the existing property owners in this area chose this lifestyle in which to raise our families and animals. It is a poor fit to push an island of high density urban development in the middle of such a low density rural environment.
- As declared by the Clark County Forester, this parcel is ecologically sensitive watershed, and the existing logging agreement reached respected that determination. It is also a critical piece of forested habitat supporting local wildlife
- Mt. Norway is not geographically well suited for high density development, as practical road access is limited to a steep, winding two lane road with little prospect for expansion. Services appropriate for higher densities (utilities, public safety, etc) are not easy to provision in the area, and it is not clear that the local water table can support further large scale development (reference the city of Washougal's troubled water tower on Mt. Norway)
- Approving this request would set a dangerous precedent in the public process regarding development. The local community worked in good faith with the county on the original agreement, with the assumption that the principles of that agreement would be enforced. This proposal by an outside developer to make such a large change to the character, safety, and ecology of the area attempts to side step both the input of the local community and avoid the due process policy of the county. Any such changes should be part of a public, open process encouraging the local community most affected by this changes to actively contribute. The approach being taken by Kaysar Logging falls far short of this standard of transparent process.

Note that I am not at all opposed to development of the Mt. Norway area, consistent with the existing character, lifestyle, and zoning. As a current resident who purchased legally zoned property here, built in conjunction with a local builder, and continue to contribute both financially and socially to the local community, I encourage others to join us in the community and develop in harmony with their new neighbors. I am not, though, in favor of external developers substantially harming that community harmony and local governance, so strongly encourage the rejection of this expansion of the urban growth boundary north of Washougal. If the county would like to include the local community in discussions of the future of this area, I and many others are happy to participate – but any changes should be centered around the wishes of the local community.

Respectfully,

Bob Taylor
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