

Tom Newberry
34546 SE Carpenter Lane
Gresham OR 97080
Cell: 503.349.2313
E-Mail: tomnewberry@comcast.net

June 12, 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

When my wife, Leslie and I purchased our home on Carpenter lane nearly thirty years ago, we did so for a number of reasons. At the time, we lived in the City of Portland where I worked as a police officer. I wanted my family to live somewhere much safer than the city, as the writing was on the wall even then, that the city was declining and policies in place were only speeding that decline along.

We found that safer place at 34546 SE Carpenter Lane in 1993. I moved my wife and two young children into an 1896 farmhouse on a small acreage there. The neighbors were friendly and watched out for each other. Most importantly, the narrow farm road had minimal traffic, which moved at a safe pace and the area was safe for kids & critters, tractors, and farm workers. In addition, everyone knew everyone who belonged there; the odd individual up to mischief was usually easy to spot and get moving along.

The nature of the area is farming and small scale rural homesteads. Zoning kept it so and we all liked it that way. There are no body shops, mechanics businesses, or other industrial activities, because the zoning and land use laws prohibit private individuals from changing the nature of the neighborhood with noncompliant practices.

Now the City of Portland (my former employer) proposes to invade our rural setting with a huge industrial plant that was rejected from one of the City's own neighborhoods by angry residents. This large proposed industrial facility is intended to be plopped down at the end of our quiet little country lane, where it will sit, like a wart, in the middle of a bucolic viewshed. The necessary security lighting to accommodate such a facility will pollute our night sky. The required shipping in of materials and chemicals, which is a huge safety concern, will necessitate dozens of trips a day by large heavy trucks.

And this is only AFTER the plant is constructed.

I have no small amount of experience with this. After I retired from the Portland Police Bureau, I worked for a number of years for the City of West Linn. As in this case, an outside municipality owned a small water facility in a quiet, pleasant residential area near the Willamette River and had for years. Again, the outside municipality elected to undertake a massive construction project for their water system in the heart of this quiet neighborhood. Neighbors objected and were told their worries were not realistic, and the powers that be allowed this plan to proceed.

The project required extensive excavation, resulting in large cranes, and excavators being moved in and placed. The calls to the police department and city hall were constant. People's homes were being shaken by this equipment moving about. Noise was intrusive. The degradation of the streets was immediate. Once the equipment was in place, the hauling out of the displaced dirt was continuous.

Night and day. The disruption and discord continued. Complaints were so constant by the residents, that the City finally instructed us to just tell our residents "Sorry, you just have to deal with it."

That plant was a pumping station and much smaller than the proposed water filtration plant being proposed on Carpenter Lane. The West Linn project disrupted hundreds of peoples lives for the better part of a year. We are told the Carpenter Lane plant construction will take MULTIPLE YEARS! Multiple years of hundreds of truck trips a day, as well as the invasion of construction workers required to facilitate the placement of the plant.

In addition to the danger inherent in such a large volume of heavy vehicular traffic (as well as the road degradation), there is the added concern of criminal activity. It's no secret that there is a significant amount of meth usage in the construction trades. A number of drug arrests I made while working as a police officer were of individuals working in the trades. Any large influx of construction personnel is likely to include some of these folks, and with them the crimes committed by drug users.

In short, I see no reason to permit this proposed plant to proceed. As mentioned previously, state land use laws prohibit private citizens from disrupting a neighborhood with noncompliant activities and government should be required, when reasonable, to be a "good citizen" as well.

If indeed Portland Water Bureau must build this hugely complex and expensive filtration plant (as opposed to a simpler, much less expensive UV treatment facility that will accomplish the same mission), Carpenter Lane is NOT the appropriate location.

The logical placement of this edifice is near the source of the Bureau's water or at a terminus in an industrial region of the city being served. This would avoid the disruption of east county citizens lives and have the bonus of eliminating the hugely expensive portion of the construction process to connect the existing City's water pipeline to a filtration plant a mile away.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom R Newberry

Tom R Newberry

Kathleen Obrist

31619 SE Lusted Rd

Gresham, OR 97080

April 29, 2023

RE: Carpenter Lane Proposed Water Filtration Plant

Dear Sir/Madam,

My family lives two miles from the proposed water treatment plant. We have lived in our house on Lusted Road for almost 50 years and we love this area. Our area is zoned for farming and agricultural use and it is very productive land. Much of the area is family farms, which are now in their third and fourth generation. Many have farm animals and we are surrounded by nurseries, and have a beautiful view of Mt. Hood. You can still hear cow bells and coyotes in the evenings, and Canadian geese are frequent visitors to nearby fields.

Most of us know our long-time neighbors. I frequently routinely walk on our country roads. There are many bicyclists and walkers out almost daily and we also have many neighbors walking or riding their horses around the area. The impact of the proposed plant is unthinkable in regards to our quality of life here and will seriously harm the existing farming practices in our area. The the quality of life of those who have lived in this area will be greatly harmed.

Our two granddaughters used to walk to our house with their little suitcases rolling along beside them. My husband and I enjoy the quiet evenings when we can look at the night sky and not see it cluttered with lights. We also have a grade school, middle school and a high school all within walking distance of our home. A huge water treatment plant is inappropriate for the Carpenter Lane location.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kathleen Obrist". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Kathleen Obrist



OREGON TRAIL ACADEMY

An International Baccalaureate World School K-5
An Inquiry-Based Middle School 6-8



36225 SE Proctor Road • Boring, OR 97009 • (T) 503-668-5521 • (F) 503-668-6250
Emily Hafer, Director • Jennifer Atkinson, Director's Secretary

Dear Clackamas County Board of Commissioners,

Picture your elementary school. An American flag flying out front, a playground – the sound of children's voices as they play tag – a teacher welcoming you in for the day, a bell ringing as you sit down at your desk. Pencils across paper, keys on a keyboard, the teacher's voice.

These sounds and sights are what you would see and hear if you visited Oregon Trail Academy, an International Baccalaureate World School, where students from kindergarten through eighth grade are taught to be world citizens and take care of themselves, each other, and the environment around them.

However, all of this is at stake with the possibility of Portland Water Bureau using an access road that is mere FEET away from our school's front door and recess yard.

If Portland Water Bureau is granted an easement to use the adjacent dirt road to haul in cement and chemicals while hauling out fill dirt and waste, the sound pollution alone would cause many students to go into sensory overload, making it impossible for them to focus on learning how to read. A lead engineer for PWB was noted to say that the "noise and vibration from the pile driving during construction would make it very difficult to live around it". How would we be able to conduct normal school activities if the lead engineer noted that the impacts would be so great that no one would even want to live here? The close proximity of the road is a grave concern.

Once the construction is over, that doesn't mean the sound pollution would end – our school would constantly be bombarded by heavy trucking sounds as PWB uses and maintains the facility. The additional heavy truck traffic would converge at the vertex of a complex intersection where Bluff, Proctor, and 362nd all meet.

I was working one afternoon and heard a horrific sound of metal scraping, screeching, and thuds rolling. I was one of the first people on the scene of a terrible accident only yards away from our school where a car took the triple intersection corner too fast and rolled multiple times. We do not need to add another entry point to the already-confusing intersection, where up to 200 heavy semi trips would be made every day. One wrong move, one glare of the sun, and a carload of students could die. This project is not worth that risk. It is a risk that will not go away once the construction is finished. It would hinder Oregon Trail Academy forever.

Thank you, Board of Commissioners, for your time and consideration. Please use your power to stop the PWB project and protect the lives and learning of our students at Oregon Trail Academy.

Respectfully, Emily Hafer, Director

10-12-2022

Character of the Area

[Case File: T3-2022-16220]

Full Name: Jodi Riehl

Full Address: 8031 SE Pleasant Home Road Gresham, Or 97080

Email: jriehl85@msn.com

I love the night sky in my rural area, it's very dark with a lot of visible stars on clear nights. There is very little to none when it comes to light pollution in my area. There are coyotes, owls, hawks, and doves that frequent my property. I have seen a couple of

herons flying by just this month around dinner time (June 2023). About once a year in the mornings deer are often seen crossing the road I live on as they travel to their next feeding area.

As far as safety, living far out from the city has its advantages as not many criminals or unwanted strangers are interested in our farm/agricultural community. I love the fact that the fire station is only 1-2 miles away and feel safe knowing that they can respond in a timely manner should we ever need it.

On our small farm we have chickens ranging in age from 6 months to 4 years. We cultivate blackberries on our property as they are such a sweet treat. We have a garden and container boxes where we love to grow and eat fresh foods. The year-round stream that runs through our property contains frogs that sing every evening in late spring through summer adding a wonderful sound of county to our lives.

I commute to Sandy Oregon during the work week (8am and 430pm) and rarely see farm equipment on the roads and never see commercial truck traffic until I reach Hwy 26.

If the water filtration plant comes in, the character of the area will change, and many more outsiders will be coming into our small rural farm community increasing the chance of crime.

Commuting times will change drastically for me with all the commercial truck traffic that will be in my area with the construction of the water filtration plant. I will also be exposed to hazardous situations with these trucks and their potential for accidents and chemical spillage. Massive amounts of hazardous chemicals will be used in daily plant operations. PWB expects 1,300 trucks per year to transport tons of chemicals and waste on our roads, even in dangerous weather conditions. This presents a constant, critical risk to our community and already limited emergency resources.

Pleasant Home Road has its quirks, as there are many potholes and narrow places to walk next to the road. The speed limit is 45 but traffic often travels 60+ which makes walking unenjoyable for me. Any further future commercial truck traffic on this road would be unbearable.

Picture: see attachment

Heron in yard at home address. Dated 8/12/2017.



MOULTRIE



57°F

#MOULTRIECAM

12 JUL 2022 02:05 am

Mountain lion/cougar

Character of the Area

[Case File: T3-2022-16220]

Victoria Hutfilz
3324 SE Hosner Ter
Gresham, OR 97080
Vhutfilz@gmail.com

I love living in a rural/agricultural area because I feel safe and that I can keep my kids safe while allowing them to have a greater freedom of movement than city or suburban life would provide. We wake up listening to the birds singing instead of truck traffic and can watch wildlife like deer and coyotes from our porch.

My family moved to this area from Portland for a peaceful and safe environment. I am thrilled to live in an area with minimal traffic and beautiful views of the Mt. Hood surrounded by thriving agricultural businesses. We choose to live a more simple, self-sufficient lifestyle and this rural area can provide that.

Given the recent chemical spills we're all hearing about in the news, such as the Ohio River barge and East Palestine train derailment, I can't help but worry about the increased risk our community will face with massive amounts of hazardous chemicals to be used in daily plant operations, transported to the site 365 days per year in all weather conditions.

Of course, PWB will take all precautions, but human error is unavoidable. Our rural, agricultural community is one of a kind in an area trumped by urban sprawl. It seems obvious to me that the city of Portland and the PWB would recognize the value of the health of this land, including a widely used public wildlife area like Oxbow Park.

Character of the Area

(case file: T3-2022-16220)

Sharon R Jones

9840 SE 362nd Ave Boring, OR97009

sharonjones@wavecable.com

How do I describe the character of the area and community where I live. You need to know I was raised on Lusted Rd, attended Cottrell Grade School and Sandy High School. I did leave for college, but ended up back in the area where I began, teaching at Cottrell School for 22 years and OR Trail School District for 13 years. My husband and I live on 362nd Ave, right down the road from Cottrell School, now called OR Trail Academy. I have lived in this area for over 60 years. I have always been proud of our area. It's quiet, it's beautiful, and the birds and wildlife are amazing! I'm blessed to live in a community where I feel safe, where I can sit out on my deck at night and listen to the sounds of nature as I enjoy the night sky.

The proposed water filtration facility would drastically change my peaceful living environment. One concern is the road that is planned to be built off Bluff Road near Or Trail Academy to accommodate large truck deliveries to the facility. During pick up and drop off there is much congestion on Bluff Road. Another road with large trucks in this area is like asking for an accident to happen. The safety of our students must be a top priority.

Another concern is the hazardous chemicals that will be used daily at the filtration plant. This presents a critical risk to our community.

The thing that breaks my heart is how the filtration plant will change the way our area looks. As I drive down Bluff Road, I feel a certain peace as I look at the well-kept nurseries, the rows of beautiful trees and the workers in the field. If the filtration plant is built, it will destroy the peacefulness of our community. As a 60-year senior resident of this community, I feel strongly that the character of our community will change, and not for the better. I pray that the plant will NOT be built!

Multnomah County Land Use Planning Division

Mike & Carol Kost
35321 SE Carpenter Ln
Gresham, OR 97080
Carol.kost@gmail.com

We live directly across from the proposed site for the Water Plant and have lived here for 25 years. We love living here in this rural area because it is so peaceful and quiet. We love listening to the owls at night and the Robins and Blue Jays and all the other birds talking back and forth early in the morning and in the evening. The wildlife here, which includes Bear, Cougar, Bobcat, Osprey, Coyote, Geese, Elk and Deer, has been fascinating to watch as they wander through our property and the proposed site across from us.

We love the night sky in this rural area. We can go outside at night and actually see the stars because there is no light pollution. This Water Plant will definitely take away our night sky even following the codes.

Safety is an issue also. We feel safe here and we watch out for each other. All the traffic this plant will bring to our area will affect our safety. The more traffic and people that come here make us more vulnerable.

Thank you for this opportunity to express our concerns!

It should be as simple as this, this area is nothing like Portland! That should be enough. The Water treatment plant should NOT come near here. I have been in this area for the entire 48 years of my life. My Mother still lives on the same property. I moved away almost 10 years and couldn't stop thinking about coming back since I left. I have in fact moved back, bought property next to my Mothers property to be there with and for her. Was that the only drive to come back home? No. Home isn't just who resides in a house, it's the surroundings. The surroundings are the reason why we chose to build a house at this location and why we chose to raise families here. Also, the reason I chose to grow old here. That makes it priceless. The sky looks different out here. We have cleaner and fresher air. Which brings me to the view. We have a beautiful mountain surrounded by majestic forests. Trees and natural rolling hills are part of the surroundings why we chose to live here. In these rolling hills roams, if humans aren't important enough, we have wildlife. Put aside all the farm animals, although, they are important enough by themselves. Remember, Portland folks always complain about farm animals' and livestock not being treated well. Well, all the construction and noise, destruction of land and the extra air pollution with all the extra heavy equipment and semi-trucks will definitely affect our livestock and pets as well. Portland folk can't disagree. I've heard their arguments on exact issues but elsewhere. Lets talk about the animals I have at my home. I have had the amazing experience to see Elk migrate through my property, deer, weasels, owls, hawks, duck, geese, buzzards, blue heron, humming birds, crows, doves, a multitude more breeds of birds. One breed should be enough to give care. everything Portland claims the are fighting for going green is here this is green this is the standard Portland should base their ideas and changes on for Portland. Don't bring Portland's unethical thought on destroying what is green by their standards. If they build this plant it proves its all fake news they only want the money not truly wanting to keep our world natural and unabused. Just me having to write this note is proof that Portland has no care for nature, animals the beauty that cant be recreated once its gone.

The Kramers