

Madeline Sutherland

From: Julie Smith <juliesmithmhp@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 10, 2022 6:26 PM
To: Community Development Email
Subject: Comment Regarding Camas Heights Subdivision Proposal

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May 10, 2022

From: Julie Smith
2902 NW 23rd Ave
Camas, WA 98607

To whom it may concern,

I would like to comment with regard to the Camas Heights Subdivision that is currently planned for the land at 22630 NE 28th St in Camas. I understand that Lennar is currently proposing to save only two of the Oregon White Oaks that have long grown on the property.

I would like to encourage Lennar to prioritize preserving the dominant trees and most of the Oregon White Oaks. It is my understanding that current code states that when feasible, mature trees should be given priority when planning a subdivision.

According to the Oregon Department of Forestry, White Oak trees are an important habitat element that influence the abundance and distribution of wildlife species. These trees are a protected species and often serve as important habitat for hawks, kestrels, and owls. A variety of other birds and wildlife also frequently use White Oak trees as shelter. These trees provide habitat even when on a suburban lot.

According to the USDI Bureau of Land Management, Oregon White Oaks are important contributors to the biodiversity of the Pacific Northwest. Too many Oregon White Oaks are cut down in the name of convenience and profit. Saving more oak trees will provide greater quality of life for the people who live in this development and will increase the biodiversity of the property.

Thank you,

Julie Smith