

Madeline Sutherland

From: James Dunlop <consultarchie@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 4, 2022 3:57 PM
To: Community Development Email
Subject: Camas Heights Subdivision - letter opposing it

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To whom it may be concerned,

My name is James Dunlop, and I am a resident of Lakewood, Washington. I am opposing the Camas Heights Subdivision and I wish to be a party of record.

The justification for the project seems to largely relate to the provision of affordable housing. While the Growth Management Act does have affordable housing as one of its goals, it is not the only goal that it mentions. There is also the protection of critical areas.

The development is on a critical area, and as I understand it, 60% of the area will be covered with impervious surfaces. From the point of view of water ecology, this could be catastrophic for the wider environment, especially as a number of springs will be paved over.

There is also the question of the Garry oaks on the property, which are scheduled for removal. These trees are an important part of the ecosystem, yet over the last couple of centuries their presence in the Pacific Northwest has been increasingly marginalized.

I would also question how affordable the houses being planned really are. I think the City needs to address what affordability means, and how much they will be marketed for. It might have been better to develop duplexes, for example, on a portion of the property, rather than to effectively destroy the ecosystem on the whole area.

I am not from Camas, but having seen habitat destruction in Lakewood, I know that it is not in the community's interest for the Camas Height Subdivision to go ahead.

Yours sincerely,

James Dunlop

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