



Personal Concerns Regarding Proposed Gas Station Development

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To Community Development Email <communitydevelopment@cityofcamas.us>

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To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Arianna Nosrati, and I am a senior undergraduate student at Washington State University pursuing a major in Biological Sciences and a minor in Chemistry. My family and I have resided in unincorporated Clark County for twenty years, with our property standing on the northwest corner of Friberg-Strunk street and Goodwin road.

It has come to my attention over the last several weeks that a deal has been made to convert the plot of land on the southwest side of this intersection into a gas station, convenience store, and car wash. This news was very alarming to hear, as I am very familiar with the environmental impacts gas station vapors and occasional spills have on the surrounding land. The intersection is at the top of a hilly road which slopes down on Goodwin road east towards Ingle road. Drivers familiar with Goodwin road can recall the large untouched wetlands and grasses that can be seen on the left and right side, which connect towards the northern end of Lacamas Lake's trailhead. Lacamas Lake is a prehistoric remain of the well-known Columbia River, which has suffered over-enrichment over the past several years due to fertilizer pollution runoff from nearby homes. This land requires protection and isolation from harmful toxicity which gas stations are incapable of fully preventing, especially due to the topography of the land. Lacamas lake and surrounding bodies of water require protection from additional feasible harmful toxicity. According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, this region is home to over 300 species of birds, coyotes, the black bear, various fish, deer, and numerous plant species. Over time, this area has seen an increase in deforestation and noise/light pollution, however there hasn't been any major toxicity exposure to the soils and water reserves. We are educating our students in elementary science courses to identify constraints such as this one to make children more aware of the environment through field trips and experiments. The allowance of this project contradicts the information we are educating. What is a situation like this one showing our future generations? I believe that introducing a likely source of chemicals, such as petroleum, to this environment would drastically impact the environmental structure the land currently holds which in the long term could result in species extinction.

As mentioned above, my residence is directly on the northwest corner of this intersection. My bedroom and dining room both face the south direction, and I have a great concern with an increase in noise pollution on the road due to the placement of these facilities. Being a full time student and part-time

employee, home is the place I seek rest and comfort on my longest days. I would hate to have a hard time falling asleep at night because of the traffic which these facilities would experience. In addition, the intersection already experiences a high volume of drivers due to Union High School less than a half a mile south on Friberg-Strunk street. A gas station and convenience store would attract an additional cohort of drivers to the area, causing an unimaginable amount of congestion right by a neighborhood of families with young children, students, and hard-working citizens.

The environment and the residents who were here first as tax payers require their voices to be heard. The development of a gas station, convenience store, and car wash are unacceptable in this region of the city boundaries, and should be relocated to an area where these concerns wouldn't exist. It is our right as individuals in the beautiful Pacific Northwest to proudly represent and preserve our untouched environments to maintain what we call our home.

Thank you for your consideration,
Arianna Nosrati
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