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CITY RECORDER USE ONLY:			
GENDA ITEM #:	B. 1.		
MEETING DATE:	06.26.2023		
FINAL ACTION:	Public Comment		
	ADDENDUM		

CITY COUNCIL MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council

FROM: Jesse VanderZanden, City Manager

PROJECT TEAM: Anna D. Ruggles, CMC, City Recorder

DATE: June 26, 2023

SUBJECT: Item B. Public Comment

<u>PUBLIC COMMENT</u>: Anyone wishing to speak to the City Council on an item not on the agenda or on the agenda and not scheduled for a public hearing may be heard. Written comments may be submitted by 3:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting. All testimony is electronically recorded.

The attached written correspondence was received via e-mail to: <u>citycouncilors@forestgrove-or.gov</u>.

Attachments:

Correspondence Attached

From:	Kenneth Booher
To:	City Councilors
Subject:	Ken again
Date:	Friday, June 9, 2023 4:44:27 PM

Do I have this right Mayor Winzle? Mayors? A mention of your name Mayor Winzle. S.S.D and the I.R.S. and a doctor's note regarding me getting a job? My car goes illegally onto your streets. With a mechanical failure to remind you. Ken Booher

From:	Kenneth Booher
To:	City Councilors
Subject:	Ken again
Date:	Saturday, June 10, 2023 1:43:08 PM

Democrat Republican mayors.Some miss communication Politically? What is going on here? I'm fine with that. Resolved I would think. O.k all of you. State of Oregon government to? Leave us out of your,Let's see what they've got, will you. Resolved. Back in the U.S past, Someones making conclusions and it's to do with are governments. Even at times I was never even thought of. Hello Mayor Winzle. My name is Kenneth Harvey Francis Booher. You've met him. There's the dead zone in the Gulf coast area. Mercury isotopes in everyone's fishing industries. manufacturing and power usage can reach the ground? Water level problems. And it's because of my conclusions that are a part of that point end time that's causing are governments to be in a state of just existing. So the medical community and the good faiths parking ticket people are delt with. And I'm on my way to get the darn things removed. Because anything less doesn't fly with the brain guy. Ken Nope I'll decline still, Booher

From:	Jamie Ford
To:	City Councilors
Subject:	Comment Submission for 6/12 Meeting
Date:	Monday, June 12, 2023 2:59:44 PM

Good evening City Council members,

As a local community member and business owner. I am writing in today to express my concerns with the current plan to allow overnight camping in Forest Grove and especially not in the proposed location in Downtown. Per Washington County's Time, Place, Manner Public Camping Regulation "Homeless are allowed to sleep on public property when there is no available shelter options" However, with in Washington County there are numerous shelters already in place and with available beds. The issues seems to be the desire to accept help or follow shelter rules rather than availability of assistance. This was mentioned numerous times during a previous presentation to the City Council by Community Action. Refusing shelter by homeless should not mean our citizens, business owners and property owners should suffer just to provide a more unregulated option.

My Grandparents live just a few blocks from this proposed location. In the past 6 months they have had their car broken into twice and have had a clearly intoxicated homeless man in their backyard. I am frightened to think of how much these experiences will increase if homeless are allowed to migrate to this new camping location in Forest Grove. They had intentions of selling their home in the near future and undoubtedly will have a decreased property value with a homeless shelter within walking distance.

Like many community members, I often walk to Farmer's Market, the Library and downtown activities with my small children. I will no longer feel safe doing that knowing I have to walk past a homeless camp.

I am sure you will hear from many local business owners who are very unhappy with this location, and rightfully so. Business owners, the Forest Grove Chamber, City Club and numerous other local organizations have worked very hard to increase tourism to Forest Grove. Having an outside homeless camp in our Downtown district is going to dramatically reduce the number shoppers and customers to our local businesses. Experiences of theft, loitering and even defecating in front of business by homeless are circulating in our town right now and instead of doing something to protect the hardworking, job supplying, tax paying business owners, City Council and House Bill 3115 are dramatically making matters worse for them with this ridiculous plan.

This is a terrible location for all those who love Forest Grove. I ask that the City Council refuse to abide by House Bill 3115 on the grounds that adequate housing options are already available in near by locations.

Jamie Ford

Cell Licensed Oregon Realtor John L Scott Market Center 1936 Pacific Ave Forest Grove OR 97116 <u>What's Your Home Worth?</u>

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Councilors:

Not as an additional comment, can you answer a question about the Ordinance?

Am I correct that the House Bill requires cities to have alternative housing? And if this is true, is the lot near the City offices that alternate housing?

At some future point, when the Alternate shelter site is to be chosen, will there be additional public discussion from the Council?

I have not followed your prior meetings and testimony, my apologies.

Thank you,

Charlie Rhyne, Forest Grove

Sent from Mail for Windows

Hi,

I was at the city council meeting last night and I changed my thinking on the site location that was recommended for the south city parking lot.

I would ask all of you to reconsider the location at 23rd and Hawthorne. It would be better for the downtown business owners and I think it would still be an easy site to keep tabs on.

Please let me know what you think.

Thank you, Helvi Smith Allen Faulkner Falls St. Forest Grove, OR 97116 June 12, 2023

Forest Grove City Council 1924 Council Street Forest Grove, Oregon 97116

Mayor and City Council members,

I wanted to follow up on my email from yesterday, after watching the council meeting. One thing I did not address in my last email, is that I'm very supportive of the time and place ordinance. I agree that this is the best way to handle the situation that the 9th cir. court and Salem have put us in. The only thing I'm adamantly against is the location. I hope that the council got the message that the community is of like mind, and downtown is not where we want this encampment. I think most people would like to see it in an out of the way place away from neighborhoods, schools, downtown, where it won't interfere with the safety and beauty of this town.

Allen Faulkner

From:	
To:	City Councilors
Subject:	Ordinance 2023-004
Date:	Tuesday, June 13, 2023 4:55:56 PM

To all members of the Forest Grove, Oregon City council:

I would like to know if you plan on notifying the businesses and residents of Forest Grove, Oregon regarding the upcoming June 26th second reading of Ordinance 2023-004. We all need to know what is happening in the city regarding homeless time place and manner decisions. You were elected in good faith to serve us, and I trust that you will not be the final arbiters of locations to be selected without significant notification and input from the community. I would like a response from each of you, not just Mayor Wenzl. Please advise, Deanne Michaud

(10 year resident of Forest Grove)

Sent from my iPhone

From:	Kenneth Booher
To:	City Councilors
Subject:	Ken again
Date:	Wednesday, June 14, 2023 3:57:27 AM

I'm sorry. But you'll have to talk with President Biden. Are commander and chief. I'm kind of laughing. because I'm lecturing. And it's unsustainable. And it's Jupiter and Mars. What's going on here? I don't want to press charges? And Keith and Bob keep antagonizing them up?



June 13, 2023

Mayor Malynda Wenzl Council President Donna Gustafson Councilor Michael Marshall Councilor Karen Martinez Councilor Timothy A Rippe Councilor Elena Uhing Councilor Mariana E Valenzuela

Dear Mayor Wenzl, City Council, and Staff,

On behalf of the more than 8,000 members of the Portland Metropolitan Association of Realtors®(PMAR), I commend you on the care and diligence you have taken in preparing Ordinance 2023-04 in response to House Bill 3115 regulating the Time, Place, and Manner of camping within the city limits. I especially want to thank you for the time and care you have put into crafting the new ordinance and the desire to find a safe, clearly identified location for people to camp.

By setting fair Time, Place, and Manner regulations and designating a location for permitted camping, you are setting the entire community up for success, making it clear to everyone what is permitted and what is not. Clear, concise regulations make it easier to communicate expectations so that everyone is safe, and no one is left in the dark.

PMAR is dedicated to promoting a safe, healthy business environment with adequate housing to meet the needs of all residents. We look forward to working with you as we continue to work for all residents of Forest Grove, present and future.

Thank you for your consideration,



Michele Gila Director of Realtor® Advocacy

From:	Kenneth Booher
To:	City Councilors
Subject:	Ken again
Date:	Wednesday, June 14, 2023 2:10:45 PM

Parking ticket people., Your job Mayor Winzle. Mayors. Is to tell the D.A's to wrap up their investigations. Grumps and gruff telling all of you how to do your jobs, Ken Booher. P.S Parking ticket people

From:	Gary Holstrom	
To:	City Councilors; mwenzi@f	forestgrove-or.gov;
	Jesse VanderZanden	
Subject:	Homeless Pods in Forest Grove	
Date:	Wednesday, June 14, 2023 6:02:49 PM	

To anyone who has influence,

I'm a 79-year old veteran who now lives in old town Forest Grove. My wife and I have spent over 65 years supporting humanitarian and equality efforts in Louisiana, Indiana, Ohio and now (or the last 53 years) in Oregon. Professionally, I have been responsible for numerous political campaigns and ballot measure issues. Privately, we have volunteered and sat on boards for a school district, for disadvantaged youth and groups federally funded to support minority and integrated communities. So, the concept of homelessness is not foreign to our life experiences, knowledge or beliefs.

What is foreign to us is how reckless and irresponsible you are in identify the ramifications of placing a "pod" on the edge of a small community. Have you not thought about the stress, distrust, anger and fear you are causing throughout our small community. Don't you realize that you are viewed as someone who has singled a politically weak, vulnerable small town forced into this situation by the political and bureaucratic powerful? Don't you realize that folks know that you do not place such pods in the wealthy communities . . . always in the powerless areas?

Pulling on the heart strings and humanity of homelessness is what politicians and elected representatives count on. Rarely is there an acceptable discussion or response for the crime, drug use and the mental health issues that can be brought to established community where elderly, children and vulnerable live and thrive.

Forest Grove has already experienced the crime aspect when the homeless were allowed to camp out in our wetlands. The shortest distance between two points (wetlands to transportation) was right through our neighborhood. I'm sure Amazon saw a huge sales jumps (in 97116) just from deadbolts, lighting, and surveillance cameras. I would think you would have known that there would be an issue when you place pods far from transportation with a direct path right through a homes, churches, schools and parks.

Path of least resistance: find some land, listen manage to get through public input, buy the land, go home to peace and tranquility. Then, to it again somewhere else. This seems to be your M.O.. I doubt if there are seasoned, former public service folks out there who would disagree with that approach.

So here you are moving close to a purchase. . . . leaving behind the citizen fear, anger, distrust, more police action, higher taxes and – at the same time – decreasing the value and appeal of

our homes.

The recent Multnomah County poll speaks loudly: "homelessness in the area is an out-ofcontrol disaster and that they want to see more aggressive action".

Make no mistake, it is your responsibility not to destroy our community. Are your decisions tough? Yes. Is it time to think outside the "path of least resistance" box? Absolutely.

Now is the time to make the correct decision . . . whether the ball is in your court or someone with greater influence . . . you need to get involved for the good of our community and others.

Gary Holstrom

Gary Holstrom Founder DiversityCorp Communications

From:	Cindy Ertell
To:	
Cc:	City Councilors
Subject:	homeless pods on Elm St and elsewhere
Date:	Wednesday, June 14, 2023 6:58:13 PM

Dear Mr. Willey and the Forest Grove City Council,

WHY? WHY? WHY? I've tried to be respectful and understanding in all of my communication with the Washington County Commissioners and the Forest Grove City Council. I do have sympathy for the plight of the homeless. I've lived up close and personal with several family members who have been mentally ill, drug addicted and without a home.

However, I find it reprehensible that Washington County can't seem to find locations in the wealthier parts of the county to house these folks. The responses I've gotten say you want diverse neighborhoods. I'm not seeing that. And now our city council is trying to figure out where to house those without a shelter bed, which looks like it will be right in the heart of downtown. We are not a big city. These locations are only blocks apart. It's probably a no win situation for them.

I ask you again... is there a single pod village or designated camping area within a mile of your home? Anyone's home that sits on the commission or the FG council? Any??

The silence I've received from the homeless services email and the pat answers (which don't actually answer anything) that I've received from the commissioners says it all. I'm beginning to believe what many are saying... follow the money.

Even homeless folks being interviewed by news outlets are saying "Why should we work? We get everything we need for free. We can just sit in our tents and do drugs all day. They're spoiling us." Humans gain self worth when they are engaged in something productive. I still remember getting my first paycheck. Do you? Why don't we require these folks to engage in some kind of productive work? Let them earn something and feel good about that. Teach them a skill. Force them to get the addiction treatment and mental health service they need to make good life decisions. That is money well spent.

Cindy Ertell Forest Grove resident

From:	Kenneth Booher
To:	City Councilors
Subject:	Ken again
Date:	Thursday, June 15, 2023 7:51:56 AM

What all of that was a few days ago Mayor Winzle? Was larceny. And they had to mess around with the good U.S bank branch again. And I don't care to have Keith and Bob around me still. So? Again! I'm reporting them to the police again. And who is that they invited on in here to get them dragged into some trouble for their retirement enjoyment? I'll catch up to you later regarding my importance on the ol' Uncle Sams brain web-site. a.k.a The Teamsters website.

From:	Kenneth Booher
To:	City Councilors
Subject:	Ken again
Date:	Thursday, June 15, 2023 8:02:19 PM

What'd they do Mayor Winzle? Mayor Wheeler? Mayors? Go running to all of you instead of getting hold of the police? This is just between us. There's the facts about me. Their a something to observe? But I'm still declining.

From:	Kenneth Booher
To:	City Councilors
Subject:	Ken again
Date:	Thursday, June 15, 2023 9:27:13 PM

It's ok for them to go to the mayors. Perfectly legal deagle to. But? Did you go to the police? That's how it could and does work. With me under similar circumstanses? I'd go to the county sheriff. No,,, Go to the mayor. No. Go to the police again. And suches. But their going to have to take their parking tickets to a judge. Make an example out of them? No.But an example of what their not to do. It's their importance and knowledge and an ol' Uncle Sam brain. And when any lyings resolved? Stalling here and there. Bad institutions! And! Nicely stated. Keith and Bobs unimpressive larceny rodeo show needs to go. That's what's drawing them in. Perpetuating the problem. Sound familiar Portland police?

From:	Kenneth Booher
To:	City Councilors
Subject:	Ken again
Date:	Friday, June 16, 2023 3:38:50 PM

I shouldn't have to tell a'bunch of grown adults to pick up their phones and get hold of the D.A's and to tell them to do their jobs. And that'll clear up that whole matter that I just e-mailed off to everyone on the Teamsters web-site.

From:	Kenneth Booher
To:	City Councilors
Subject:	Ken again
Date:	Monday, June 19, 2023 5:56:09 AM

When I was in church this Sunday praying, mayors. There was a down pour during my praying. And a much heavier one when church was over. That tells me something happened with are governments to cause them to be more in just a state of existing. A little micro splinter projected out towards Venus. And I I think it has something to do with the West coast. and I'm still declining of course. Ken Booher

From:	Kenneth Booher
To:	City Councilors
Subject:	Ken again, and Good morning!
Date:	Tuesday, June 20, 2023 5:43:07 AM

Is what's going on with me? Citizens are given rights and considerations for the law. And because of my capacity to think and conclude? I'm given those same rights and considerations. You may not want to here this but I'm going to tell you anyways mayors. Last time I seen Dr.Goodwin. Third floor. Kaiser Hospital in North Portland? I heard a ruckess outside her office door. It was someone who was antagonize up. Keith and Bob again and those who are behind the scenes to. And I'm reporting Keith and Bob again and those. O.k? What's outside Dr.Goodwin? Why it's? Parking ticket people! So as I'm working my way to are 3:00 pm phone appointment today? I'm expecting some law and order to be applied to the matter. Ken Booher. And consider me still declining

From:	Penny Kimball
To:	City Councilors
Subject:	Overnight camping in Forest Grove corner of council and 19th
Date:	Tuesday, June 20, 2023 1:06:35 PM

Hello, my name is Penny Kimball . I own the Cynthia Good building on the corner of Pacific and college way. It houses four businesses. The first thing I don't understand is why you didn't send building owners and business owners a letter ahead of time before making this devastating decision. The only way I heard anything about this was the post Bill Marble put on next door. I have been a widow for 26 years. I live off the rental income from the tenants in this building. The value of the buildings will go down drastically. When the homeless campers have to leave at 7:00 a.m. in the morning. They will be sitting in front of businesses until 7:00 p.m. at night. I have supported the city for the 40 years I have been here. I can't believe you don't care about downtown. Is there any way we can fight this when you are pushing it through by the end of June? Best regards, Penny Kimball Hello,

Understanding that the time, place, and manner ordinance adoption is mandated under the new Oregon Law, it has not been made clear how much, if any, of the tax funds from the Supportive Housing Services Tax could be allocated to assist Forest Grove in the financial burden of compliance with this new law. If the city attorney has not investigated this option, I encourage them to please do so. If funds from the housing tax are not available to Forest Grove for this mandated ordinance, please provide a public statement detailing the reason(s) for exclusion.

As a community, we are concerned about property taxes increasing due to this time, place, and manner burden. Given there is an already established tax forcing the residents of the metro above a certain income to fund a "fix" for the homeless problem, it should be exhausted to aid in the mandate of Forest Grove to provide a place for the homeless and the services that will accompany that burden.

Sincerely, Cloudette Heichel Home Owner

Sent from my iPhone

From:	Kenneth Booher
To:	City Councilors
Subject:	Ken again
Date:	Tuesday, June 20, 2023 4:16:45 PM

I'm going to be blunt Mayor Winzle. Mayor Wheeler. Mayors. It's a mess out there. And it's not their constituents time. The American people's time. Lobbyist and the other familiers time? They take THEIR, time. And put it back into space. The correct and only solution. Then to the states with regards to the political parties and state government working. Over seeing. Which will be explaining. Then to the city more than likely, Safe and matters are being appropriated. With regards to Dr.Goodwin? Mom and Aleene I bet. And First Christian Church. But? Ken Booher and! Jupiter and Mars and with regards to Venus? Going down in political history

From:	Laura Lewis
To:	Daniel Riordan; City Councilors; Malynda Wenzl
Subject:	Zoning Change Request - Process Question - Sunset/HWY 47
Date:	Tuesday, June 20, 2023 7:55:02 PM

Hello Mayor, Councilors and Senior Planner,

My name is Laura Lewis and I live on Barnet Street in Forest Grove. I have just spent the evening at the neighborhood meeting regarding the proposed development by JT Smith Companies, including a change in designation of tax lot 1N331A000600 to Neighborhood Commercial and an increase in density for tax lot 1N331A000100 from 13.8 units/acre to 15.43 units per acre.

I have reservations about both proposed changes; but primarily the change of tax lot 600 - which - if granted - would allow for a fuel station and convenience store to be built on the 1.5 acre parcel of land directly behind both our "Welcome to Forest Grove" sign on the 47 bypass and our established residential homes.

We have been continually dealing with transient populations, drug paraphernalia, abandoned vehicles and other safety/health issues in our small neighborhood. Currently, for example, there is a large, occupied camper parked on Beal street - the only entrance to our neighborhood - making me feel unsafe as I venture out with my young son on walks, etc. I, personally, have called non-emergency three times in the last month for aforementioned issues/safety concerns.

I am gutted at the thought of a gas station being built directly behind our homes - with access increased through our neighborhood - compounding these above livability issues - and adding additional negative factors such as noise and light pollution and trash/garbage in the surrounding ponds/wetlands areas. The developer, who was in attendance at the meeting, would not budge on his plan to apply to the city for zoning changes - even at tearful pleas from our neighborhood members.

My understanding is that once the proposal gets submitted to the city, there will be a public hearing, but at that point, it will likely be too late to facilitate any legitimate change to the city's decision to allow the zoning changes.

I am hopeful that one of you, as Mayor, Council Members and Senior Planner can help direct me to the best course of action to fight against the zoning changes that would allow for the obvious degradation of our neighborhoods' beauty and safety for its current residents.

Thank you - and with respect for all that you do,

Laura Lewis

Anna Ruggles

From: Sent: To: Subject: beedazzledgardens Thursday, June 22, 2023 11:38 AM Anna Ruggles Camp email sent to jesse vanderzanden

Anna,

After the last FGCC meeting, I sent this email to Jesse Vanderzanden. It was not sent to city council members.

Feel free to call me if you wish to discuss particulars. I am unable to attend Monday, June 26 FGCC meeting, ergo forwarding this to you. Have a great meeting!

Dawn Hummel

------ Original message ------From: beedazzledgardens < Date: 6/15/23 12:42 PM (GMT-08:00) To: jvanderzanden@forestgrove-or.gov Subject: Alternative FG homeless camp options

Jesse,

I met with FG CoC board of directors Robert Groves and Steve Krautscheid last night at Vex Cocktail bar.

We discussed upcoming chamber events and the homeless article featured on front page of the June 8, Pamplin Media newspaper.

They recommended I contact you with potential camping site alternatives for city council to consider.

Option 1. Papa toys - home and garage, West side - Corner of Hwy 47 and David Hill Fenced area behind garage - tents, pods, parking. Onsite home targets women, children and senior houseless for safety reasons.

Bathroom and kitchen can be used during

7am - 7pm time, space and manner ordinance. People who live here responsible for maintenance and upkeep of inside and landscape.

Empty lot next door on hwy 47 use for overflow camping as needed.

Brick house next to empty lot has a public notice sign. Turn this into an Open Door Cafe. Work with Open Door or other WA CTY providers to convert to bakery and cafe.

Upstairs has cafe mgr office. Cafe downstairs serves coffee, breakfast and lunch from 6am - 3pm daily. Good behavior results in approval to work inside cafe. Homeless gain skills, have a purpose and provide much needed place to congregate on west side.

Initially, work with slow rise bakehouse, pacific donuts, safeway, telvet, walmart and fred meyer for day old bakery items for houseless. Contract long bottom coffee for coffee contract.

Turns homeless solution into a positive PR and marketing story lines for both open door, local businesses, forest grove and city council.

Provides positive for FG communities of homeless and homeowners to interact with one another with respect.

Important: Gain homeowner approval by contacting ALL HOA mgmt companies for stonebridge, oak hills, the parks, fern cottage to poll and survey all homeowners via email and/or nextdoor prior to any announcements. Getting buy-in from many nike and intel families with children is critical.

Option 2. Three roundabouts, west side

Add 5- 6 pods with one port a potty per roundabout in center of roundabouts**.

**Build a concrete brick or rock 3 ft enclosure around entire roundabout. Similar to Tacoma roundabouts. Photos can be provided. Place a poster on each roundabout to explain why and how this is serving the homeless community.

Also, learning trucks and fast drivers commonly overtake inside circle when driving around them. Only able bodied men would be housed here. Allows homeowners to see progress twice daily - driving to and from workplaces. When Martin road roundabout is constructed, add same pod configuration.

Option 3. Tuality/OHSU hospital and urgent care facility, east side

Approach OHSU property management to see if they are open to converting facility to a 7am to 7pm facility. Similar to option 1, homeless required to upkeep, maintain, cook, clean, etc. in exchange for place to sleep, search for work, receive mental and medical treatment.

Option 4a. Cornelius, abandoned home on hill near CAT dealer and open door facility**

Option 4b. Abandoned home and land for sale on right side of street - in one way grid - opposite Walmart.**

**These areas could be repurposed for homeless camping similar to Option 1. Create Open Door Cafe at both locations.

Jeff Dalin, mayor and Cornelius city council along with open door project managers will need to be approached for approval and input.

Recommendations on Moving Forward

1. Strongly recommend a financial assessment and budget creation for each option.

This will provide state government agencies, non-profit agencies, FG and Cornelius city councils the ability to make educated decisions that our joint communities can rally behind.

2. Must explain cost and tax impacts to homeowners on FG website, newsletter and city council meetings are critical for success.

3. July 1 current location would be reassigned as a temporary solution until options 1 - 4 can be scouted and site(s) secured.

4. Asking the homeless population what they want and need is critical for buy-in as well.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

I look forward to discussing this with you and city council members when you see fit.

Dawn Hummel 35th avenue Forest grove oregon 97116 Councilors:

I am in complete support of Ordinance No. 2323-4

In my opinion, this policy recognizes that homeless people are completely in charge of their lives. The choice of where to live is an earned right. If the city is to expend resources to aid those that need help, it is incumbent upon the homeless to seek help at the locations where it is available to them.

It is not possible for us to assist/aid those in <u>need that do not want it.</u> A city has the right to protect itself from being overrun as long as there is a location where people can go to get help.

Tom Cook Limpus Ln Forest Grove

From:	Kenneth Booher
To:	City Councilors
Subject:	Ken again
Date:	Thursday, June 22, 2023 10:21:33 AM

Being a witness. And a victim. I had a phone appointment with Dr **Sector**. There's that bullpucky lab work I did not ask her to order. That was the 20th of this month. Where their labs are shiped off to? There was a pause as we we're going over the obvious. Like she was thinking? Parking ticket people again? I'm a biased witness for her to. Took me Abit to figure it out. So,I'm still going to decline. and this is good enough? I'm reporting the going ons with Kaiser Hospital and friends? Again! And subsequently the good faiths to. Ken Booher

From:	Linda Hedlund
To:	City Councilors
Subject:	Proposed development at corner of Sunset Drive and Highway 47
Date:	Thursday, June 22, 2023 12:30:45 PM

The reason for email this morning is the concern of rezoning a 1.5-acre lot on Sunset and Highway 47. A meeting was held Tuesday night with JT Smith Companies and 3J Consulting. They stated that they were there to hear our concerns but the impression we walked away with was this was just a mute jester on their part because the city required it.

The JT Smith company was represented by Jesse Nemec and he stated that they did have an interested party to operate a fuel station on the site, <u>but he was listening to our concerns</u>. He was asked if he would let his own daughter walk, play, etc. near this fuel/convenience market, he would not respond. He also stated when asked about fuel tanks that there would not be any tanks because fuel companies were doing it differently nowadays, running double lines, but failed to explain how the fuel gets to the pump. When concern was expressed regarding noise, lights, etc. it was explained that they are installing pretty cypress trees. When I inquired about installing cement block wall/fence to block noise and lights it was stated that they could not do it on the adjoining property (Old Sunset Ave and Hwy 47), not understanding they could do it on our property but again stated "DON'T YOU WANT TO LOOK AT THE PRETTY CYPRESS?"

The urban designer from 3J Consulting explained that their meeting with us was just a step they had to complete before their application was turned into the City for approval. No one from the City was in attendance at this required meeting, why not? It was also stated that a traffic study had been done and the access from the 360 unit apartment complex would have no traffic impact on Sunset Avenue. I'm sure you have driven Sunset Avenue and would agree that it is very busy now, especially during school hours at the intersection of Bonnie Lane. There was no one from Bonnie Lane at the meeting so I am concerned they were not notified of this since their properties are not adjacent to the two parcels being developed.

All of us attending the Tuesday evening meeting came away with the feeling that they were not concerned with our livability at all. The property owner/seller (91-year-old Wynona Davidson from Bend) was also at the meeting. Not sure if the developer asked her to attend since he was the one that introduced her. At times you could see the concern and empathy on her face, not sure that was a good idea.

I will be attending the Council meeting on June 26th and I would like this email added to the June 26th council packet under public comment.

RespectfulLy, Linda Hedlund

Hello,

I would love to talk about this in person, so you can feel how truly concerned our entire family is, including our 9 and 5 year olds. We just got back from a family hike in beautiful Thatcher Park and the trail was considerably narrower and we saw all the construction. Before we could say it, our 5 yr old says, "More houses?" Tabor and I then went home and researched a little about it and learned about the developer wanting to change the zoning from neighborhood mixed use to neighborhood commercial use. **PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE do not approve this zone change.**

Everyone comes at their opinions from different angles, mine is from a mother of young children, an Adapted PE teacher in Forest Grove and resident. Removing "walkability" and greenery shouts out poor mental health and accidents to me. I work with Physical Education teachers on teaching our kids K-12 how to be active and healthy for life. 2 elementary schools just taught hundreds of kinders and 1st graders how to ride bikes with a bike grant this year and if we do not have a safe sidewalk, trails for them to ride on, they will go in the street or not exercise at all. Us teachers are trying to get our kids outside and healthy after they spend so much time indoors and staring at screens. I have students with disabilities that may live there and they need accessible, opportunities to go outside, play, walk, stretch and breathe.

Our 9 year old feared for the possibility of a gas station near the ducks he visits. I understand we are growing but Forest Grove is an unhealthy town right now. Mentally and physically. (That is another email with our lack of indoor rec opportunities, lack of crosswalks near schools and busy streets here).

I challenge our city council to take a stand. PLEASE say NO to a developer that won't have their kids or families needing sidewalks, playgrounds, trails, green space to play and won't be stuck in the traffic on those streets that is now inevitable. This developer won't live here and see a gas station polluting a local wetland.

Sad family, Katie, Jax, Mac, Tabor

From:	Robert Kirkman
To:	City Councilors; Daniel Riordan; mwenzl@forestgrove.or.gov
Subject:	Please, please, please DO NOT
Date:	Thursday, June 22, 2023 3:15:10 PM

I am asking the city council and the mayor to reject the corporate development in our perfectly sized rural town. The party representing the development in Forest Grove is clearly looking to deepen their pockets and benefit Lake Oswego (JT Smith Companies headquarters). I am not against expansion or city growth as long as the developing company is more local and the location less visually impactful to the community.

June 5, 2023

3J CONSULTING 9600 SW NIMBUS AVENUE, SUITE 100

00 SW NIMBUS AVENUE, SUITE 100 REAVERTON, OREGON 97008 PH: (503) 946.9365 WWW 3JCONSULTING.COM

Re: Notice Of Neighborhood Review Meeting Proposed Development: Mixed Use Planned Development, Text Amendment, Zone Change & Partition

Dear Resident or Property Owner:

3J Consulting acts on behalf of JT Smith Companies, LLC regarding a proposal for the development of a mixed use planned development shown on the attached map. The site is 24.88 acres in size and is located at 3081 Sunset Drive. The proposed development is located at tax lots 1N331A000100 and 1N331A000600. The properties are currently zoned for Neighborhood Mixed Use (NMU). The proposal includes applications for a Mixed Use Planned Development (MUPD), Text Amendment, Zoning Map Amendment, and Partition. The proposed development will include a mixed-use development including 4.0 acres of commercial development and 360 multi-family units on tax lot 1N331A000100 and a zone change of tax lot 1N331A000600 to Neighborhood Commercial (NC). The applicant is requesting a text amendment to change the maximum density of the site from 13.8 units/acre to 15.43 units/acre for the mixed-use development on tax lot 1N331A000100.

Prior to applying to the City of Forest Grove Planning Division for the necessary land use approvals, we would like to discuss the proposal in more detail with the surrounding property owners and residents.

You are cordially invited to attend an In-person Neighborhood Meeting scheduled for: Tuesday, June 20, 2023 at 6:00pm

> The meeting will be held at: Lincoln Park South Picnic Shelter 2725 Main St Forest Grove, OR 97116

The purpose of this meeting is to provide a forum for surrounding property owners and residents to review the proposal and to identify issues so they can be considered before the formal application is submitted. This meeting gives you the opportunity to share with us any special information you know about the property involved. We will try to answer questions related to how the project meets relevant development standards consistent with Forest Grove's land use regulations. Please note that this is a neighborhood meeting based on preliminary development plans prior to official submission to the City. These plans may change slightly before the application is submitted to the City. Depending upon the type of application, you may receive an official notice from the City of Forest Grove of your opportunity to participate either by submitting written comments, and / or by attending a public hearing.

Please feel free to contact me at mercedes.serra@3,-consulting.com or (503) 946.9365 x.211 if you have questions about this meeting or the proposed project. We look forward to discussing this proposal with you.



CIVIL ENGINEERING | WATER RESOURCES | COMMUNITY PLANNING

From:	Laura Lewis
То:	Daniel Riordan
Cc:	City Councilors; Malynda Wenzl; Jesse VanderZanden; Bryan Pohl
Subject:	Re: Zoning Change Request - Process Question - Sunset/HWY 47
Date:	Thursday, June 22, 2023 5:00:19 PM

Hello,

First, thank you for the prompt response. I look forward to another opportunity to address the concerns I have regarding this proposed zoning change(s) and subsequent development.

I do have a few questions regarding the process that I hope you'll be able to answer. I am unsure of how a developer goes about requesting changes in designation and what is required for the city to approve such a change.

1. Can you explain the process of changing zoning regulations? Who, ultimately, is responsible for allowing a total redesignation of the existing zoning?

2. How frequently is zoning completely changed (ie from NMU to NC)? When it is changed, is it done primarily at the request of the developer?

3. How frequently is density allowed to increase within current zoning regulations (ie from 13.8 units per acre to 15.43 units per acre). And, again, when it is changed, is it done primarily at the request of the developer?

Ultimately, as we embark on what is likely to be a long and arduous process for our local and disheartened neighborhood - we are trying to surmise the best course of action to have our voices heard in an authentic and meaningful way without impeding on city business and those who act in positions of leadership (many on volunteer status). It is a tricky balance, as I'm sure you're aware, between being incessant in our correspondence and the falsehood that we are complacent because of our silence.

I appreciate any light you can shed on the process so we can work together toward sustainable change - that does not negatively impact the daily lives and safety of lifelong Forest Grove Residents.

Thank you and with respect,

Laura Lewis

On Thu, Jun 22, 2023 at 4:14 PM Daniel Riordan <<u>driordan@forestgrove-or.gov</u>> wrote:

Good afternoon Ms. Lewis,

Thank you for taking the time to attend the neighborhood meeting and letting us know about your concerns. After the City's Planning Division receives an application for land use approval there will be additional opportunity to comment before any decision is made. As a neighbor, notice of any public hearings scheduled will be provided to you so can fully participate in the decision making

process.

In the meantime, please don't hesitate to reach out to me with any questions or comments you have.

Best Regards,

Dan Riordan | Senior Planner

City of Forest Grove | Planning Division

Direct Phone: (503) 992-3226

The Planning Office is now located adjacent to Forest Grove City Hill in the Development Service Annex at 1924 Council Street



From: Laura Lewis < Sent: Tuesday, June 20, 2023 7:55 PM To: Daniel Riordan < <u>driordan@forestgrove-or.gov</u>>; City Councilors < <u>CityCouncilors@forestgrove-or.gov</u>>; Malynda Wenzl < <u>mwenzl@forestgrove-or.gov</u>> Subject: Zoning Change Request - Process Question - Sunset/HWY 47

Hello Mayor, Councilors and Senior Planner,

My name is Laura Lewis and I live on Barnet Street in Forest Grove. I have just spent the evening at the neighborhood meeting regarding the proposed development by JT Smith Companies, including a change in designation of tax lot 1N331A000600 to Neighborhood Commercial and an increase in density for tax lot 1N331A000100 from 13.8 units/acre to 15.43 units per acre.

I have reservations about both proposed changes; but primarily the change of tax lot 600 - which - if granted - would allow for a fuel station and convenience store to be built on the 1.5 acre parcel of land directly behind both our "Welcome to Forest Grove" sign on the 47 bypass and our established residential homes.

We have been continually dealing with transient populations, drug paraphernalia, abandoned vehicles and other safety/health issues in our small neighborhood. Currently, for example, there is a large, occupied camper parked on Beal street - the only entrance to our neighborhood - making me feel unsafe as I venture out with my young son on walks, etc. I, personally, have called non-emergency three times in the last month for aforementioned issues/safety concerns.

I am gutted at the thought of a gas station being built directly behind our homes - with access increased through our neighborhood - compounding these above livability issues - and adding additional negative factors such as noise and light pollution and trash/garbage in the surrounding ponds/wetlands areas. The developer, who was in attendance at the meeting, would not budge on his plan to apply to the city for zoning changes - even at tearful pleas from our neighborhood members.

My understanding is that once the proposal gets submitted to the city, there will be a public hearing, but at that point, it will likely be too late to facilitate any legitimate change to the city's decision to allow the zoning changes.

I am hopeful that one of you, as Mayor, Council Members and Senior Planner can help direct me to the best course of action to fight against the zoning changes that would allow for the obvious degradation of our neighborhoods' beauty and safety for its current residents.

Thank you - and with respect for all that you do,

Laura Lewis

From:	Katie Waterstreet
To:	City Councilors
Subject:	Updated: zoning change request Sunset/HWY 47
Date:	Thursday, June 22, 2023 5:46:54 PM

Hello all,

Please excuse my previous email I spoke about the wrong location and out of my frustration and frantic concerns, I got my information mixed up Please replace that email with this one

Hello Mayor and Councilors,

My name is Katie Waterstreet and I live on Willamina Ave in Forest Grove with my husband and 2 young boys I am reaching out regarding tax lot 1N331A000600 to Neighborhood Commercial and an increase in density for tax lot 1N331A000100 from 13 8 units/acre to 15 43 units per acre

I am very sad to hear that our city would even consider this Lake Oswego developer's request to change the zoning and with it, the beauty and natural habitat of this town I understand our town is growing but is this how we want to grow?

We do not need a gas station and another mini mart built right next to a duck pond and 12 homes This will bring light, noise and air and trash pollution to that area

And 14 apartment buildings and 360 apartments (500 cars) to be built? This would bring way too much traffic to an already busy intersection at Bonnie and Sunset And, we only have 1 fire station How can 1 fire station cover more apartments?

Please say NO to JT-SMITH and his request to change zones They don't live here, they don't care about us residents or maintaining the beauty and functionality of that space Adding more units and allowing them to take away greenery and sidewalks is <u>not healthy</u> to our residents Please council, don't allow this to happen

Concerned and sad, Katie Waterstreet

From:	Dom Giansante
To:	Daniel Riordan; City Councilors; Malynda Wenz
Subject:	Proposed Tax lot via Sunset and Bonnie
Date:	Thursday, June 22, 2023 6:19:16 PM

TO: Forest Grove City Council members

RE: Tax Lot 1N331A00060 and Tax Lot 1N331A000100

Greetings to you all,

As a long time citizen of this town I would like to question the upcoming changes on the aforementioned tax lots. I do not believe, nor support the obvious degradation that would impact our beautiful environment, livability and safety near Sunset Dr. And Bonnie Lane. For too long, these past many years, especially since the pandemic, negative impactful scenarios have overrun the city and this could be yet one more our once serene town will have to endure.

As a proponent for advancing our community in a number of positive ways, I simply must discourage that it be done in this particular spot...so close to a beautiful wetland and duck pond and also to the adjoining neighborhoods. Until the other problematic issues surrounding our city are properly addressed, such as homelessness, environmental damage up and down highway 47 and lack of new and differentiated retail in more appropriate locations, I would suggest waiting on this venture, taking time to really decide the best course of action and placement of the proposed site.

I'm sure this and all propositions are difficult to manage and appeasing everyone, a similar task, however I'm deeply concerned with the environmental impact of a lot of these decisions...in particular this one that is so close to the wetlands.

Please reconsider your approval of this change to these two tax lots

Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,

Dom Giansante

From:	Kenneth Booher
To:	City Councilors
Subject:	Ken again
Date:	Thursday, June 22, 2023 10:25:58 PM

The ramifications regarding that squiggly line pencil dot. America's freedom of religion to. The Native Americans. Shintoism. Buddhism. Roe Vs. Wade. China telling us, Tuff cookies. Africa. Europe. Israel. Made its way around. That point end time. How where you the future, Virtual world people? Jupiter splintered projected towards Venus. The future? Are president's and congressmen and women. U.S senators. And I'm reporting those to the police again. Ken Booher

From:	Cheryl Bauer
To:	Malynda Wenzl; City Councilors; Daniel Riordan
Subject:	Tax Lot 600 Zoning Change Request
Date:	Friday, June 23, 2023 11:19:31 AM

Hello,

My name is Cheryl Bauer, my husband and I are both life long residents of Forest Grove, and have owned our current home for 10 years.

I am writing you regarding the proposed development by JT Smith Companies, including the change in designation of tax lot 1N331A0006000 to Neighborhood Commercial and an increase in density for tax lot 1N331A000100 from 13.8 units/acre to 15.43 units/acre.

I have reservations about both proposed changes; but primarily the change of tax lot 600, which, if granted would allow for a fuel station and convenience store to be built on the 1.5 acre parcel of land directly behind both our "Welcome to Forest Grove" sign on the 47 bypass and and established residential homes.

As I am sure you are aware, *we* (the residents of FG, but particularly the homes around this immediate area) have been continually dealing with transient populations, drug paraphernalia, abandoned vehicles and other safety and health issues. A gas station being added to this neighborhood, compounding the above livability issues, and adding additional negative factors such as noise and light pollution, and trash/garbage with the wetlands so close is frightening. My husbands family once owned this land before it was essentially taken from them when the state put the bypass in, the wetlands were taken care of then, the thought that you may now allow fuel tanks to be buried essentially in them is sad and disgusting.

I hope that you will listen and hear the feedback from the residents of your city and take their cries to heart.

Progress and growth is inevitable, but doing it properly takes time and thoughtfulness.

Thank you for your time, Cheryl Bauer Submitted on Friday, June 23, 2023 - 11:30am

Submitted by anonymous user: 174.204.199.60

Submitted values are:

Questions/Comments

What about the kids with all these homeless people approaching them our children do not feel safe I know me as a parent I don't feel safe anymore with them walking to the bus to get to school. We should not have to stress about our children going to school. This used to be such an amazing town how and what are we going to do about the children's safety. They should be our priority.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.forestgrove-or.gov/node/50237/submission/16748

"freedom"

is what is declared as another road is pounded into the land already carved up by so many it looks like the result of someone's first exposure to an etch-a-sketch

"freedom"

is what is pronounced with the breaking of ground on the now innumerable multi-hundred thousand dollar home developments that make it seem as if you are walking in a hall of mirrors

"freedom"

is what is shouted from the street corners as those who do not fit neatly enough into the prevailing socio-economic system are herded to barren gravel wastelands and told to be gone by 7 and not cause any trouble

"freedom"

is what is yelled into the back of a patrol car while someone whose humanity has been deemed insufficient listens to the arresting officer talk about their upcoming sabbatical vacation plans "freedom"

is what is screamed at me as I question the policy change regarding electric rates that continues the ever-increasing fattening of pockets for business at the expense of all else "freedom"

is what is professed when a "greenspace" is "cleared" by loud, oil-powered machinery during one of the hottest days of the summer in the name of "fire prevention" "freedom"

is what is recited as someone indigenous to these lands is stopped and questioned by police concerning the also indigenous psilocybins they carry unconcealed

"f you" is what I h				the develop	
the street corners,	the herding,	the parking	lots, the	time tables,	the police,
the cars, the					
the fire department,	the contractor	rs, the co	nstruction,	the laws,	the courts,
the council,	the city, ev	eryone reading	g this, the	e owners, t	he
managers, the w					
regard others who do	not fit neatly into	o status quo ex	pectations,	all of it and	all of us

Hello,

I am more concerned with the conversion of the 1.5 acre's behind the welcome sign than the other location listed on this paper in front of me.

I have a few concerns starting with the traffic flow and control issues that potentially a gas station could bring. Way to many times a day we have people coming up Beal rd. for no reason other than to turn around. Fewer of thous people than all of them like to rev their engines when they turn around and burn out past our neighborhood on their way out. Also, almost daily we have teenagers park at the end of Beal behind the sign smoking pot, while others go into the trees and bushes to do whatever drugs they are doing back there.

So, the potential increase of traffic and the noise is a concern and a problem that already needs to be solved; not added to. Then with the movement of the area becoming heavier/changing as there are three potential roads to access the area. About twenty years ago the roads were changed to their current layout and one potential, Beal and Sunset, was closed off; including our neighborhoods ability to leave our homes. If opening that back up is not a consideration that leaves 47 and Sunset and entry and exit roads in a area that already is at strange angles and curves and difficult for some nearby residence to exit their homes, on Sunset.

I have a concern about the homeless population, that seems to be growing, coming over and having more things left over to possibly steal and squat in both during and after construction. It's already bad enough nothing is being done about them in the area and neighborhoods they are currently affecting, we don't want them coming closer to us. Enough people come by and dump trash along the streets on Beal Barnet and Main as it is without adding more for the wind to carry into our yards.

To pose another concern for pollution. The possibility of a gas station will introduce the very likely event and inevitability to have spills of oils, chemicals and gas on the ground. I will bring it to your attention that very close to this area is a fairly diverse and large population of various plant and animal species in the water shed around the highway and for some distance in more than one direction. I have personally seen at least five different large bird species, and more than a few times coyote. Half of the homes on Barnet have cats that roam outside constantly; one house lets their dogs roam for an hour completely unattended up and across the streets. That is not even trying to count the different plants that could be affected that the animals also count on when things get into the ponds and water flows that have the ability to

poison the plants and animals that live here; and the increase of traffic potential to kill the local animals by impacting them with car's.

There are plenty of problems in this area already without having to worry about new construction that it feels way too much like you, the city, do not give a hot damn about. Not a day goes by that we can't here someone's car stereo as they go by on the highway because it's so loud. Most days there are cars not only over on 47 and Sunset but up Thatcher rd. and David hill that we can here there revving engines from the dog park down the road all the way around the roundabouts until the car is so far gone it's finally out of range to here. Three, four, five cars a night starting at 9pm and going till 2am while families are trying to enjoy the evening and children sleep.

The drug using teenagers that park around Beal and Barnet who get angry when they get told by us or FGPD that we don't appreciate them coming to our street doing their drugs at midnight, or having sex outside out houses; or pulling up and having a dance party in the middle of the street that can be heard for four houses at 2am and they should leave. They don't like that in there entitled minds so they yell and cuss and angerly speed off, endangering everything including children and animals, and sometimes come back to do angry loud drive Bys for no reason.

Instead, I feel the city should solve the existing problems such as fixing the sidewalks that are reported to be in disrepair and apologize to the homeowners who, like me, have been threatened with fines if we don't fix the sidewalks ourselves. The homeowners did not put in the trees causing the problems or the sidewalks effected by the trees. At least figure out why none of the sidewalk tripping hazards that are reported are being fixed by anyone. I have sent dozens of emails reporting such things to jbrown@forestgrove-or.gov with the engineer's department? over the last 4 months; not only have I not gotten an 'thank you for the report' but I have seen only one problem fixed. I was given 30 days to fix a city caused problem or get fined for the city not fixing what they/you caused and wont fix.

Homeowner

Nick Holub

From:	Kenneth Booher
To:	City Councilors
Subject:	Ken again
Date:	Saturday, June 24, 2023 4:35:37 PM

Exxon Valdez oil spill. Gulf coast oil spill. These affects were greatly concerning. Before we went off to wars to end all wars concerning that point end time. The information I obtained regarding the Middle East crises was classified. Government. To have inside information regarding those two wars to. Irregardless. I'm going to have to reconcile with myself. This e-mail go around? Pretty darn clear. Now isn't it mayors? Ken Booher

From:	Kenneth Booher
То:	City Councilors
Subject:	Ken again
Date:	Saturday, June 24, 2023 7:14:39 PM

Cocoa plant and opium poppy. It exists. Simplest of an equation. As a function of physics? We're dependent on. As we build up? It's going to wither away and die. As we build up more? It can come back but in a less addictive form and as mass consumption. Or something else. I'm not singling you out marijuana growers? But I suspect naturally occuring marijuana. All those strains of course lead back to that. And it's obviously safe. And why make it complicated? Grow naturally occurring marijuana to keep an eye on it. Not for consumption of course. I'm not sure if marijuanas the last of it? And there's the magnetar and are artificial growing of crops and are natural habbitats. Ken Booher

From:	Kenneth Booher
To:	City Councilors
Subject:	Ken again
Date:	Sunday, June 25, 2023 4:43:09 PM

If all of you are waiting for something to politically form? It's my conclusions that caused the problem. So we're going to have to take different approach. And because I don't care for this anymore. Hey! We can run with this. And I am a resident of Forest Grove. Ken Booher

From:	Kenneth Booher
To:	City Councilors
Subject:	Kens again
Date:	Sunday, June 25, 2023 5:51:55 PM

My dad and my mom worked. And my mom specifically? Wanted me to have a better life than them. I think In matters? Put my 30,000 dollars in a c.d account at the U.S Bank branch for the community. I can't take out a 10,000 dollar bank loan. It wouldn't make any sense. A 5,000 dollar loan? Yes. But with the ladder? Iv put my credit off to a later date. It is? My car! To. I don't care to have? Ilegally! Being driven on it? Your streets! There are two aspects with me as all of you know? I can't be ilegally doing things. ! Be gruntled but nicely said. And Im reporting Keith and Bob. Kaiser Hospital and friends. And the good faiths, To the police again.Obstructing? A.K.A, parking ticket people. Menecing and harrassing me? Some piddly diddly theft attempts? Stocking me? Toss in a few unknowns? I highly doubt I'll be pressing any charges. Just to give all of those two good aspects a heads up to. All of your friend mayors, Ken Booher

From:	Kenneth Booher
To:	City Councilors
Subject:	Ken again
Date:	Monday, June 26, 2023 6:33:43 AM

It's my conclusions. My capacity to think and conclude, is what's causing this mayorial conference get together from not happening. And I just don't care for this anymore. As with regards to my input yesterday? They take the matter very seriously keeping people out of county jail. So it's going to land on me and I'm not seeing any problems with it. Mayor Wheeler. Mayor Winzle. And I'm going to decline of course. Politics doesn't make I'm afforded the same protections from the law just go away. See? It's over there. It's called are judicial branch. All of you friend, Ken Booher

From:	Cindy Ertell
To:	City Councilors
Subject:	testimony for June 26 meeting
Date:	Monday, June 26, 2023 11:06:31 AM

My name is Cindy Ertell and I live at Hawthorne and 15th in Forest Grove. I had intended to give this testimony in person tonight but I'm not feeling well so I will send this via email.

I want to thank the council for their work on the difficult situation of homelessness. I am not a stranger to this plight, with three close family members having experienced this a few years ago and one still choosing to live on the streets today. It has given me compassion for those living in these conditions.

I realize that any decision the council makes will leave someone unhappy. However I am opposed to the site the city is leaning towards for a couple of reasons. One is the proximity to homes and businesses. At the risk of being labeled a NIMBY, my opinion is that the presence of campers in the heart of our downtown will paint a very unwelcome picture. It will be a deterrent to people wanting to frequent the businesses nearby. Many have witnessed the actions by those who are mentally ill or substance abusers or both. With no screening of the residents of the camp, it behooves us to be cautious about where we allow this camping to take place. I appreciate your efforts to forbid camping in our neighborhoods.

Some say that there is nothing to be afraid of. However, I've had my life threatened quite graphically and been physically assaulted by someone who is mentally ill and drug fueled. I think it's prudent, being an older woman, that I should be careful about my safety. I wouldn't walk uptown on a nice Summer evening to have dinner out if I had to walk past a camp where people are doing drugs, shouting and generally making me uncomfortable.

My suggestion is to find a location that is not so close to the heart of downtown. Possibly the city can find some property that could be leased temporarily. Even better, I hope the city can find a vacant building that would allow for campers to pitch their tent inside, protected from the elements. If it's further from services, then maybe Grove Link could add a stop to their regular route. I am very concerned about what this population will do from the hours of 7am to 7pm if they have to take their tents down and wander the streets with their belongings. It doesn't seem sustainable or humane.

I'm also worried about the criminal element that would likely set itself up near the camp. I've listened to testimony from neighbors living near camps in other areas of Washington County that are having to deal with drug dealers showing up every night to do their business. They express their frustration at the noise going on all night long. It has changed the face of what was previously quiet, safe neighborhoods.

Let's do what we can to help those who want out of this lifestyle while protecting our town and taxpayers. Thank you for your time.

From:	April Heying
To:	City Councilors
Subject:	Illegal Fireworks July 4? 13th Place/Emily Street
Date:	Monday, June 26, 2023 11:28:41 AM

Dear Councilors,

Thank you so much for the hard work and concern you give to our city. The last few months have been especially demanding of your time and effort with the concerns of residents regarding the homeless pods.

I just wanted to ask one question: what are your thoughts about regulating residential noise abatement, specifically loud outdoor music and illegal fireworks?

I noticed that McMenamin's Grand Lodge has mitigated its outdoor music with several speakers installed on posts. Thank you for this improvement!

As you may recall, I have sent you several emails about our neighbors, and the problem with one of them persists. My husband had to call the police yesterday. Regarding illegal fireworks: last year two families set off several mortar rockets, our next-door neighbor and the neighbor kitty corner across the street. It is doubly concerning because there were small children present.

Once again, thank you for your leadership and dedication to our beautiful Forest Grove,

April Heying

