

Kattie Riggs

Subject: FW: Beaver Creek Road (Thimble Creek) Concept Plan- March 18, 2020 City Commission Hearing Agenda
Attachments: BRCP -- final testimony -- 3-18-2020.docx

From: Elizabeth Lindsey <eaglsing@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, March 13, 2020 5:02 PM

To: Christina Robertson-Gardiner <crobertson@orc.org>

Subject: Re: Beaver Creek Road (Thimble Creek) Concept Plan- March 18, 2020 City Commission Hearing Agenda

Please share with the City Commission. Is this method of submittal adequate?

March 18, 2020

Oregon City Commission:

The cottage industry/home occupation provisions for the Beaver Creek Road/Thimble Creek Concept Plan area benefit Oregon City and the region, because:

- The city has a low jobs-to-housing ratio. For this reason jobs lands in this area were made available to the city in 2002 and 2004. Because Oregon City has inadequate jobs for its residents and is a bedroom city, city residents spend valuable time commuting out of the area and the regional transportation system has become congested with inadequate regional funds to reverse the congestion. All that driving also hurts our climate with carbon-dioxide emissions. With more Oregon City jobs city residents could work close to home and many residents could get to work without driving.
- The city benefits financially from having jobs in the city. Employment lands bring in more income than the services they require unlike residential.
- Instead of trying to recruit business from outside the city, businesses which often financially benefit the outside organization more than the city, it should be recognized that Oregon City residents have good entrepreneurial spirit like others do and can begin successful businesses in Oregon City. What they lack are affordable options for beginning businesses. Many businesses start in the founders' home because the business isn't strong enough initially to afford rent in a business park or the like, but Oregon City zoning does not allow most types of businesses in its residential areas. These factors make it difficult for residents to start businesses in Oregon City. Because the Beaver Creek Road/Thimble Creek Concept Plan area was made a growth area for Oregon City to supply Oregon City with jobs lands, it is a natural location for the city to allow residents to start home businesses and to create jobs.
- Allowing the Thimble Creek Concept Plan area to be a business-incubator residential area, can give the city experience with expanded cottage industry/home occupation to determine if it might be compatible with other areas in the city.
- The Planning Commission carefully considered the resources that successful business require such as space, storage and vehicles and connected those needs with carefully conceived zoning code. They desired for Oregon City to be welcoming of business, to be business friendly.

Sincerely,

March 18, 2020

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Elizabeth Graser-Lindsey