

Don Wheeler, 19898 S. White Lane, one of the sellers of the Wheeler Tree Farm property. My parents purchased this land in 1963 and over the years raised “Nuts, Cows, Christmas trees and Kids”. When we arrived, there were only 4 homes adjoining this subject property. Right now, there are about 260 homes with zonings of R10, R8 and even smaller lots at the Payson Farms neighborhood. Our family did not resist any of these developments or zone changes because we fully understand the purpose and value of the Portland Metro Urban Growth Boundary. By limiting growth to within the boundary lines, we realize many benefits to cities that are providing services and creating nice neighborhoods within those existing city limits. The greater Portland area is obviously a very desirable place to live and our father came to realize that “the highest and best use of this land is for housing”. It is the desire of my sister and 2 brothers to fulfil his wish to provide homes for 77 families.

The decision by the Wheeler Family to partition off the Open space with 5 old growth Fir trees in this plan demonstrates that we want to continue to provide a benefit to our community. We strongly believe in the value of people being able to enjoy the open space, as we have experienced on this land over the past 54 years. As this City Commission is aware, very few landowners have “donated” an open space and therefore this is very unique. This park will provide a place for recreation and be a reminder of the history and previous use of this land as a U-Cut Christmas Tree Farm.

The Wheeler Family is fully in support of the R8 zone designation as supported by the Oregon City Municipal Code. Thanks