

Kattie Riggs

From: James Nicita <james.nicita@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 10:25 PM
To: Rachel Lyles Smith; Rocky Smith, Jr.; Frank O'Donnell; Denyse McGriff
Cc: Tony Konkol; Laura Terway; Kattie Riggs; Bill Kabeiseman; Carrie Richter
Subject: Consent Agenda Item #8g, proposed Res. 20-05 Modification of Planning Fee Schedule

Commissioners,

I write in full recognition of the challenges the Commission and staff are experiencing both with the coronavirus pandemic and the widespread reactions to the comportment and behavior of the mayor. Needles to say, I can both sympathize and empathize with what you are being asked to do as public servants under stress, without any compensation or salary.

I do feel compelled however to submit these comments notwithstanding the heavy June 17, 2020 meeting agenda because the issue is something I have raised before, but apparently city processes have not changed.

Specifically, you may recall last July I appeared before the Commission during citizen comment to express concern that a land use resolution adopting new storm water & grading design standards had been placed on that meeting's agenda under the "consent agenda." I offered the opinion that land use matters require Goal 1 public process, and at a minimum a noticed and regular public hearing.

That proposed resolution was removed from that evening's agenda completely, and in time the matter returned as a proposed ordinance, with its own public hearing.

While I recognize the pressure of the times, I again regret to see a land use resolution, this time establishing a new planning fee and raising other planning fees, placed on the consent agenda. Even land use fees are land use matters, and require a separate, individual hearing, not just as a matter of law but as a matter of good public policy and fairness to those who will be required to pay the fees.

I respectfully request that this item be removed from the consent agenda and continued to a future meeting during which it will be properly noticed for its own public hearing.

I will refrain from making my substantive comments until that time, should the Commission act to continue the matter. Hopefully things will have settled down by then.

James Nicita
Oregon City