

Aaron Panko

From: Anita Engberg <anitaengberg@centurylink.net>
Sent: Monday, September 27, 2021 4:47 PM
To: Aaron Panko
Subject: Subdivision Case #SUB 21-09

Mr. Panko,

As a person living in the Morningside area near the Meyer Farm, I am writing to voice my concerns about the proposed subdivision of that area. I went to the meetings several years ago when extending Hilfiker St. and developing the Hilfiker Neighborhood Park was being considered. That sounded tolerable, but to now learn that the city is proposing building 138 single family homes on the nearly 30 acres of the Meyer farm is very worrisome. My understanding was that that lovely parcel would be left as open space as our city becomes more and more crowded.

Traffic: Have you sat through lights at Commercial and Hilfiker as cars hurry through in three possible directions (many without signaling their intentions)? Try driving Hilfiker when the church next to Trader Joe's lets out, or cars depart there after a sporting event. The Hilfiker /Commercial problem intersection seriously needs to be addressed.

For the east end of the Hilfiker extension to be at the junction of Pringle and Battle Creek at a blind curve on a hill belies belief. It will become a major thruway between Commercial and Pringle/Battle Creek with cars heading for I-5. Obviously there is already one subdivision across Pringle, with the hillside south between it and Reed St. to be developed. Add 138 more homes to use that corridor and there will be a massive traffic increase. And this doesn't even address the traffic Costco will generate.

I believe the City of Salem was impressed with the study of the white oaks at Bush Pasture Park, and the need to preserve as many as possible. Hopefully this same concern would be shown at the Meyer farm area. Please.....we need all the tree canopy we can get to counteract our greenhouse gases. More houses = more cars, but less trees? No, we need to preserve the white oaks for sure, and as many other healthy trees as possible as this plan goes forward.

Salem is growing, I understand that. Please consider less housing density, more tree canopy, and address the seriousness of the extension of Hilfiker and plan for the increase in traffic before it happens.

Thank you for allowing me to express my concerns.

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