

## Aaron Panko

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**From:** Kassi Roosth <kassiroosth@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 30, 2021 4:57 PM  
**To:** Aaron Panko  
**Subject:** Case No. SUB21-09

Hello Aaron Panko,

My name is Kassi Roosth and I would like to express my concerns in writing for Subdivision Case No. SUB21-09: Transforming Meyer Farm into a housing development complex.

I feel that there has to be another solution instead of this proposed location. Oak Savannah habitat is now a rarity in the Willamette Valley and it needs to be protected. The Oregon White Oak is one of the most fire resistant trees native to the valley and a keystone species that supports over three hundred native species. An example of species that depends on the oaks for habitat is the slender-billed white breasted nuthatch. Beyond its ecological role the White Oak is culturally significant to the Kalapuya people and is a source of pride for the people of Salem. Currently the Oregon White Oak population is on a rising decline with less than 5% of the native ecosystem remaining. 150 years ago, the Willamette Valley was almost completely covered with Oregon White Oak trees. The valley was a mix of grasslands and oak trees, otherwise known as an Oak Savannah. Oregon White Oak trees and savanna habitat deserves to be protected. Please consider another location for this housing development project.

Sincerely,  
Kassi Roosth