

Aaron Panko

From: Cindy Hogan <cindyhogan@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, October 1, 2021 11:47 AM
To: Aaron Panko
Subject: Subdivision case number SUB21-09 Comment on proposed development of Meyer Farm in South Salem: need a park like Bush Park instead.

Dear Mr. Panko,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Meyer Farm, Subdivision case number SUB21-09. I am deeply opposed to more development in the area. The streets in the area are already congested (especially Hilfiker). This would add to that. Given the area, some of the proposed street alterations would likely present safety issues. The development would diminish the area's livability for existing homeowners.

Instead, we need another park like Bush Park that could serve the South Salem area. There are no existing parks large enough – Battlecreek and Woodmansee are overcrowded due to their small size.

Turning the Meyer Farm into the Meyer park would preserve the pastoral scene, provide quiet areas for walking that Woodmansee does not, and preserve the native wildlife. It would also preserve the historical buildings on the farm that are part of Salem's heritage.

I am also deeply concerned that the city is not doing enough to preserve the Oregon oaks. The Costco development was – as predicted – a disaster for the oaks. We need to protect what Oregon oaks we have left – they are important to our local environment, especially the native birds.

Finally, the 1.4 million dollar value of 30 acres in the city is remarkably low. (I am relying on the Statesman Journal for this figure) I am concerned that the City could be getting itself into a legal entanglement with the trust beneficiaries. If the cost is really that low, the city would benefit greatly from buying it for a park.

Sincerely,

Cynthia M. Hogan
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