

October 24, 2023

Questions asked by Willamette Week, and our response

1. The city elections officer says your petitions contain inaccurate information. Do you agree or disagree? Please elaborate.

We disagree with the statement that the petitions contain inaccurate information.

The petition statements were carefully worded to avoid anything that may be construed as a false statement. Our objective when writing the petition statement was to present the major areas of concern that were expressed by the community during the planning and approval process of the Transportation System Plan and the Kingston Terrace Master Plan. These concerns remain with those plans as approved by the King City City Council.

2. If the petitions include inaccurate information, would the committee be willing to correct and refile the petitions?

We believe that all of the information in the petition statement is accurate. However, since our intention is to provide accurate information, if we were shown evidence that information was not accurate, we would make changes and refile.

3. Can you clarify whether the recall committee opposes the UGB expansion under any circumstances or simply objects to the details of that expansion. Please elaborate.

The recall effort is not related to the UGB expansion, nor is it related to the planning efforts by King City. We accept that development will occur in this area, and support planning for that development.

The recall effort is focused on the major concerns expressed by community members and environmental groups throughout the planning process. Most of these concerns relate to the effect that the planned route of the extension of Fischer Road will have on existing communities, the Tualatin River and wildlife habitat. The planned Fischer Road extension directly links Roy Rogers Road to 99W, through the Bankston Nature Preserve (protected by a conservation easement; document attached), within several hundred feet of the Tualatin River, and through the heart of established communities including Edgewater.

The Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation District describes the importance of The Bankston Nature Preserve and the ongoing restoration effort:

<https://tualatinswcd.org/projects/the-bankston-family-nature-preserve/>

The planned Fischer Road extension will be a regionally significant collector road. The city's consultants project an average of 8,600 vehicles per day west of 131st and 12,900 east of 131st on this planned extension (projections are for the year 2040). The city estimates 40% of this

traffic will be cut-through traffic. We believe there is a solution which is simple and viable: move the collector road north in place of an already planned neighborhood route.

Kingston Terrace (the King City expansion area) has a significant amount of significant natural resources including Class 1 Riparian Area and Class A Upland Wildlife Habitat. Kingston Terrace is approximately 520 acres and has about 320 acres of developable land due to the wetlands along the Tualatin River and deep ravines containing perennial creeks. We are not opposed to the planned 3,600 homes for the area but believe there are significant challenges given the sensitive natural areas.

Several environmental groups have expressed concern about the effect of the planned location of the Fischer Road extension on the Tualatin River and wildlife habitat. These groups include Tualatin Riverkeepers, Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge, Friends of Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge, Treekeepers of Washington County, and 1000 Friends of Oregon. Glenn Fee, Executive Director of Tualatin Riverkeepers wrote an opinion piece for the May 25, 2023 Valley Times News. Columbia Land Trust, which holds a perpetual conservation easement over a portion of the Bankston property, has written letters expressing concern about extending Fischer Road across the Bankston property, including a portion that would be impacted by the proposed Fischer Road extension.

I have attached the letters submitted by these organizations for your convenience.

Thank you,

Randall Olsen

Attachments:

Tualatin Riverkeepers letters, dated Sept 9, 2021 and Oct 19, 2022

Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge letter, dated Feb 7, 2023

Treekeepers of Washington County, letter dated June 14, 2023

1000 Friend of Oregon testimony, dated June 13, 2023

Glenn Fee, Executive Director of Tualatin Riverkeepers, Opinion piece, May 25, 2023

Columbia Land Trust letters: August 4, 2022 and October 18, 2022

Recall Committee statement to Tigard Life October 22, 2023

Conservation Easement Agreement