

EGBERT Sammy

From: Received by
City of Coburg
Sent:
To: FEB 18 2022
Subject:

KIRSTEN BARTLETT <KBART10460@msn.com>
Friday, February 18, 2022 2:02 PM
CouncilorAlexander; CouncilorMcConnell; councilorlehman@ci.coburg.or.us;
CouncilorBell; CouncilorBlain; CouncilorFox; COBURG Mayor; EGBERT Sammy
Annexation, Rezoning and Development of SE 107 acres

Mayor and Councilors,

I have to write to share some of my thoughts and concerns about the proposed development across the freeway.

We listen to most all the planning and council meetings. After this past council meeting a few weeks ago I'm so bummed and disappointed. Some of my observations and concerns:

At its essence, any sort of industrial or large commercial development flies in the face of the idea of maintaining Coburg's agrarian roots and "small town" look and vibe.

The current industrial zone seems plenty big for our little town. And between the businesses there and the many small businesses in town there are jobs available, from entry level to trades.

Once again, while on my walk this morning, I was overwhelmed by the retched fumes coming from, we think, the trailer manufacturer's paint process. We actually have to close our windows sometimes. And the fumes have given me headaches. The DEQ and LRAPA say "they have the permits they are required to have". Lovely. I can't imagine any more folks having to put up with such poison, should who-knows-who move into a new industrial park.

I've read the city's Vision Statement and Comprehensive Plan. They were both key to our decision to move here. I won't copy all the elements I find pertinent, but in the C.P. of particular note: Goal 5, Policies 4,7, 14; Goal 9 Policy14; Goal 14, policies 39 and 41.

There is no way any development across the freeway won't impact traffic through town. We will have more people cutting through our neighborhoods to avoid the light (as they do now, via Finnley and E. McKenzie for one). More vehicles speeding down Pearl, and Willamette, making crossing for pedestrians and kids on bikes etc. even more dangerous.

Finally, I was struck dumb by the developer's answer to a question posed by a councilor at the meeting, about the how difference between campus and light industrial designation would impact the development. He replied (paraphrasing) that he and his family would make less money if it were campus. And? Why is his profit margin our concern. WHY should his business endeavor's bottom line be the responsibility of our town and its residents? Why should the people who LIVE here bear the burden of ugly, noisy, smelly, traffic-increasing development - for his personal profit. He gambled, and there's no reason I can think of that his loss should be our problem. (As an aside - how presumptuous that he's already got Bigfoot in escrow - or was he told this was all a done deal?)

I sound frustrated and angry. I am. The green fields that support the migrating birds, the elk, the variety of wildlife.....

The beauty that surrounds this special place is slowly going to vanish. And we'll never get it back. We'll be Kiezer, or Woodburn. For what? How can this be justified?

Thank you for your time.

Kirsten Bartlett

*****WARNING: This email has been sent from OUTSIDE the City of Coburg. Please proceed with caution*****