

CC handled as
8/11/08

City Council,
City of West Linn,
22500 Salamo Road,
West Linn, OR, 97068

August 11, 2008

Re: Wildlife Habitat Ordinance PLN-08-02

Dear Councilors,

I urge you to **support** the proposed Goal 5 wildlife Habitat ordinance, but with an **additional Recommended Action Measure #12** to be added:

#12. Within 3 months of the adoption of this ordinance Planning Staff will submit specific recommendations regarding Phase II policy options to the City Council. These options will include identification of existing and new incentive programs, additional limited protection options, and full protection options for Wildlife Habitat.

While adoption of the 2002 West Linn Wildlife Habitat fieldwork is long overdue, as the Ordinance now stands it is **unenforceable** and toothless, which is an unsatisfactory outcome for 9 years of planning and financial resources.

The Action Measure above simply **ensures** that the Planning Staff recommendation on page 6 (or circle 14) for Phase II - "provide direction to the City Council after investigating all options related to applying additional protections for the threatened upland wildlife areas"- is implemented, rather than forgotten or ignored .

Sincerely,



Gregory Morse
18335 Nixon Avenue, West Linn

CE. Handed out 8/11/08
now

August 11, 2008

Wildlife Habitat Inventory Testimony

Re: Amending Goal 5 of the Comprehensive Plan to Provide Wildlife Habitat Areas Map and Inventory with Associated text changes

Dear Members of the West Linn City Council,

To the best of my knowledge, **SB100 Goal 5 of the Oregon State Legislature was enacted in 1971**. The City of West Linn is woefully overdue in its responsibility to comply with this mandate and in accordance with the "spirit" in which it was intended. All other Council discussion of "sustainability" for West Linn is moot without fully embracing this obligation to the full extent of the law and to be a leader in surpassing its goals

That said, I have concerns about the limited scope of actual protections in this ordinance and whether this inventory is so generic that it might allow for more abuses than protections by not naming specific species to West Linn.. We know that ordinances are passed by government agencies to "show" that they have simply complied with a mandate, but allow for easy manipulation or dismissal because a lack of reinforcements are included in the statute, allowing wiggle room for public and private enterprises to conduct business as usual--to destroy unique wildlife habitat for short-term gain because a specific species was not on the inventory list. Or worse yet, municipalities publicize green and sustainable preservation policies that are inconsequential or ineffective.

Every month that goes by, tens of acres of wildlife habitat have been and continue to be destroyed in and around West Linn. But, is a weak mandate worse than nothing? I believe that that this council can do better.

Therefore I request that Council

- 1) approve the current inventory, and**
- 2) ask the Council for another motion to have staff return within 2-3 months with SPECIFIC proposals and "incentives" to encourage property owner's compliance as part of Phase II. This would include river acreage with a new inventory specific to the region.**

Sincerely,
Linda Hamel

Linda Hamel
5661 Cascade Street
West Linn OR 97068
503-655-3325