



Memorandum

Date: September 4, 2013
To: West Linn Planning Commission
From: Chris Kerr, Economic Development Director
Subject: CDC-13-01 – Email testimony regarding proposed “Cut the Red Tape” amendments to the West Linn Community Development Code (CDC).

Attached is public testimony regarding CDC-13-01, received via email since the testimony packet delivered August 21, 2013.

Pelz, Zach

From: Kerr, Chris
Sent: Tuesday, September 03, 2013 8:59 AM
To: Pelz, Zach
Subject: FW: MNA Resolution for "Cut the Red Tape" CDC changes
Attachments: MNA-Resolution-20130827.pdf

Zach - draft a memo with - "more information received" and include this - I may have more. Thanks

Chris Kerr, Economic Development Director Economic Development, #1538

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-----Original Message-----

From: Marylhurst Neighborhood Association
Sent: Friday, August 30, 2013 12:04 PM
To: Kerr, Chris
Cc: Wyatt, Kirsten; doanne4421@comcast.net; kariookee@aol.com; jim@koll.us
Subject: MNA Resolution for "Cut the Red Tape" CDC changes

Hi Chris,

As we discussed on the phone Wednesday, please find the attached resolution from MNA and include it in the public record for the proposed CDC changes.

Thanks!
Jef Treece
MNA President

Marylhurst Neighborhood Association
<mailto:MarylhurstNA@westlinnoregon.gov>

,
P: (503) 657-0331
F:
Web: <http://http://westlinnoregon.gov/marylhurst>

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Marylhurst Neighborhood Association "Red Tape" Resolution
Approved by majority vote of the members in attendance on this day, August 27, 2013

Whereas, the following West Linn key land use planning documents place a strong level of importance on involving neighborhood associations and citizens in land use planning:

1. Oregon's Statewide Planning Goal One, Citizen Involvement
2. West Linn's Comprehensive Plan Goal One, Citizen Involvement
3. West Linn Municipal Code Chapter 2.100, Neighborhood Associations
4. Imagine West Linn, Vision Statement;

And **whereas**, many of the proposed Comprehensive Plan and Community Development Code (CDC) changes in "Cut the Red Tape" proposal contradict these goals;

Therefore, Marylhurst Neighborhood Association hereby resolves that all current Comprehensive Plan and CDC language that protects and supports Citizen and Neighborhood Associations involvement in land use planning should be retained.

Specifically, but not limited to the following:

1. Retain "de novo" hearings
2. Retain NHA right to appeal land use decisions without cost.
3. Retain current requirement that all subdivision and design review applications be heard in public by the Planning Commission and not the Planning Director, even those that are smaller than 25 units.
4. Retain all current requirements for applicants to meet with NHAs.
5. Retain current tree protection codes.
6. Retain current requirement that not less than two Planning Commissioners or City Council members may call up for review a decision made by the Planning Commission or Planning Director

Attested and submitted 08/30/2013
Jef Treece
MNA President

Pelz, Zach

From: Sonnen, John
Sent: Wednesday, September 04, 2013 11:43 AM
To: Pelz, Zach; Kerr, Chris; Thornton, Megan
Subject: FW: Red Herring Amendments

John Sonnen, Planning Director
Planning and Building, #1524

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From: Gary Hitesman [<mailto:ghitesman@gmail.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, September 04, 2013 9:38 AM
To: CWL Planning Commission
Subject: Red Herring Amendments

1. The spirit of George Orwell resides in COWL.
2. I contacted LCDC and changes to the Comprehensive Plan were not submitted to their agency as required by Oregon Land Use law.
3. Citizen Vision Goals . . . NOT! I request the PC start a ORS 197.319 complaint of their own.
4. This whole proposal is actually offensive. The action in itself violates the intent, purpose, and meaning of #3.

IMO, you are gutting Planning in West Linn and nailing on the cover to the coffin.

Gary Hitesman

Pelz, Zach

From: Sonnen, John
Sent: Wednesday, September 04, 2013 11:44 AM
To: Kerr, Chris; Pelz, Zach; Thornton, Megan
Subject: FW: Red Herring Amendments

John Sonnen, Planning Director
Planning and Building, #1524

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From: Gary Hitesman [<mailto:ghitesman@gmail.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, September 04, 2013 10:31 AM
To: CWL Planning Commission
Subject: Re: Red Herring Amendments

After reviewing the laughable code amendments, two things are clearly evident.

These changes will make attending planning hearings irrelevant as well as meaningless.

#1. This is all about the money. Chris Jordan cannot afford to pay staff to do their own due diligence. I had a staffer approach me at a Clackamas County function who stated that they were only given a certain amount of hours to do a task and that it was simply not enough time to do the work. IF the commission were to look into this, you would find that the planning staff is under funded and being starved to death. Of course, the WTP staff findings were another indicator of not allocating the right amount of time/money to properly vet the application.

#2. The WTP process proves, once and for all, that the City Manager is a terrible planner, hates the community process of public participation, and that planning/community advocates have won the debate. The only way for Chris to get what he wants is, apparently, by shifting the burden of cost onto the individual at the same time using considerable city resources to hire lawyers who will shut down any and all planning discussion when he starts to lose the debate, assuring rampant and unchecked private developer growth.

#3. The Planning Director edits and censors comments. I am conducting a test.

IMO, the only appropriate action is to recommend to the CC that they fire the City Manager. I know they appointed you all; but one good laugh deserves another.

Have a nice day.

On Wed, Sep 4, 2013 at 9:38 AM, Gary Hitesman <ghitesman@gmail.com> wrote:

1. The spirit of George Orwell resides in COWL.

2. I contacted LCDC and changes to the Comprehensive Plan were not submitted to their agency as required by Oregon Land Use law.

3. Citizen Vision Goals . . . NOT! I request the PC start a ORS 197.319 complaint of their own.

4. This whole proposal is actually offensive. The action in itself violates the intent, purpose, and meaning of #3.

IMO, you are gutting Planning in West Linn and nailing on the cover to the coffin.

Gary Hitesman

Pelz, Zach

From: Sonnen, John
Sent: Wednesday, September 04, 2013 12:56 PM
To: Pelz, Zach; Kerr, Chris; Thornton, Megan
Subject: FW: Cut the Red Tape

John Sonnen, Planning Director
Planning and Building, #1524

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Public Records Law Disclosure This e-mail is subject to the State Retention Schedule and may be made available to the public.

From: Curt Sommer [mailto:curt.sommer@comcast.net]
Sent: Wednesday, September 04, 2013 11:54 AM
To: CWL Planning Commission
Cc: Teri Cummings; Roberta Schwarz; Kevin Bryck; Karie Oakes; Ken Pryor
Subject: Fwd: Cut the Red Tape

Dear PC Members,

In lieu of public testimony, I am writing to reiterate my vehement opposition to these proposed changes. We need to cut the BS as opposed to the Red Tape. This gets repackaged every year and sold to us with a different marketing plan. The bottom line is that it has more to do with short-circuiting citizen input rather than enhancing economic development. If these changes were to be passed we might as well just do away with the CDC and the comprehensive plan altogether because they will be meaningless.

As citizens first, and Planning Commissioners second I strongly urge you to reject these proposed changes.

Regards,

Curt Sommer

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Cut the Red Tape

Date: Tue, 06 Aug 2013 16:58:28 -0700

From: Curt Sommer <curt.sommer@comcast.net>

To: cwl_planningcommission@westlinnoregon.gov

CC: Teri Cummings <teric518@comcast.net>, Karie Oakes <karieokee@aol.com>, mjones@westlinnoregon.gov, jcarson@westlinnoregon.gov, jtan@westlinnoregon.gov, jkovash@westlinnoregon.gov, tfrank@westlinnoregon.gov

To the members of the Planning Commission:

I am writing to express my opposition and extreme displeasure with the

proposed code changes. This is nothing more than a thinly veiled attempt to give carte blanche to developers. The citizens are the ones who have to live with short-sighted and myopic development projects. I strongly urge you to categorically reject these changes, because there is a purpose for regulations.

And why were these codes changes scheduled for a hearing on the same day as an LOT open house? Seems like way too much coincidence to me.

Sincerely,

Curt Sommer
18490 Lower Midhill Dr.
West Linn

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Regards,

Curt Sommer
Energy Advisor/Writer
503-407-1826
<http://ezsolarhouse.com>