

**From:** [Karie Oakes](#)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 20, 2022 7:08 PM  
**To:** [Planning Commission \(Public\)](#)  
**Cc:** [citycouncil@westlinnoregon.gov](mailto:citycouncil@westlinnoregon.gov)  
**Subject:** Public Process- Copy of my Oral Comments tonight

**CAUTION:** This email originated from an External source. Do not click links, open attachments, or follow instructions from this sender unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. If you are unsure, please contact the Help Desk immediately for further assistance.

Dear Chair Walvatne and Commissioners:

I am writing to let you know that I think the public processes used for adoption of the Willamette Falls Drive (WFD) Concept Plan and the planning of the 10th ST Interchange Project were flawed. In effect, people of the City, Planning Commissioners, the Mayor and Councilors were led to believe there would be future opportunity for meaningful public input for roundabouts in the projects. I have watched all public meetings of the Council, Planning Commission and Transportation Advisory Board regarding these projects and have come to the conclusion that the processes were not completely understood. Consequently, we are left with an amendment to West Linn Transportation System Plan (TSP) as the Willamette Falls DR Concept Plan that includes a "potential roundabout " and no criteria in the CDC for roundabouts; and our City Engineering Department is planning roundabouts with consultants for the School District and ODOT for their respective projects. There has not been any opportunity for public participation even though staff led everyone involved to believe there would be.

West Linn resident, Teri Cummings, has provided the Planning Commission and Council with substantive evidence that the processes used did not comply with Oregon state statute and West Linn Community Development Code. I fully concur with her assessment of the processes.

Amendments to West Linn Comprehensive Plan and CDC regarding roundabouts should have preceded adoption of the WFD Concept Plan or in the very least, occurred concurrently. But the cart was put before the cart in order to meet the schedule of these bond funded projects. And thanks to Ms. Cummings' public record request, we know ODOT considered the 10th ST Interchange project that initially entailed three roundabouts as a planning exercise because the plans were inconsistent our TSP. The City Engineer did not disclose this publicly and instead said there would be opportunity for public participation regarding roundabouts, knowing full well that the 10th ST Interchange Project was a City Initiated Project and would not have quasi-judicial hearings. I can't believe I was duped because he also told the Neighborhood Association Presidents Group that the plans would be available on the website when they were 100% complete. That's not public participation.

The Planning Manager interpreted state statute saying the roundabouts in the 10th ST Interchange Project are minor and therefore do not necessitate amendment of the TSP by legislative process. Ms. Cummings provided state statute for major improvements that indicates that amendment of the TSP is required because the project includes plans for a new alley way. The Planning Manager did not address Ms. Cummings comments. The City Council did not address Ms. Cummings comments. I think this issue needs further consideration. Please send a letter to the City Council requesting it. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Karie Oakes