

PAULY Linda

From: MOTT Gregory
Sent: Friday, February 05, 2010 7:51 AM
To: 'Lee Johnson'
Cc: JONES Brenda; PAULY Linda
Subject: RE: Statement against expansion of UGB

Thank you Mr. Johnson; this e-mail will be included in the record of the joint planning commission public hearing on 2/17/10. The entire planning commission record will be forwarded to the Springfield City Council and Lane County Board of Commissioners when they conduct their hearing on this matter later this year.

Gregory Mott

From: Lee Johnson [mailto:jleejj@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2010 4:37 PM
To: MOTT Gregory
Subject: Statement against expansion of UGB

Hello:

I am writing to urge the planning commission *not* to expand the UGB into rural farming areas. I live in the "West Jasper / Jasper Bridge Area", and was happy to learn at the Feb 3rd open house that this area has likely been dropped from consideration. However, I still think it important to state my concerns, both in the event that the plan is significantly changed before a final boundary is determined, and to advocate for the preservation of other similar areas.

The West Jasper area is accessible 4 miles south of Main St, only via Jasper Rd. This is a narrow, two lane road which winds along the river and already carries high levels of traffic at peak hours of the day. It is a dangerous road for pedestrians and cyclists, and this access problem would only be exacerbated by further residential development in the Jasper area. It does not seem that it would be cost effective to widen this road or provide other city services to such a remote location. Note that these development issues also apply to the "Wallace Creek Road Area".

More importantly, the West Jasper area is a region with prime agricultural soils. Such land is a limited resource, and provides many benefits to the city of Springfield. Land that can support farms and market gardens will be essential to meet the growing demands for local sustainable food sources. Pastures and tree lines provide aesthetic and environmental benefits such as wildlife habitats and groundwater recharge. Finally, many of the people living here grow extensive gardens, raise chickens, pigs, sheep, and cows. These are valid uses of rural land and part of a rich local heritage of self sufficiency. The eventual urbanization that would occur from inclusion in the UGB would take away these rights from existing residents. I know that other regions around Springfield represent a similar mix of farms and rural homesteads and I encourage the commission to avoid expanding the UGB into these areas as well.

Thank you,

James Lee Johnson
85740 Jasper Park Rd, 97455
Tax lot: 1802221100700