From: Bonnie New <bnew1@live.com>
Sent: Monday, July 16, 2018 2:12 PM
To: Dustin Nilsen <d.nilsen@ci.hood-river.or.us>
Subject: WAP - Resident input

Dustin,

Please except this email as testimony for the hearing tonight regarding the westside area plan, to be held in front of the city of hood river planning commission.

I'm very much in favor of the city's plan for densification as described in the Westside area plan. We need this in order to create affordable housing. The densification required also requires a high level of lifestyle amenities such as parks and open spaces.

I'm very pleased with the variety of parks, trails, and open spaces that are shown in the Westside plan. I have two specific concerns that I would like to bring to the attention of the commission. The first is the need to develop codes and/ or regulations that will ensure that the parks and open spaces are actually built as planned. This development will take place over a long period of time, And without very specific standards, it could be easy to overlook points like green space and connectivity.

The second point is with regard to creating a large public park on the west side. I live on the west side, off of Frankton, and my closest public park is Jackson Park. We very much need a large public park on the west side, and I remember that during the WAP research and development phase, our consultants kept saying that they had been instructed not to draw in the planned Westside area park, kitty- corner from Westside elementary school. This is absolutely the time and place to get that park site back on the agenda, front and center. It's a terrific location, and in fact the plan developed for the park was not only comprehensive but reflected a very high level of engagement from diverse elements in the community. From my point of view, the Westside area park should be a given, unless some specific contraindication arises.

Thanks very much for this opportunity to offer input.

 Bonnie New
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