

Exhibit- 5 Public Comments - Heron

From: Heron <luckyneron@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 16, 2018 8:44 AM
To: Bonita Roznos
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Subject: For hearing file no. PLN18-0009 - Objection

Attn: Benita Rosnos, Deputy City Clerk, City of Shoreline

RE: Written objection to Hearing Examiner and Shoreline City Council regarding discussion file No. PLN 18-0009: The request to vacate a portion of the ROW at 25th Avenue NW.

I am writing this email on behalf of myself and the other adults in my family who reside at this address: Linda Perry-Forbes, Dean Forbes, Samuel Forbes. We are against vacating the 25th Avenue right-of-way.

My family has lived next door to Richmond Beach Reserve and the 25th Avenue right-of-way for over 25 years. During that time we have enjoyed the wild openness of this land and worked with the community to preserve this area. When the community received a grant in 2002, we were active participants in planting native foliage and providing water from our property for them.

We are very concerned about the idea of vacating the 25th Avenue right-of-way. It has provided a significant open space for Shoreline residents who live, drive, bike and walk along 22nd Avenue. It provides a fabulous view of the sound and is a great reminder of how lucky we are to have open space valued by our community. As I have been looking into this situation and become educated about our local planning documents, it is obvious that the City of Shoreline is concerned about maintaining open space wherever it exists in our city.

It appears to me that the hearing criteria have not be met:

A. The vacation will benefit the public interest.

This vacation would provide NO benefit to the public interest. Allowing a private developer to destroy public open space would be harmful to the community that now enjoys this wild habitat.

B. The proposed vacation will not be detrimental to traffic circulation, access, emergency services, utility facilities, or other similar right-of-way purposes.

This right-of-way has been designated as open space, designed to "preserve and enhance views from public places of water, mountains...as a valuable Civic asset." (CD 19). Allowing a private developer to construct and plant on this parcel will be detrimental to the purpose of preserving and enhancing this Civic asset. In addition, this parcel is an environmentally sensitive steep slope.

C. The street or alley is not a necessary part of a long range circulation plan or pedestrian/bicycle plan.

This right-of-way IS a necessary part of the Parks PROS plan, approved by the Shoreline City Council, where they state that the right-of-way will be added to the Richmond Beach Preserve park space adjacent to it.

D. The subject vacation is consistent with the adopted comprehensive plan and adopted street standards.

The City's comprehensive plan specifically states a goal to "preserve and enhance views from public places of water and mountains" (CD 19). It also states that the City wants to "preserve significant trees and mature vegetation" (CD 16) and "encourage native plant species where possible" (CD 17). Selling this parcel to a private developer is NOT consistent with this plan.

Finally, the developer who is petitioning the City to vacate this portion has already undermined the site by cutting down trees, building a structure, removing vegetation and grading within the space - ALL without permits. We are concerned that he may continue to act contrary to due process and perhaps cause more harm to the site.

The City of Shoreline has a long history of supporting the work needed to protect and enhance the 25th NW right-of-way and Richmond Beach Reserve park. Please continue your support of this valuable Civic asset and keep the right-of-way as open space.

Respectfully,
Anne Heron
19033 22nd Avenue NW
Shoreline, WA 98177

"There is always the possibility of joy" - Susan North