



Save Helvetia
www.SaveHelvetia.org

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Protecting Helvetia's farmland, forestland,
cultural heritage and natural resources

February 14, 2014

Ms. Theresa Cherniak, Principal Planner
Washington County Planning and Development Services Division
Department of Land Use and Transportation
155 North First Avenue, Suite 350-14
Hillsboro, Oregon 97124

Re: Agri-tourism Issue Paper Review and Comment

Save Helvetia submitted earlier remarks, dated January 27th and directed to Michelle Pimentel. We send those comments again, and after review of the Long Range Planning Issue Paper No. 2014-02, also submit these comments.

We could find no reference to the impact of alcohol and drugs in the issue paper. We referenced this in our earlier submittal and would reiterate it here. We have experience with increased event-related use in our area and think it would be an oversight not to reference this but also to act soon to cause an assessment to take place so that this can be factored into planning and decision making.

While event saturation was referenced, there was no discussion about the potential for seasonal saturation in the summer. Being within "Portland's Playground", rural Washington County has shown and has further potential to be a big draw for warm weather events. We encourage the concept of seasonal saturation be referenced in the issue paper.

The existing noise ordinance treats Sunday as a day of quiet, as it does Saturday after 7PM. We think it wise to bring this out front in the issue paper as noise is referenced as a leading concern to many. The existing noise ordinance is, we believe, ill prepared for agri-tourism. The hours of quiet are but several we

referenced in our earlier submittal. There must be a defined noise control process in order for an agri-tourism program to be successfully managed.

On page 8 there is reference to “grandfathering-in” smaller parcels with already a history of events. We think this deserves fuller discussion as this was not raised in the discussions. We are concerned that events on smaller parcels will lack the space to mitigate traffic, dust, noise, and other aspects of agri-tourism.

Last, there is no mention of private non-profit charitable events sponsored in tandem with a farm operation. This should be referenced in the issue paper.

Respectfully,

Robert Bailey
for the Board