

Linda B. Peters  
25440 NW Dairy Creek Road  
North Plains, OR 97133  
<[lindabpeters@gmail.com](mailto:lindabpeters@gmail.com)> (503)647-2301

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To: Washington County Board of Commissioners

Re: Ordinance 749

I'm here to urge a fifth alternative to those laid out for you in the Staff Report.

**5. Engross into Ordinance 749 only those portions of the current draft which deal with roads south of Highway 26 in the original IAMP study area.** For the Cornelius Pass expansion issue, proceed to Staff option 2. In addition, refer to staff :

- o further study of the hydrogeology and agricultural infrastructure issues inherent in road construction or expansion north of Highway 26 in the IAMP area, prior to adoption of new routes, reclassifications or expansion plans;
- o a thorough exploration of alternatives to expansion of West Union Road as a major east-west commuter arteria, within the context of the TSP Update;
- o leadership in creating an inter-agency work group to develop standards for buffering urban and rural/agriclultural uses of land and major roadways which divide urban from rural reserves or areas.

Although the Staff Report discounts the need for hydrogeologic and other impact studies prior to specific development applications, I would remind the Board that once a route is adopted by Ordinance, it is adopted. The difficulty of remapping or eliminating a "planned" road facility -- rather than just conditioning an application to re-engineer some element to (supposedly) mitigate negative impacts--is virtually insurmountable. The time to avoid serious mistakes is before you've set them into law.

Please reconsider your choices for Ordinance 749, and go with Option 5..

Linda Peters  
Chair, CPO8  
Chair, Washington County Citizen Action Network (WC CAN)  
Board Member, Save Helvetia and Helvetia Community Association