

# In the matter of an application for a modification. Of C-CU-2337-07

Subject property: 14427 SW Alfalfa Road, Powell Butte, Oregon 97753-The Roman Catholic Bishop (Church)

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AUG 13 2024

Crook County  
Community Development



To Crook County Planning Director , etal

Please consider me a person of interest in the above matter for a reconsideration of the modification of the conditional use permit for the property as set out above.

I am highly concerned that this would be a mistake to modify and a huge detriment to those of us in the Exclusive Farm Use classification. With an any increase in the volume of traffic and the attitudes of the drivers in the area this will and has caused accidents on Alfalfa Road. We find it difficult to move farm machinery from field to field with the increased traffic and have been confronted by angry drivers when they are slowed down because of our need to move equipment. We also find it necessary to fertilize our fields and spray for weeds and that farm activity for some reason is irritating to drivers and visiting vacationers. We have been yelled at for slowing traffic hence making them a bit late for their tee times at Brasada. Haying season is an especially difficult time for the increased traffic in EFU zone.

It is impossible for the various law enforcement agencies to get quickly to our area,when needed, and likely the proposed use would put pressure on those agencies. We have school buses on Alfalfa Road and adding the proposed change would likely add concern to that service. Occasionally cattle drives are necessary to move animals from one field to another and when confronted with having to wait a few minutes the drivers are angry and on one occasion I have had them "gun their vehicles" and shoot right through the middle of the cattle drive. Accidents on Powell Butte highway have increased by an alarming amount. Speed is a constant problem and the junction at the proposed intersection is quite congested. We also have a serious problem at the Powell Butte Post Office intersection (well known by all) and any amount of increased traffic coming and going to the proposed property would be a threat to all that travel that road.

In reviewing the information submitted to you I question some of its accuracy. The say "there are 124 beds on site but I would question that they have never even had as many as 50 of those beds used. The Catholic church while having planned as a retreat center has used the property very minimally over the years of ownership. They have primarily used the facility for "day use" for quilting clubs and the like. They have in the past had visiting priests at the property, but again minimally.

Another concern is that increased use brings out walkers that like to exercise and take walks on

the shoulder of the road. We have no sidewalks and poorly adapted shoulders. I have lived and farmed on my property for nearly 30 years and find that walking around the edge of my property that abuts the road to "check fencing etc" is extremely dangerous given the increased volume of traffic.

In conclusion should you agreed to this change as farmers in the EFU Zone we would be put at additionally jeopardy.

Please deny this application. Sincerely, Linda Stelle. 541-306-1725

