



LUP Hearings <lup-hearings@multco.us>

Testimony for Multnomah County Land Use Planning Commission - Metro's NTM

Juntu Oberg <juntuc@gmail.com>
To: lup-hearings@multco.us

Sun, Feb 26, 2023 at 12:47 PM



External Sender - Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links, and Requests for Payment or Login Information.

Good day Commissioners,

Thank you for considering the proposals for a Nature Park open to the public in the portion of The Burlington Creek Forest proposed by Metro.

My name is Juntu Oberg, and I am part of the Leadership Team of Northwest Trail Alliance, the local mountain bike advocacy & stewardship nonprofit, but today I am here to submit my comments of support for this property as someone who has lived, worked, and played in Multnomah County for over 44 years.

At a young age, when my large family moved to SW Portland from The Philippines, we established ourselves as local restaurant owners. An immigrant's story is often centered on family and supporting the family's business. As a child, my after-school activities consisted of bussing tables, washing dishes & getting my homework done somewhere between. As I got older, I worked in the kitchen & waited tables. Sharing just this story is not why I am here. I am here to explain how important it is for our community to have access to nature close to home.

Access to nature this close to Portland helps working families like mine have more opportunities to gather and enjoy the benefits of the outdoors without the associated costs and burdens of destination travel.

A recent article titled "Generational Outdoor Joy" by Korean American writer Eugene Pak sums up how I feel about the work being done to create these outdoor spaces. In it, he shares the following "Happiness is only real when it is shared. I want my joy of the outdoors to spread through my community like wildflowers, from the younger generation who have the opportunity to spend their lives enjoying the outside world to my elders who are finding an appreciation later in life."

The work Metro already has and will continue to do to protect and preserve this land is so critical for the health of our community. 70% of voters have voiced their support for this.

Spaces like Burlington Creek and the North Tualatin Mountains open up the possibilities for everyone in our community to experience this Generational Outdoor Joy.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Juntu Capistrano Oberg
Ph: 503.704.9321

Exhibit H.15