

**Written Testimony of Andrew Jansky**

T3-2017-9165 / T4-2017-9166 / EP-2017-6780 Public Hearing

**North Tualatin Mountains Access Master Plan**

1-31-2023

Members of the commission, Thank you for the opportunity to address this case,

I am providing this testimony in support the staff report recommending **approval**

I was a member of the original Metro citizens advisory group for this project, and represented the Northwest Trail Alliance as the Advocacy Director. I have about 950 emails so far since 2014 on this project – our local public process is a test the resolve of any volunteer.

The Metro planning process was thorough, inclusive and forward thinking. This process was about preserving open space for nature as well as saving irreplaceable open space for future generations.

From the start, it was clear that natural resource protection was a primary goal of the process. Metro scientists provided a well-prepared approach, including best available science and it was grounded in Metro natural area management practices.

Many of the **same** arguments against this new park have been brought up since we started this planning process in 2014. The most recent land use application preparation has addressed and resolved them in a strategic manner.

I have been involved in numerous advisory groups/committees and processes, both as public and as a consultant, over the years, and I can honestly say this was the best group I have participated in.

You know the process is successful when others are advocating for your position, and you are advocating for theirs. In the end, I thought our group provided good direction for staff to develop a successful plan.

I would also like to commend Metro staff for running an excellent public process and continuing the technical development and response to the planning requirements. I have reviewed most of the 300 pages and it, shall we say it is very thorough and included significant efforts to minimize impacts and show **how each of the required approval criteria are met, or how they will be met with proposed staff conditions.**

Metro has recently completed two similar nature parks at Newell and Chehalem Ridge and we expect this project to be of the same exemplary caliber. These Metro projects include all of the same objectives and criteria within the Metro mission, and will be a gift to future generations.

Since voter support for new parks was overwhelmingly given by metro voters, in multiple elections, with over 500,000 favorable votes last election. Please approve this proposal so it can advance to the next stage in the public process.

Thank you  
Andrew Jansky