

Multnomah County Board of Commissioners  
c/o Multnomah County Land Use Planning Division  
1600 SE 190<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Portland, OR 97233-5910

**To: Multnomah County Chair Pederson, Commissioners Meieran, Jayapal, Brim-Edwards and Stegman**

**From: Mike Lindberg, Former Portland City Commissioner**

**Subject: Approval/non-approval of mountain biking trails in Metro properties adjacent to Forest Park**

On Thursday, October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023, the Board will be holding a hearing for approval/non-approval of a Type IV Comprehensive Plan Amendment that would change the current zoning of Metro owned properties on the North Tualatin Mountains just north of Forest Park.

I am writing to oppose this amendment. My reasons are as follows:

The bond measures that Metro took to the voters promised that the funds would be used to “preserve natural areas, protect fish and improve water quality.” It is my opinion that voters would not have passed these measures if they knew the funds were being used to create mountain biking areas. When working on issues with Forest Park, we found that public surveys by PSU indicated that 80% of the public opposed additional cycling in Forest Park. I believe the same would apply to areas north of Forest Park.

Geologic studies have shown that mountain biking has a negative impact on the environment where steep slopes are used as biking trails. The City of Portland is endorsing a policy of having a wildlife corridor all the way from Forest Park to the Coast Range.

As a former Parks Commissioner and avid hiker in Forest Park, I hope you support the precious resource of land north of the park.

Sincerely,

Mike Lindberg

Former City Commissioner