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## Additional questions about pertinent criteria North Tualatin Mountains Access

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Hi Kevin,

I have been in conversation with Metro – and have read all of the public testimony and meeting summaries surrounding their decision to go forward with access trails and parking.

The trajectory of my concerns are the restoration and preservation of habitat and wildlife compared to desired human recreational activities. So, for example, I support the purchase and restoration of the proprieties in the North Tualatin Mountains area, but do not support granting access to those restored areas given what happens when parking lots and trails emerge. I instead support better caring for and managing trails and natural areas that already exist, with taxpayer dollars, rather than extending the reach. I believe the Comprehensive Plan and underlying Sauvie Island Plan – support recreational uses – but does not necessarily support restoring habitat and then granting more human access.

Is this specific enough to address “criteria” in the sense that the County considers? For example, to grant Metro a “park” status – further extends the number of lands and trails that need to be cared for, once human access is involved. My view is that we should be caring for what we now have in terms of trails and natural areas – as a whole (local, city, county, current Metro holdings, State Parks) – before we grant Metro an extended reach with tax dollars that will need to be renewed. Regardless of where the dollars get assigned, it is the same taxpayer pocket. I can point to testimony that others have written to Metro, can compare and contrast to what I know has occurred on Sauvie Island at Wapato, etc.

I’m not asking your opinion on the merits of my views – but if these are in a sound direction, in terms of criteria and testimony. If anyone else needs to weigh in – you are welcome to pass on this question. I’m spending a fair amount of time trying to understand all the points of view – and don’t want my testimony to be meaningless in terms of the County’s criteria.

Thanks!

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