



Testimony Opposing Approval of Temporary Permit T2-2025-0046

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To: Multnomah County Hearings Officer

From: Ron Roberts
34828 SE Carpenter Lane, Gresham, OR 97080

Date: March 5, 2026

Subject: Testimony Opposing Approval of Temporary Permit T2-2025-0046

Dear Hearings Officer,

I am writing as a neighboring property owner to formally oppose Temporary Permit Application T2-2025-0046. I urge the Hearings Officer to deny this application on the grounds that the Portland Water Bureau (PWB) failed to comply with the conditions attached to its prior temporary permit and continued the temporary use in violation of Multnomah County Code after that permit expired.

Multnomah County issued Temporary Permit T2-2024-0060 to PWB in September 2024 for temporary trailers. The permit contained the following binding conditions:

Condition 1 – Permit Expiration [MCC 39.1185(E), MCC 39.1185(G), MCC 39.8750(A)]:

This temporary permit runs from September 7, 2024 to September 7, 2025. The time extension provisions under MCC 39.1195 are not applicable.

Condition 5 – Removal of Temporary Uses [MCC 39.1185(E), MCC 39.1185(G), MCC 39.8750(A)]:

All temporary trailers and temporary uses shall cease and be removed from the property within five (5) days of the expiration of this permit unless a new Temporary Permit is granted. If a new temporary permit is to be applied for, the property owner or their representative shall submit the application at least 60 days prior to the expiration of this permit.

The required submission deadline was July 10, 2025. PWB did not file Application T2-2025-0046 until September 2, 2025 - **54 days late**. Under the unambiguous language of Condition 5, missing that deadline **triggered an obligation to remove all temporary structures no later than September 12, 2025. PWB did not do so.**

A code compliance complaint filed in early November 2025 prompted a County investigation, which confirmed a zoning violation had occurred. Nevertheless, instead of requiring removal, Multnomah County issued a Request for Voluntary Compliance on November 21, 2025, and approved the new temporary permit just four days later on November 25, 2025.

The record is clear: **PWB failed to meet the application deadline, continued a nonconforming use past permit expiration, and received accommodation rather than enforcement.** This is not the outcome that private property owners in similar situations would expect. Multnomah County routinely holds private applicants strictly accountable for permit conditions, application deadlines, and code requirements. Equal application of those standards demands the same accountability here.

Permit conditions must mean something. Retroactively approving a new permit after confirmed noncompliance erodes the enforceability of land use conditions and creates the appearance of preferential treatment for government agencies.

I respectfully request that the Hearings Officer deny Application T2-2025-0046 and require compliance with the conditions of Temporary Permit T2-2024-0060 and applicable Multnomah County Code.

Thank you for your time.

3/13/26, 3:26 PM

Multnomah County Mail - Testimony Opposing Approval of Temporary Permit T2-2025-0046

Ron Roberts

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