

PWB proposed water filtration plant

1 message

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I invited a WASCO Tribe elder to visit the site of PWB's proposed water filtration plant in rural East County. After seeing the artifacts found on the property by the Meyer's family and the proximity of the site to the headwaters of Johnson Creek, he felt that there was sufficient evidence that a village may have once existed at the location of the site. " His testimony was read at the August Land Use Meeting by Paul Willis and I trust you have seen it.

I have read the lengthy rebuttal by PWB regarding this. First, I find it offensive that two respected historians have been discounted by the report. I was on the Portland Water Bureau's Advisory Committee along with Pat Meyer (her husband's Grandfather (Ernest) farmed the land in question and found and documented the artifacts). I find it interesting that the Advisory committee was never informed about a survey until I asked in an email well after the committee was "finished". I was told in the email that there was an archeological study done but no details were given to me. Later I found out that the survey was just a "walk over". Don't you think that a serious researcher would have asked neighbors who live along the street facing the site if they had information regarding artifacts found on the property? Pat and Doug Meyer still live on Carpenter Lane. I plowed through the 99 page report and tried to understand their reasons for not doing a "dig". I am baffled that "cost" was mentioned by the Portland Water Bureau. These are the same people who have begun with a \$350 Million project that was OK'd by the Portland City Council and has now run that price tag up to \$2 Billion! Cost wasn't on their minds when they purchased two homes on Carpenter Lane for almost \$2 Million! Part of one of the properties will be used for pipelines and the houses will be "offices" -- wow! what ever happened to construction site trailers?! I thought Oregon cared about the preservation of the Native American culture. Let's have a thorough archeological survey at the site to determine whether or not there was a village. Why is PWB not trying to determine the truth? Maybe there wasn't a village -- without a proper study, we will never know. It is hard to imagine if the \$2 Billion project begins and evidence is found that there was a village, the project will be stopped. Let's be realistic! We could possibly disrespect Native American history. Please insist on a more thorough study, including an archeological cultural survey and subsurface testing of the site witnessed by community and tribal representatives, before approving the application. This should not be a "condition for approval," as survey findings may impact the application decision process. PWB saw the necessity of performing an archeological survey BEFORE its application was approved, see PWB's 2020 October Project Definition Report. I am simply asking you follow their lead and perform a more thorough survey BEFORE an application decision is made.

Respectfully submitted,

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