

Character of the Area

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I love the night sky in my rural area, it's very dark with a lot of visible stars on clear nights. There is very little to none when it comes to light pollution in my area. There are coyotes, owls, hawks, and doves that frequent my property. I have seen a couple of herons flying by just this month around dinner time (June 2023). About once a year in the mornings deer are often seen crossing the road I live on as they travel to their next feeding area.

As far as safety, living far out from the city has its advantages as not many criminals or unwanted strangers are interested in our farm/agricultural community. I love the fact that the fire station is only 1-2 miles away and feel safe knowing that they can respond in a timely manner should we ever need it.

On our small farm we have chickens ranging in age from 6 months to 4 years. We cultivate blackberries on our property as they are such a sweet treat. We have a garden and container boxes where we love to grow and eat fresh foods. The year-round stream that runs through our property contains frogs that sing every evening in late spring through summer adding a wonderful sound of county to our lives.

I commute to Sandy Oregon during the work week (8am and 430pm) and rarely see farm equipment on the roads and never see commercial truck traffic until I reach Hwy 26.

If the water filtration plant comes in, the character of the area will change, and many more outsiders will be coming into our small rural farm community increasing the chance of crime.

Commuting times will change drastically for me with all the commercial truck traffic that will be in my area with the construction of the water filtration plant. I will also be exposed to hazardous situations with these trucks and their potential for accidents and chemical spillage. Massive amounts of hazardous chemicals will be used in daily plant operations. PWB expects 1,300 trucks per year to transport tons of chemicals and waste on our roads, even in dangerous weather conditions. This presents a constant, critical risk to our community and already limited emergency resources.

Pleasant Home Road has its quirks, as there are many potholes and narrow places to walk next to the road. The speed limit is 45 but traffic often travels 60+ which makes walking unenjoyable for me. Any further future commercial truck traffic on this road would be unbearable.

Picture: see attachment

Heron in yard at home address. Dated 8/12/2017.

