

Dear neighbors:

I want to apprise you of a situation that is brewing in our neighborhood.

- Mr. Curtis Sorte (not a property owner of Brook field or Spring Meadow) owns 14 acres of landlocked property north of our subdivision that is zoned for one residential home.

(Parcel 2 of Linn Count, Partition Plat 2020-49.

- Mr. Sorte was granted a 27ft by 1,000 ft easement by the Albany City Council on June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021, for the cost of \$1.00 to build a road that will run through the wetlands and riparian designated areas to access his property. Although the easement shows a straight 1000 ft path, surveyors have already placed flags for a longer circuitous route through the wetlands to his property.

- The Calapooia Watershed Council has expressed concern regarding the impact of constructing the proposed road for property access City staff also expressed concerns during Council meetings.

### **What does this mean for our entire subdivision and community?**

#### **•Environmental destruction**

- Damage to wetlands and riparian areas adjacent to the Calapooia River and Oak Creek.
- The loss of up to 80 trees in the tree canopy that are 30-100 years old
- The destruction of wildlife habitat for owls, osprey, eagles, turtles, fish, deer, rabbits ,etc.
- The cement trucks, lumber trucks, asphalt trucks, road traffic required to build this “driveway” to his home will push silt and debris into the Calapooia River and Oak Creek.
- Devaluation of property values in our neighborhood.

#### **•Safety of families, children, property owners**

- The construction vehicles that will be driving down Chinook, onto Salmon, and then Moose Run for months or years will impact traffic and livability and safety to our children who play in this area.
- Potential fire danger to the wetlands and areas adjacent to our neighborhood from ongoing construction and increased access.
- Increased access to transients camping with potential increase in crime, trash, and fire danger.
- Potential unauthorized use of the new road for motorcycles and dirt bikes, which in turn may further damage the wetland.

The signs currently posted at the hammerhead/trail head clearly outline this as a nature area, and prohibit motorized access. City Council has clearly disregarded this.

We pay HOA dues to help ensure that the neighborhood is maintained, guidelines for livability are adhered to, and our property maintains its value. The home or dwellings built on this property will not be part of the HOA, and will not be held to these same standards.

Residents of our neighborhoods were not notified prior to the easement being granted. The Albany City Council indicated during their hearings that they had no **legal** obligation to notify any of the residents of this neighborhood regarding the easement, nor do they have to notify us of any changes or amendments to the easement. None of the City Council actually visited and walked the site prior to granting the easement to see the destruction that would occur. Mr. Sorte declined an invitation to meet with homeowners,

Please, please, call, write, email your council member, the City Manager and the Mayor and make your concerns known. I have included contact information for all.

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