

Elise Keim

From: Linda Seltzer <lseltzer@alumni.princeton.edu>
Sent: Saturday, May 16, 2020 12:36 PM
To: Elise Keim; bkiegel@redmond.gov; srice@redmond.gov
Cc: Steve Fields
Subject: May 20 Hearing, File LAND-2019-00399 and 00400 - Penny Lane

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Dear Sharon Rice, E. Keim and K. Biegel:

I am writing this letter to provide formal testimony for the May 20 hearing on the Penny Lane Development project.

(1) I am writing to state my opposition to any development on that corner that is not low income housing with rentals for 30% or less of the median income. For years, King County has emphasized a housing near transit plan to provide the marginalized people of the community with the opportunity to have housing near transit. The county has been particularly interested in low income housing near transit and has been purchasing properties located near transit. This location qualifies as being near the future light rail stop and the Redmond Transit Center.

Instead of using one of the few remaining pieces of land in the neighborhood to provide housing for the retail workforce, senior citizens, persons with disabilities and persons exiting homelessness, the city has chosen to zone the area in a way that encourages luxury apartments, the opposite of the intentions of the county.

I wish that the developer would re-think it's plans, not emphasize personal profits, take advantage of the federal low income housing tax credit, and build 24 600-square-foot apartments renting for 30% or less

of the median income. That would be in line with the objectives of regional government policy and community awareness. I am advocating for 600 square feet because I believe that the trend of 300-400 sq. ft. low income apartments does not provide sufficient quality of life for senior citizens or for single parents.

The city should not be enabling further development of luxury housing downtown.

I have copied Council Member Fields on this testimony because he has listened to the concerns of community members on the issue of development.

(2) I attended the previous hearing and submitted an inquiry at that time. No one ever responded to my question. I asked for specific details on whether it is legal for persons to have grilling and barbecuing on the decks of their apartments or condominiums. Remember that 1 block away from this site, there was an apartment fire and a four-plex of apartments was burned to the ground. This happened about a year ago. We do not need a repetition of fires in high density housing. That fire was 25 feet from the housing further up on the hill and the heat from the fire went into our apartment building down the hill that night.

In addition to the issue of fire safety, the smoke pollution from grilling in high density housing gets into other people's apartments and results in poor air quality. This affects senior apartments. There are 3 senior apartment complexes intersecting with 80th St. in this neighborhood.

The last information I received, a couple of years ago, was that the city doesn't have a fire code and gets the code from an international fire safety body. But this organization relaxed its codes.

So I have no idea what the law is in Redmond.

No one replied to my inquiry on this matter.

This testimony is therefore also a formal request for information on what the specific law is in Redmond concerning whether residents can grill or barbecue on the decks or patios of apartments, condominiums and other high density housing, such as townhomes surrounded by apartment complexes. I expect this information request to be fulfilled, public records requests are supposed to be fulfilled.

I will send one other matter of testimony in a separate e-mail and it isn't related to these two items.

Sincerely,
Linda Seltzer

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Elise Keim

From: Linda Seltzer <lseltzer@alumni.princeton.edu>
Sent: Saturday, May 16, 2020 12:53 PM
To: Elise Keim; srice@redmond.gov; Kalli Biegel
Subject: Additional testimony

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This e-mail provides additional testimony for the May 20 hearing on Penny Lane.

After the previous meeting, I noticed that two attendees of the hearing spent a disproportionate amount of time after the hearing having a discussion. I don't know how much time after the meeting the staff spent talking to these two people. But they left so much later that I have concerns about this giving some attendees a disproportionate amount of time as compared to others.

This e-mail is therefore a public records request for any correspondence with the two other public attendees who presented comments at the previous hearing on February 24 with this developer about the developments adjoining Penny Lane, 170th Ave and 80th St.

I need to have an assurance that while my question wasn't replied to, other people were not being treated like representatives of the seniors in our apartment complex.

Remember that it had been necessary for me to make a request for the developers to stop looking at and addressing only the other two people and to start treating me as an equal member of the public in the meeting.

I am very concerned that after the meeting the issue of disproportionate attention to some residents over another had occurred when the two other people were in a discussion after the meeting for an extended amount of time.

I want to make it clear that no other tenants in the building speak for me and that I expect to have equal time and equal consideration of my concerns, not have two people dominate a long meeting after the meeting while my questions are not considered or answered.

I write this because there are problems with one tenant trying to take over in our apartment complex and I have to stand up for myself and make it clear that someone else doesn't make decisions for me.

Sincerely,
Linda Seltzer

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Elise Keim

From: Linda Seltzer <lseltzer@alumni.princeton.edu>
Sent: Saturday, May 16, 2020 1:00 PM
To: Elise Keim; srice@redmond.gov; Kalli Biegel
Subject: Re: Address for this testimony

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Will someone please forward my comments to hearing examiner Sharon Rice? Her e-mail does not appear on the notice even though she is listed as the hearing examiner. I took a guess, but it didn't work.

On Sat, May 16, 2020 at 12:54 PM Linda Seltzer <lseltzer@alumni.princeton.edu> wrote:

The following is my information for this testimony.

Linda A. Seltzer
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DO NOT BUILD PENNY LANE II

CHRISTINA BOLOBANIC

17107 NE 80TH ST APT 2

REDMOND WA 98052

OVERVIEW

BUILD A FENCED DOG PARK, WITH AN UPDATED FREE LIBRARY, A SEATING AREA, WITH POSSIBILITY OF A COMMUNITY GARDEN

SPECIFICATIONS

WE DO NOT NEED TO HAVE MORE APARTMENTS. THERE IS AN ABUNDANCE OF CONSTRUCTION GOING ON ON THE MAIN STREETS AND IN THE TOWN CENTER. MORE CONSTRUCTION BRINGS MORE DAMAGE TO THE ROADS, AND INFRASTRUCTURE AROUND THE AREA. IF WE WANTED TO PAY THE HIGH RENTS/MORTGAGES TO SEE CRANES, WE WOULD LIVE IN SEATTLE.

MORE CONDOS EQUALS MORE CARS ON THE ROADS. I WALK ALMOST EVERYDAY AROUND HERE, AND I CANNOT COUNT HOW MANY TIMES I ALMOST GET HIT BY SOME DRIVER NOT PAYING ATTENTION. THE INJURIES AND/OR DEATHS WILL SURELY INCREASE DUE TO THE CONDOS BEING BUILT. BICYCLISTS AND PEDESTRIANS MUST BE A KEY FACTOR WHEN MAKING THIS DECISION.

AS NEW APARTMENTS ARE BEING BUILT, NUMEROUS THINGS TO DO IN THE CITY ARE BEING TORN DOWN. THE MONEY PLANNED TO BUILD PENNY LANE II COULD BE INVESTED INTO THINGS THE COMMUNITY NEEDS, SUCH AS, THE CURRENT PANDEMIC, THE HOMELESS POPULATION, WHICH IS INCREASING, THE EDUCATION SYSTEM, OUR SIDEWALKS, ROADS, ACTIVITIES, STORES, PARKS...ETC. WHAT IS THE POINT OF LIVING HERE, WHEN WE HAVE TO DRIVE OUT OF REDMOND TO ENJOY A MORE VARIETY OF THINGS TO DO?

THE METAL ARTWORK THAT WAS ON DISPLAY IN FRONT OF THE TOWN CENTER, NOW LOCATED ACROSS HALF PRICE BOOKS COST HALF A MILLION DOLLARS. HALF A MILLION DOLLARS TO MOVE A PIECE OF METAL AND LAY PIPING. BUILDING A DOG PARK WITH A COUPLE OF UPDATES COULD POTENTIALLY SAVE MILLIONS, ESPECIALLY WHEN CONSIDERING THE ESTIMATED COST OF BUILDING THE CONDOS. CONSTRUCTION,



PERMITS, TESTING, ALL CAN BE DELAYED AND CAUSE FOR MORE MONEY BEING SPENT THAN ORIGINALLY PLANNED.

AROUND THE SITE OF THIS PROPOSAL ARE NUMEROUS PEOPLE WHO OWN DOGS. I FOR ONE WOULD LOVE TO HAVE ACCESS TO A DOG PARK THAT IS RIGHT IN WALKING DISTANCE, AND IS A NICE SIZE FOR A BIG DOG SUCH AS MY OWN. MARYMOOR IS OKAY, BUT THE SIZE, AND THE AMOUNT OF WILDLIFE IN THAT AREA, POSES A HIGHER RISK OF HEALTH AND SAFETY ISSUES FOR THE DOGS, WILDLIFE, AND TO THE OWNERS. AN UPDATED FREE LIBRARY WITH A SEATING AREA AND A COMMUNITY GARDEN, WOULD BE IDEAL. I AM SURELY NOT THE ONLY ONE WHO IS TIRED OF STARING AT THE CONSTANT CONCRETE BEING THROWN UP, ALL WHILST WATCHING THE REMOVAL OF THE TREES AND BRUSH AROUND THE CITY RESUME.

WE WOULD BE EXHILARATED NOT TO WAKE UP AT 7AM TO THE SOUNDS OF CONSTRUCTION.

THANKS.

-CHRISTINA