

From: Kai Kuwata <ktkuwata@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 6, 2019 10:37:18 PM
To: CouncilAll <councilall@bendoregon.gov>
Cc: Pauline Hardie <phardie@bendoregon.gov>; Karen Swirsky <kswirsky@bendoregon.gov>
Subject: PZ-19-0353 -- Neighborhood Safety

Bend City Council,

Whether or not the Woodriver area looks “rural” enough with sidewalks is the most baseless and self-serving of developer excuses I’ve ever heard.

As it is, and from personal experience as a nearby resident and frequent user, both the winding shortcut through the area and the long down/up hill roadway are more dangerous to residents, pedestrians and bike riders using those roads because there are no sidewalks.

Giving in to the developers’ request to overturn written regulations and Planning Department recommendation would be to put aesthetics AND economics above neighborhood safety. Clearly, that would be unconscionable.

Further, when, not if, for lack of sidewalks, a child is run over on that winding stretch or a bicycler is injured on that down/uphill street, the City of Bend will most certainly have opened itself up to grave and costly liability.

Why? Because myself and others in my Southern Crossing neighborhood would previously have reminded the City Council of its sworn responsibility to keep Bend’s neighborhood safety your most paramount decision making criteria.

Regards,

Kai Kuwata

[REDACTED]
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