

From: [PEDRO GONZALEZ](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#); [citycouncil](#)
Subject: Comments for agenda item 3.2a. 21-517
Date: Monday, December 6, 2021 4:27:20 PM
Attachments: [city of salem council 20211206.docx](#)

Please consider the attached comments for today's agenda item regarding Salem zoning map.

Thank you,
Shirlene Gonzalez

December 6, 2021

Mayor Bennett and City Councilors
555 Liberty St SE, Room 220
Salem OR 97301

RE: Salem Zoning Maps

Please accept this letter as written testimony in request of amending the zoning map without the Neighborhood Hub next to Brown Road Park on Brown Road.

I support the concept of neighborhood Hubs and the needs they can address - more easily in new developments. The neighbors near the proposed Brown Road Neighborhood Hub do not suffer from a deficit of commercial opportunities. Attached to my testimony is a list of nearby commercial opportunities within walking distance. Additionally, Brown Road is along Cherriot's bus route 2 - Market/Brown which expands commercial opportunities for its residents.

Pedestrian safety on Brown Road was a documented risk. The *Bike & Walk Salem, Final Memorandum #9 – Safe Routes to School Solutions* presented to Salem Bike/Ped Plan Stakeholder Advisory Committee by the CH2M Hill Salem Bike/Ped Plan Project Team on October 11, 2012 stated the following in regard to Scott Elementary School, "*The highest priority project was the sign project, while the second highest priority project was the Brown Road sidewalk project. Sidewalk infill projects on nearby City-owned streets (e.g., Brown Road south of Carolina Avenue) will also assist students walking to school.*" Brown Road was designated as a "High Priority" in the Salem Transportation System Plan updated amended January 13, 2020 (3-38-Street System Element). We are so grateful that project has been completed.

While documented improvement adds value from an administrative need, it does not adequately picture the risk still remaining. The street improvements were not perfectly aligned with existing properties. Across the street from Brown Road Park, the intersection with Maria Avenue remains hazardous. Please refer to Figures 1,2 and 3 for a pictorial representation of the risk and hazard.

While Neighborhood Hubs are intended to increase pedestrian access to commercial businesses, I believe it is well understood that they can and do increase vehicular traffic for the business(es) they create. Please do not sacrifice the pedestrian safety we have gained with unneeded incremental opportunities for commercial business.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments.
Respectfully submitted,

Shirlene Gonzalez
4527 Maria Ave NE
Salem, OR 97305
peteshirl@comcast.net

Figure 1 - Stopped at stop sign and cross walk on Maria Ave at Brown Road, viewing north. [Source: Photo taken by Shirlene Gonzalez on December 5, 2021, 1:50 PM]

This picture portrays the visibility of a driver looking north on Brown Road from Maria Ave when stopped at the stop sign.



Figure 2

- Stopped at stop sign and cross walk on Maria Ave at Brown Road, viewing south. [Source: Photo taken by Shirlene Gonzalez on December 5, 2021, 1:50 PM]

This picture portrays the visibility of a driver looking south on Brown Road from Maria Ave when stopped at the stop sign.



Figure 3 - Stopped beyond stop sign and beyond cross walk on Maria Ave at Brown Road, viewing north. [Source: Photo taken by Shirlene Gonzalez on December 5, 2021, 1:50 PM]

This picture portrays the visibility of a driver looking north on Brown Road from Maria Ave when stopped past the stop sign and crosswalk.



Sample of commercial opportunities within walking distance of proposed Brown Road Neighborhood Hub.

*Indicates those I have walked to and patronized.

Middle Grove Market

Momiji Sushi Restaurant

*Morrow & Sons Produce

Plaid Pantry

Shooter's Cafe & Saloon

Magic Hands Therapeutic Massage

Hollywood Tavern

*Fred Meyer

*Grocery Outlet

Safeway

*Mirandas Brothers Bakery

Starbucks

Auto Zone Auto Parkts

Batteries Plus Bulbs

North Salem Liquor Store

Planet Fitness

Big Lots

Bi-Mart

*Laura & Daisy's Bakery

*El Torito Meat Market

*Walgreens

Les Schwab Tire Center

Bottle Drop Redemption Center

Verizon