

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Peter Fernandez
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 8:56 AM
To: Julie Warncke
Subject: FW: Letter for 6-22-20 Agenda 6.d
Attachments: 6.22.20 - Letter to Oppose Pathway - K Reynolds.docx

-Peter | 503-588-6008 ext. 7341

From: Kabe Reynolds <kabemoss@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 8:14 AM
To: CityRecorder <CityRecorder@cityofsalem.net>; citycouncil <citycouncil@cityofsalem.net>
Subject: Letter for 6-22-20 Agenda 6.d

Good morning -

Please find below, and attached, my opposition to the proposed pedestrian/bike pathway (Agenda item 6.d).

Thank you,

Kabe Reynolds
kabemoss@gmail.com

June 21, 2020

TO: Mayor & City Council

FROM: Kathryn Moss Reynolds

RE: Item 6.d - A pedestrian connection between Candalaria and Fairmount neighborhoods.

I am writing on behalf of my father, Dave Moss, who passed away in 2015.

My father began his home-building work with the goal of creating sustainable community. He wanted to take places that were unloved, or run-down, and build homes that people would want to live in. In the Pioneer Alley LLC PUD, each home makes sense for the occupant inside and works with the surrounding land. He took pride in making each home unique to the lot. These were no cookie-cutter homes where windows look directly into the neighbor's bathroom because "that's how the model is laid out". These are homes that fit into the property.

Ruth Stellmacher


From: dewoina@aol.com
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 3:56 PM
To: CityRecorder; citycouncil
Subject: Agenda Item 6.d Council Meeting 6 22 2020
Attachments: 1758_001.pdf

Please add the attached Public Testimony to Agenda Item 6.d for tonight's meeting.

KD

From: copiers@bhhsnwrep.com <copiers@bhhsnwrep.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 1:20 PM
To: Kathleen Dewoina <Dewoina@BHHSNWREP.com>
Subject: DO NOT REPLY from Salem 2nd Floor B&W

To: City of Salem City Council

From: Kathleen Dewoina, Managing Partner 
Pioneer Alley LLC

Date: June 22, 2020

RE: **Third** Pedestrian Connection (through Pioneer Cemetery and across privately held Pioneer Alley LLC Planned Unit Development) between Candalaria and Fairmount neighborhoods. Additional Written Testimony.

As two pedestrian connections already exist, please kindly note that in less than six blocks, proponents want **three** different connections.

The *Comprehensive Park System Master Plan* for historical areas is internally inconsistent in that it *specifically* provides only for an ADA-compliant internal pathway system, including looped walking paths, and then *generally* budgets \$144,000 for a "Rural Ave SE [sic]/ Hoyt Connector." To give effect to both provisions works only if a second, landscape-buffered sidewalk is placed to the west of the current sidewalk on Commercial Street (see discussion under Option 3, below) or the funds are spent to improve the Fairmount Park Trail (see discussion under Option 4, below).

As compared to the sidewalk along Commercial Street, the third proposed connection does not shorten the distance between the neighborhoods to the shopping area.

The report does not provide costs to compare each option.

Option 3. (1) The staff report dated June 22, 2020, addressing improving pedestrian facilities along Commercial Street, presupposes that the sidewalk is inadequate. No inadequacy is described or identified. The sidewalk appears to meet the specifications required by the City of Salem. If the sidewalk on the west side of Commercial Street between Rural and Hoyt is inadequate as stated, the City of Salem needs to immediately take whatever steps are necessary to make it adequate for **all** the citizens and guests of the City, not just those who want a third option between the Candalaria and Fairmount neighborhoods.

As to the report's discussion of the sidewalk, it should be made clear for the record that the six-foot bike path separates, that is, buffers, the five plus-foot sidewalk from vehicular traffic. Neither staff nor proponents of a third path within six blocks cite any pedestrian-vehicular accidents or pedestrian-bicycle accidents in that area.

It appears that staff erred in stating that the City of Salem would have to purchase city-owned cemetery property from itself in order to move the sidewalk west of its location along the bike path.

There is room within the landscape area along Commercial Street to either move the sidewalk or build a second sidewalk without removal of the existing trees or disturbing the fence along the east boundary of the cemetery. A landscape-buffered sidewalk can be placed within the street right of way with removal of the shrubs, not the trees. Installation of cable barriers are probably the most cost-effective answer for safety concerns along Commercial Street. While effective at capturing vehicles, cable barriers are relatively inexpensive and easy to maintain. The topography would not require a retaining wall the entire length of this segment, particularly if the existing sidewalk was kept in place for ADA accessibility.

Option 4. *Regardless of any Pioneer Cemetery connection*, if the Fairmount Park Trail is not ADA compliant as the staff report admits, given the City's commitment to pedestrian and bicycle transportation, bringing an existing connection up to par should be more cost effective than constructing a new connection. Wet areas could be graveled, small "bridges" could be built, switchbacks could reduce steepness.

Option 5. The report neglects to address what steps and at what cost this option would require to be compliant with ADA standards and Goal 5. Detrimental impacts must be determined in advance.

The current Transportation Systems Plan does not authorize this option.

Pioneer Cemetery is upslope of the public easement; **grading modification likely would be required within the historic cemetery.** Groundwater drainage and seepage likely would create mud and water flows down the path onto the private property.

The proposed north-south connection is upslope of the public easement as well.

Additionally, the City would have to keep stormwater runoff from any path through the historic cemetery from entering the private property's stormwater runoff.

Dogs could not be walked in the pedestrian path, even on leash. SRC 94.020(2), as Pioneer Cemetery is posted as prohibited by the Director to dogs.

Dogs and other animals are not allowed by the private property owner on private property.

It's highly unlikely the amount budgeted in the *Comprehensive Park System Master Plan* would be sufficient to build a connection through the historic cemetery.

Like the property owner of City View Cemetery, as of June 22, 2020, *the private property owner informs you that it is not interested in providing an easement for the purposes of a pedestrian pathway.*

The driveway is private, not shared with the public.

Among other things, an easement would destroy current infrastructure, require a taking, and relocating/reconfiguring the driveway, and forcing the private property to be non-conforming with the city's codes (including—but not limited to—access, fire, setbacks), etc.

Existing tree and shrub and other landscaping would have to be removed.

The path would be located too close to existing structures on the private property, invading the privacy of the private property residents.

In addition to other things, the staff-described “currently unopened alley right-of-way” as well as maps and diagrams are based on **inaccurate factual, historical, and legal predicates.**

I tell you this because you will hear people quoting his 2005 request to create a pedestrian/bike pathway. He had created a multi-home community layout with the pathway as an integral part. He worked hard to make the path a reality and was opposed by City View Cemetery, the SCAN Board of Directors, the SCAN Bike Advisory Committee and the Friends of Pioneer Cemetery.

With the pedestrian/bike path proposal blocked, he redesigned the community to create more open space while preserving the original trees, and, as always, make each home fit best into the lot. This community has been a model of development. **A new pathway, as suggested, would tear through the communal space that is an essential and treasured part of the Pioneer Alley PUD community.**

Forcing a new pedestrian pathway through the community is a measure too late and destroys the legacy of community that my father worked tirelessly to build. On his behalf, I strongly advise that the vacated alley remain vacated and no pedestrian pathway inserted, as has been determined by 3 previous Councils.

Ruth Stellmacher

From: Brian Sund <sund60@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 5:00 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Regarding the connection between Rural and Hoyt Streets, through one of the cemeteries

Salem City Council:

My position has NOT changed! I strongly support some sort of connection, through the north side of either Pioneer or City View Cemeteries. During the past several months, I have submitted testimony in favor of this position 4 times, through both email and in person.

However, before going further, I would strongly request that you read, and consider, the share sent by through "Breakfast on Bikes" blogspot. Their recommendation, is to consider what they call option #6, which would involve City View and the Fairmount PUD. I believe it is a viable option, something beyond what the city staff report considered. Please look at it!!

Yes, I am a SCAN resident, as well as a Board member. Yes, I live off of Rural Avenue, where from my front porch I can look at the north fence of City View Cemetery. It would be so great to be able to walk much more directly over into the cemeteries, rather than maneuver the much longer distance down to Commercial, up a noisy street, then up a narrow sidewalk on Hoyt to my destination. My 4 year old grandson loves to be in the cemetery, is always asking questions about the grounds and the grave markers. It would be so great to be able to walk over there, rather than have to cut in the car.

But also yes, I am a 6 year volunteer of the Friends of Pioneer Cemetery. In fact, this morning, I spent 3 hours weeding and deadheading roses with our group. I know this group is adamantly opposed to having an additional entrance. I LOVE Pioneer Cemetery, and I enjoy City View, as a location for walking and admiring the grounds. I would want more people to enjoy the same. There are so many from the Fairmount Hills side, who would love the opportunity to access the cemeteries. Fairmount Hills Neighbors Lives Matter...Also! I am envious of the Candalaria side being able to access directly, when we can't.

If there is the notion, with recent political circumstances of vandalizing and destroying monuments, that this might come to play at either of the cemeteries if an additional entrance exists, I would counter, any negative action could very well happen, given access at the Hoyt entrances.

Please consider option #6 from the blogspot, and let's work to open up the cemeteries as they were intended to be. History has shown this open/accessible nature of cemeteries, in general.

Brian Sund
582 Rural Avenue S
Salem
503-576-1622

Sent from my iPad