

CITY OF SALEM

Written Testimony

City Council

555 Liberty St SE
Salem, OR 97301

Monday, October 8, 2018

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

4. a. [18-453](#)

City Council Review of Hearings Officer's decision approving Conditional Use / Class 2 Adjustment Case No. CU-ADJ18-07 allowing an existing single family dwelling to be used as a short-term rental for property located at 725 High Street SE.

Ward(s): Ward 2

Councilor(s): Andersen

Neighborhood(s): SCAN

Recommendation:

Affirm the August 29, 2018, Hearings Officer's decision approving the consolidated conditional use and class 2 adjustment application allowing the use of an existing single family dwelling located at 725 High Street SE as a short-term rental and allowing a portion of the required off-street parking serving the proposed use to be located in the public street right-of-way of High Street on the existing driveway leading to the home rather than on the subject property.

Attachments:

[Vicinity Map](#)

[Applicant's Site Plan and Floor Plans](#)

[Applicant's Written Statements](#)

[Applicant's Rebuttal Testimony \(From 7-Day Rebuttal Period\)](#)

[Hearings Officer's Decision \(August 29, 2018\)](#)

[Staff Report to Hearings Officer \(July 25, 2018\)](#)

[Public Comments \(For July 25, 2018, Public Hearing\)](#)

[Public Comments \(From During 7-Day Open Record Period\)](#)

[Additional Public Testimony \(Submitted Prior to October 2, 2018\)](#)

[Written Testimony received 10-3-18](#)

[Written Testimony received by 3:30 p.m. 10-8-18](#)

Add - Written Testimony.

4. b. [18-438](#)

City Council review of the Planning Administrator's decision denying a Tentative Subdivision Review and approving an Urban Growth Declaration for Permit Case No. SUB-UGA18-01 for property located at 1395 Boone Road SE - 97306.

Ward(s): Ward 3

Councilor(s): Nanke

Neighborhood(s): Morningside

Recommendation: Staff recommends that the City Council AFFIRM the August 29, 2018 Planning Administrator's Decision.

Attachments: [Vicinity Map](#)
[Tentative Subdivision Plan](#)
[Planning Administrator's Decision](#)
[Appeal Letter and Withdraw Request](#)
[Written Testimony received 10-8-18](#)

Add - Written Testimony.

- 4. d. [18-58](#)** Proposed Fees and Charges for Utility Service Rates (Wastewater, Water, and Stormwater)

Ward(s): All
Councilor(s): All
Neighborhood(s): All

Recommendation: Adopt Resolution No. 2018-79 with exhibit, establishing fees and charges for utility service rates (wastewater, water, and stormwater) effective January 1, 2019, and January 1, 2020.

Attachments: [2018 Cost of Service Rate Study - Executive Summary \(including sample bills\)](#)
[Resolution 2018-79](#)
[Resolution 2018-79 Exhibit 1](#)
[Orchard Heights Water Association Statement](#)
[Written Testimony received through 9-21-2018](#)
[Written Testimony received through 10-3-18](#)
[Additional Written Testimony received through 10-8-18](#)

Add - Written Testimony.

Amy Johnson

From: Howard Hall <friendsofhistoricsalem@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 08, 2018 1:43 PM
To: CityRecorder; citycouncil; Cara Kaser; Tom Andersen; Brad Nanke; smccold@cityofsalem.net; Matthew Ausec; Chris Hoy; Sally Cook; Jim Lewis; chuckbennett@cityofsalem.net; Dan Atchison
Subject: TESTIMONY: REVIEW/RESPONSE TO THE REBUTTAL BY MR. KIRCHICK (August 8, 2018), Applicant, in the Case Record CU-ADJ18-07 -

CITY COUNCIL MEETING, October 8, 2018
Subject: Agenda Item 4.a "Call Up" PUBLIC HEARING

The Honorable Chuck Bennett, Mayor
& Members of Council
City of Salem
ATTN: City Recorder

In the record that you have received, there are a number of assertions from the applicabt Mr. Kirchick that are not accurate.

1.. Mr. Kirchick argues (Attachment 4, page 1) during the adoption of the Salem STR ordinance, *"Nowhere did..others argue for a blanket exception of the ordinance for historic districts as they do now."*

RESPONSE: Mr. Kirchick's statement is not true.

SCAN and myself, are NOT arguing "for a blanket exception of the (STR) ordinance for historic districts" as he Kirchick claims.

Ms. Shirack. myself, SCAN have NEVER sought a blanket exception of the ordinance for historic districts.

This case is site specific.

The conclusion is this commercial use is not reasonably compatible within this residential area.

Testimony from SCAN, Ms. Shirack, and myself is not on any other historic district in Salem.

Under our City's code, SRC Chapter 230, Historic Preservation, there are three types of historic districts: commercial, residential, and public historic districts. Not all historic districts under the code in Salem are designated as residential.

I would not support "a blanket exception" of the STR ordinance for historic districts. STRs within the Salem Downtown Historic District would conform, most likely, to the the setting. STRs could occur as part of mixed use in public historic districts.

I can not comment on the Court-Chemeketa residential National Historic District, because I have not reviewed the National Register nomination, researched the current uses or the record from adoption of City Ordinance in 1987.

Each historic district has a specific character and life. These reviews are on a case by case basis, District by District analysis, the *tout ensemble*, the setting, traffic, parking, goals.

At issue in this case, Case No.18-07, is the compatibility of the commercial use of single family residence, a *de facto hotel*, non-owner occupied commercial operation, in the heart of Gaiety Hill, a designated residential National Historic District, on a congested street, near the very busy intersection of Mission St., an arterial, and High St SE, a collector, with constricted or no parking already.

The written comments into record by citizens overwhelmingly find the proposed commercial use (1) to be incompatible and to have a significant negative impact, pronounced impact on livability, the fabric of Gaiety Hill as a residential area, and

(2) that the **sought commercialization erodes the residential character and purpose set forth in 1986 nomination documentation in 1986 for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NR)**, approved by the State Advisory Committee on Historic Preservation (SACHP)(May 1986), the U.S. National Park Service, the Keeper of the National Register, the Secretary of Interior (October 10,1986), delineated in boundaries formally adopted by Ordinance 126-86 by our City Council (2nd Reading: December 8, 1986) YES - Madam Mayor Sue Harris Miller, Salem City Councilors Cummins, Carney, Hawes, Jackson, Shirley, Throp. NO - None. ABSENT: Berg and Minden.

No commercial uses were within the original "carefully drawn" designated boundaries, and the commercial use was specifically "excluded" (NR) by those that prepared the nomination to state and Federal agencies. Gaiety Hill is described in the NR documentation as the "front line of defense against commercial encroachment..upon a distinctive intact residential neighborhood surrounding Bush's Pasture Park..."

Our efforts before Council is to uphold the core integrity of the GH/BPP NHD as authentic, **a true intact historically residential community, and residential life**. Commercialization of a single family residence, a contributing historic resource in the heart of Gaiety Hill undermines, fundamentally the original goal of the National Register nomination.

As a practice, SCAN, Ms. Shirack, myself, do not comment on actions in the residential Court-Chemeketa National Historic District. We defer to other neighborhood organizations to comment and to provide input on the day-to-day life and context to City Council on residential historic districts in their areas.

The conclusion of incompatibility is site specific to the Gaiety Hill/Bush's Pasture Park, and to commercial use of 725 High Street SE.

3. Mr. Kirchick states: *"Mr. Christenson, Ms. Shirack, the Chair of SCAN's Land Use and Transportation Committee, and others oppose our permit application when really their arguments are an attack on the ordinance itself."*

RESPONSE: This is FALSE. For myself, this is absolutely not true. The analysis is site specific to this location.

The foundation of our concern is sustaining the integrity and residential life of Salem's premiere residential National Historical District, Gaiety Hill/Bush's Pasture Park -- as a true residential space, authentically true historical residential area, not a commercial space. One can distinguish between true residential and faux residential.

The goal is to uphold and to sustain a distinctively authentic intact historical living residential neighborhood, honored as such to Oregon and the nation, and for the life of those that live in Gaiety Hill.

Submitted
Respectfully

Jon Christenson

Amy Johnson

From: Howard Hall <friendsofhistoricsalem@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 08, 2018 2:44 PM
To: CityRecorder; citycouncil; Cara Kaser; Tom Andersen; Brad Nanke; smccold@cityofsalem.net; Matthew Ausec; Chris Hoy; Sally Cook; Jim Lewis; chuckbennett@cityofsalem.net; Dan Atchison
Subject: PUBLIC HEARING TESTIMONY Case No.CU-ADJ18-07 - 725 High St SE - RECONSIDERING LAND USE IMPLICATIONS OF SHORT TERM RENTALS - article Edward J. Sullivan, Oregon's foremost Land Use Attorney, published in LAND USE AND ZONING REPORT (July 2017)
Attachments: Sharing Economy Article 2-13-17.doc

TESTIMONY Agenda Item 4.a

The Honorable Chuck Bennett, Mayor
Members of City Council
City of Salem
555 Liberty Street SE
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: CASE No.CU-ADJ18-07 - 725 High Street SE

Dear Mr. Mayor, Members of Council:

There are two issues that seem to be rising in this case: (1) the test of compatibility of a commercial use in the very heart of a designated residential National Historic District, Gaiety Hill/Bush Pasture Park, and (2) short-term rental impacts.

In review of the voluminous written testimony that you have received, Stuart D. Kirchick, from Capitola, California, submitted an article to you from Cornell Real Estate Review, Volume 13, Article 5 on short term rentals. **I do not engaged in the arguments on STRs, however, I do want to share that (1) there is growing body of professional literature that is calling for some reconsiderations of STRs in municipal law; and (2) the observation the article that Mr. Kirchick submitted that the data is dated 2015 or earlier.**

Major changes have occurred to STRs this year n New York City.

Only a year after adopting STRs regulations, the City of New Orleans on May 24, 2018 enacted a 9 month ban on STRs prohibiting all three categories in its municipal ordinance on STRs in the Historic French Quarter National Historic District. New Orleans is the birthplace of the **tout ensemble** concept, a fundamental foundation of the Historic District in Historic Preservation law (**View Carre Property Owners and Association Inc. v City of New Orleans 167 So. 2nd 376 (1964) 246 La 788**). The case was a driving force in enactment of the federal Historic Preservation Act of 1966. New Orleans City Councilor commented in May 2018, **"We must preserve economic but first and foremost, we must preserve our neighborhoods."** .

The Cornell Review article submitted by Mr. Kirchick does not address or mention historic districts.

Major studies published by McGill University in 2017 and 2018 are seriously challenging "the public benefit" of STRs (PBS Nightly Business Report July 4, 2018).

In July 2017, one of the foremost land use attorneys in Oregon, Edward J. Sullivan, published the attached article in the journal, LAND USE AND ZONING REPORT, for your perusal, calling for "reconsidering" the land use impacts from short-term rentals, what may be good for the tourist and owner who derives revenue, **"the impacts of short term rentals for other land owners and the public may be decidedly more mixed...It is not at all apparent those cities that have considered allowing short term rentals have adequately considered their land use impacts."**

Mr. Sullivan also reports *"there is a growing body of troubling anecdotal evidence that the lure of short term rental income is already skewing the city's housing picture with adverse effects"* (Portland, Oregon).

Mr. Sullivan is the foremost land use attorney in the State of Oregon, served as Legal Counsel to Oregon Governor Bob Straub, was an attorney in one of the landmark cases of Oregon land use law, *Fasano v Washington Co.*, (1969). He also teaches at Willamette University and Portland State University.

I want to share this information, not as a counterpoint, but as Findings of Fact that STRs are not always suitable in every location.

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Submitted
Respectfully

Jon Christenson

From: Howard Hall <friendsofhistoricsalem@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 08, 2018 12:28 PM
To: CityRecorder; citycouncil; Cara Kaser; Tom Andersen; Brad Nanke; smccold@cityofsalem.net; Matthew Ausec; Chris Hoy; Sally Cook; Jim Lewis; Dan Atchison
Subject: SUMMARY: Partial list of persons who support or oppose the Conditional Use CU-ADJ18-07 - 725 High Street SE - Gaiety Hill/Bush's Pasture Park National Historic District

TESTIMONY: Agenda 4.a PUBLIC HEARING - CALL UP - CONDITIONAL USE CU-ADJ18-07 in GAIETY HILL/BUSH'S PASTURE PARK NATIONAL HISTORIC DISTRICT - COUNCIL MEETING OCTOBER 8, 2018

The Honorable Chuck Bennett, Members of City Council

In review of the available materials, below is a partial list of persons who support or oppose the Conditional Use.

One person is listed as a proponent: Susan Martin, Susan Martin Property Management, representing the applicant.

Eleven persons were listed by the Hearings Officer Decision summary (August 29, 2018) as opponents.

Examination of materials finds the actual number of persons who submitted comments in opposition to the Conditional Use is near 4-5 times. Persons from Ward 1, 2, 4, 7.

In addition, by a vote of 17-0, the South Central Association of Neighbors (SCAN)Board voted against the proposed Conditional Use: the SCAN Board is comprise of persons from Ward 2 and Ward 7. Individuals on the SCAN Board include **Ron Rubel, Carol Snyder, Victor Dodier, Brian Sund, Carel DeWinkel, Delmy Edwards, Jesse Irizary** and others not listed below.

PERSONS IN SUPPORT for the Conditional Use of a non-owner occupied short-term rental (STR)

Susan Martin, Susan Martin Property Management (for Stu and Kym Kirchick, applicants)

PERSONS IN OPPOSITION to the Conditional Use - commercial use of a single family residence (R/S) in Gaiety Hill/Bush's Pasture Park residential National Historic District: find the significant negative impact and incompatible to the livability or appropriate development of the surrounding property: not meeting the applicable criteria SRC 240.005 (d)(3), 240.005 (d)(2):

JW Millegan, co-author of the Gaiety Hill/Bush's Pasture Park National Historic District Nomination March 1986. Chair of the SCAN Historic Committee 1983-1987

Hon. Jane Cummins, former Salem City Councilor, who first introduced the Council Resolution to establish the Gaiety Hill/Bush's Pasture Park National Historic District in 1986, also past member of the Planning Commission, and past senior staff member at the League of Oregon Cities
Hon. Jim Randall, former Salem City Councilor for the downtown area and Gaiety Hill,
Jeff Schumacher, president of SCAN
Bruce Hoffman, Chair of the CANDO Land Use Committee, and past president of CANDO
Carol Mitchell, past president, SCAN
Roz Shirack, Chair, SCAN Land Use & Transportation Committee, a past president of the League of Women Voters, Marion/Polk Counties

Ashley Carson Cottingham

Andrea Foust

Madeline Carlson

Leonard Kelly

Linda Kelly

Robin Olsen

John Prohodsky

John VanDreal

Coleen VanDreal

Phyllis Foust

Jack Foust

Kendra Mingo

David Craig PhD

Jon Christenson

Hans Hadley

Kelly Hadley

Jacque Heavey

Mark Dolan MD

Brent Koester

Teri Koester

Kathleen Moynihan

Sylvia Strand

Patria Deminna

Roger Deminna

Mary Anne Spradlin

Hugh Nelson

Erma Hoffman

Irene Longaker

Carlene Benson

Jay Burr

Nancy Burr

William Vagt

Sharon Edwards

Cheryl Randall

Ed Arabas

Bret Wilcox

Mr. & Mrs. Willy Kohne

Tracy Wilcox

Tom Scheuermann

Cesie Delve Scheuermann

Elizabeth Bettendorf

Wally Benson

Submitted October 8, 2018

Respectfully

Jon Christenson

Amy Johnson

From: Patricia Deminna <patdex@comcast.net>
Sent: Sunday, October 07, 2018 1:00 PM
To: Bryce Bishop; Amy Johnson; CityRecorder
Subject: CU-ADJ18-07 Council Review 10-8-18

Re: Case number CU-ADJ18-07

We are Patricia and Roger Deminna, and we live at 635 Church St. SE in Ward 2.

We request that the proposed conditional use permit of a short-term rental at 725 High St. SE be denied. We respectfully submit that Criteria #3 of SRC 240.005(d) has not been met.

Restrictions on guests do not address compatibility.

I'll begin with Staff's finding on Criteria 3 (pg. 5) – that restrictions on guests and parties will “ensure” that commercial use is reasonably compatible with appropriate development. I'd suggest that restrictions on guests and their activities do not address compatibility. It's the commercial use itself that's not compatible. I believe there's support for that position in the Salem Comprehensive Plan, which addresses appropriate development in locations with “special conditions.” It's a broad statement of intent, and I hope you'll find it worthwhile to consider.

“Special conditions” need to guide decisions of use and development.

“Special conditions which exist in some locations need to be recognized in order to develop in a satisfactory manner.” Just one is residential: “districts on the National Historic Register and designated under the City's land development ordinances.” Because of our inner-city location, commercial encroachment is an ongoing threat. It threatens the historic district's residential character, and its value to the City's history as a still intact early residential area. In making decisions that affect the Gaiety Hill neighborhood, we should be guided by what preserves and protects, especially when the rental activity is “more intensive” and “less suited” to lower density RS zones.

Non-owner occupied short-term rentals are NOT compatible in residential areas.

“More intensive” and “less suited” – that's the description of short-term rentals. Yet Staff finds (pg. 5) they're allowed because they're “reasonably compatible in residential areas.” No evidence is given to back this claim. On the other hand, the articles I've read only support the owner-occupied (accessory) type, not the type proposed for High Street. That even includes two articles submitted by the applicant. One thing is clear – STRs are not compatible in historic districts. Once they're introduced, the district becomes a profit-making target for investors. Cities with short-term rental history are now grappling with neighborhood upheaval in historic areas, and some are banning all STRs, even those that are owner-occupied. The Gaiety Hill area is a microcosm of nationally known destinations with these problems, and our very small size magnifies the threat to the district's viability as one of the City's still intact early residential areas.

This commercial use fills no need.

In closing, this commercial enterprise, a de facto hotel, fills no need. With no one living there, it won't participate in our community or be vested in the community's interests. Clearly, our concerns about the damaging effects of this commercial use are not shared by the out-of-state applicant.

We urge City Council to deny approval of the consolidated application.

Respectfully,

Patricia and Roger Deminna

Notes on historic districts:

From a 7-25-2017 posting by **David J. Brown**, executive vice president and chief preservation officer of the **National Trust for Historic Preservation**: 2016 City Planning Commission study in **New Orleans** found that most of the city's STVRs were in historic neighborhoods. In December of that year, the City Council amended the zoning code to ban all STVRs, including those that were owner-occupied, in the French Quarter. **Savannah, Georgia** in 2016 had 748 STVRs in its historic districts with 35% of owners living outside the city or county. With the support of the Historic Savannah Foundation (HSF), the city proposed a ban on new non-owner-occupied STVRs while grandfathering in the existing ones. In **Nashville**, too, the biggest impact of STVRs was felt in the city's historic neighborhoods, with 60 % of STVRs located near the downtown district.

From **Edward J. Sullivan** (B.A., St. John's University (N.Y.), 1966; J.D., Willamette University, 1969; M.A. (History), Portland State University, 1973; Urban Studies Certificate, Portland State University, 1974; M.A. (Political Thought), University of Durham; Diploma in Law, University College, Oxford, 1984; LL.M., University College, London, 1978) article: **Portland** has become a leading city for short-term rentals in the country, and had its first encounters with short-term rental websites in early 2014. The rules require a conditional use hearing for three or more bedrooms. The rules also set limits on occupancies, **require an owner to be onsite at least 270 days during a calendar year.**

Amy Johnson

From: Dan Atchison
Sent: Friday, October 05, 2018 6:07 PM
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Fwd: Contact Mayor Chuck Bennett

For the record

Begin forwarded message:

From: Chuck Bennett <CBennett@cityofsalem.net>
Date: October 5, 2018 at 4:47:24 PM PDT
To: Dan Atchison <DAtchison@cityofsalem.net>
Subject: Fwd: Contact Mayor Chuck Bennett

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: <pacajoyce@sbcglobal.net>
Date: October 5, 2018 at 4:21:50 PM PDT
To: <cbennett@cityofsalem.net>
Subject: Contact Mayor Chuck Bennett

Your Name	Joyce Judy
Your Email	pacajoyce@sbcglobal.net
Your Phone	9256987293
Street	375 Fairview Ave. SE #207
City	Salem
State	OR
Zip	97302
Message	Monday's vote on 795 High Street is a critical vote for the Gaiety Hill Historic Residential neighborhood and SCAN as well. Councillor Andersen is in Bhutan and said he would call in arrangements been made so he can speak to this issue and be able to vote?

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 10/5/2018.

From: [Kendra Mingo](#)
To: ["bbishop@cityofsalem.net"](#); ["lesliestreet345@googlegroups.com"](#)
Cc: [David Craig](#); ["ed scan"](#)
Subject: Public Comment: Response and Objections to Recommendations and Finding of Lisa Anderson-Ogilvie, Deputy Community Development Director and Planning Administrator regarding CASE NO: CU-ADJ18-07
Date: Saturday, July 21, 2018 4:26:00 PM

FOR THE MEETING OF: July 25, 2018

CASE NO: CU-ADJ18-07

ADDRESS: 725 High Street SE

ZIPCODE: 97301

HEARD BY: Salem Hearings Officer

CASE MANAGER: Bryce Bishop

Dear Ms. Anderson-Ogilvie and Mr. Bishop:

Our names are Kendra Mingo and David Craig, and we live at 445 Leslie Street SE.

RESPONSE for Public Record regarding CU-ADJ18-07: We respectfully object to the recommendations and findings regarding CU-ADJ18-07. We renew our request that the City of Salem Planning Division **deny** the consolidated application for a Conditional Use Permit and Class 2 Adjustment as a short-term, non-owner occupied rental for up to six, non-related tenants because:

- 1) The opinion that the proposed commercial use "*is similar to a residential use*" is insufficient to justify the rezoning from residential to commercial use.
- 2) While the staff report cites uses that "have generally been found to be reasonably compatible" in a RS zone, it **does not address** the exceptions or regulations of a Historic District overlay zone, nor does it address what is "compatible with and appropriate within the context" of a Historic District overlay zone. We contend that the applicants and the City must meet higher regulatory standards in order to rezone single-family residential dwellings to commercial use in a Historic District overlay zone.
- 3) The applicants **have not provided evidence** (i.e., case studies, legal findings, precedence, testimony from residents of the historic district, etc.) that commercial use in a Single-Family Residential zone **that is ALSO** a City of Salem Historic District overlay zone fulfills and/or complies with applicable policies and regulations.^{1,2,3,4}
- 4) The subject property is zoned RS (Single Family Residential) **within a Historic District overlay zone**. The SRC states that an overlay zone "*establishes additional regulations beyond the base zone to address specific community objectives. In some cases, an overlay zone may provide exceptions to or supersede the regulations of the base zone.*" The findings of this report regarding applicable Salem Revised Code approval criteria for the conditional use permit **do not address or even mention** the regulations addressing Historic District overlay zones, **nor do they reference** the incorporating documents that created and govern the Gaiety Hill/Bush's Pasture Park Historic District by the National Register of Historic Places in 1986.
- 5) Summary: The staff recommendation and findings do **not provide compelling, factual evidence** that rezoning an existing single-family dwelling in a Historic District overlay zone listed on the National Register of Historic Places for **commercial use** is consistent with the policies and

guidance in the Salem Area Comprehensive Policies Plan and the City's Historic Preservation ordinance (SRC Chapter 230).

References to and comments on staff findings report:

Page 3: *"Based on these requirements, the proposed consolidated application is required to be reviewed by the Hearings Officer and processed as a Type III procedure."*

Procedural Objection: The application pertains to regulations of the Salem Revised Code that govern **both** a Single Family Residential Zone **and ALSO** a Historic District overlay zone. Since this application pertains to two zone types with differing SRC standards, regulations, and policies, then we request that the Historic Landmarks Commission also review and render a decision on this application to conform to the judicial oversight required in a Type III procedure involving a property in a Historic District Overlay (SRC Section 300.100 – Procedural types). While the findings of this report discuss general zone regulations, they do not specifically address "additional regulations beyond the base zone to address specific community objectives" for Historic District overlay zones.

Page 5-6: *"While the proposed short-term rental is not a residential use where individuals reside on the property as their primary place of living, it is similar to a residential use in that it provides a place where living and sleeping accommodations are provided, albeit on a temporary basis, to persons for periods of less than 30 days."*

Objection/Rebuttal: The purpose of the consolidated application is to change the purpose of the dwelling **from a single-family residence to commercial use**. The opinion that the use *"is similar to a residential use"* is insufficient to justify the rezoning from residential to commercial use. One could apply the same claim to the Salem Grand Hotel whose use *"is similar to a residential use in that it provides a place where living and sleeping recommendations are provided"*; however, use that *"is similar to residential use"* is not sufficient to reclassify a hotel (whose purpose is clearly and primarily commercial) to residential use.

Further, one can just as easily assert that the intended use of the property is **commercial**, with the above phrasing defining a hotel. *"a business establishment with direct contact with paying customers where living and sleeping accommodations are provided for travelers and tourists, on a temporary basis, to persons for periods of less than 30 days."*

Page 6: *"Although a short-term rental is not classified as a residential use under UDC, short-term rentals and accessory short-term rentals are, along with a limited list of other non-residential uses, allows in the RS zone because these uses have generally found to be reasonably compatible with and appropriate within the context of residential areas."*

Objection/Rebuttal: The staff report repeatedly states the above opinion above as support for the approval of consolidated application (See pages 5-6, 8, 8-9, 14, 15); however, this opinion is not consistent with the definition, purpose, **and regulations** of a single-family residential zone **that is ALSO** a Historic District overlay zone as specified by SRC Section 110.020⁴. While the staff report

cites uses that “have generally been found to be reasonably compatible” in a RS zone, it **does not address** the exceptions or regulations of a Historic District overlay zone, nor does it address what is “compatible with and appropriate within the context” of a Historic District overlay zone. We contend that the applicants and the City must meet higher regulatory standards in order to rezone single-family residential dwellings to commercial use in a Historic District overlay zone.

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Page 7: *“The majority of comments submitted express concerns about the conversion of the existing single family historic home with the Gaiety Hill/Bush’s Pasture Park Historic District into a commercial use accommodating a non-owner occupied short-term rental and the negative effects it will have on the character of the surrounding neighborhood and the Historic District; thereby precluding the proposed use from conforming with the applicable conditional use permit and class 2 adjustment approval criteria.”*

Objection/Rebuttal: Our original comments submitted to Mr. Bryce Bishop on July 3, 2018 did not merely “express concerns about the conversion of the existing single family historic home with the Gaiety Hill/Bush’s Pasture Park Historic District into a commercial use.” Instead, we outlined how the application’s purpose and rationale **failed to comply** with the policies and guidance in the Salem Area Comprehensive Policies Plan¹, the City’s Historic Preservation ordinance (SRC Chapter 230)², other Oregon land use planning guiding documents³, or the sections of the Salem Revised Code governing zones and **overlay zones** (SRC Chapter 110, Section 020)⁴.

In order to meet the third criteria for a consolidated application for a Conditional Use Permit and Class to , then the owners of the property at 725 High Street SE need to demonstrate how their application will meet the **four conditions of this criteria for both the RS and the Historic District overlay zones**, namely that the application:

- 1) Be reasonably compatible **with the livability** of surrounding property;
- 2) Have minimal impact **on the livability** of surrounding property;
- 3) Be reasonably compatible **with the appropriate development** of surrounding property;
- 4) Have minimal impact **on the appropriate development** of surrounding property.

To do this, then the owners **need to provide evidence** (i.e., case studies, legal findings, testimony, precedence, etc.) that **commercial use** (i.e., hotel) in a Single-Family Residential Zone **that is ALSO** a City of Salem Historic District Overlay zone and recognized by the National Register of Historic Places:

- Preserves the historic, **cultural** and architectural character of structures identified in the National Register of Historic Places and structures designated as historic buildings pursuant to the City’s land use¹;
- Limits uses that conflict with the historic resource¹;
- Preserves significant properties in the Gaiety Hill Historic District²;

- Is consistent with the Salem Comprehensive Policies Plan ;
- Preserves assets of particular interest to the community, i.e., the Gaiety Hill Historic District³;
- Will have minimal adverse impact on abutting properties and the surrounding area of the historic district, taking into account location, size, design, and **operation characteristics of the proposed use**³;
- Is appropriate development and compliant with regulations of a Historic District Overlay zone⁴.

The stated intention that “the owners of the house and the Property Manager all hope to be engaged as residents in this neighborhood” is welcomed. **However**, intention of good will does not replace the burden of evidence (i.e., case studies, legal findings, testimony, etc.) of how the proposed **commercial use** addresses, fulfills, and/or complies with the Salem Area Comprehensive Policies Plan¹, the City’s Historic Preservation ordinance², other Oregon land use planning guiding documents³, or sections of the Salem Revised Code governing zones and overlay zones⁴.

Page 12: “The proposed used is allowed as a conditional use in the zone. Finding: The subject property at 725 High Street SE is zoned RS (Single Family Residential). Within the RS zone, short-term rentals are allowed as a conditional use pursuant to SRC 511.005(a). Table 511-1. Because short-term rental are specifically identified as being allowed as a conditional use with the RS zone, this criterion is met.”

Objection/Rebuttal: The subject property is zoned RS (Single Family Residential) **within a Historic District Overlay zone**. The Salem Revised Code states that an overlay zone “establishes additional regulations beyond the base zone to address specific community objectives. In some cases, an overlay zone may provide exceptions to or supersede the regulations of the base zone.” The findings addressing applicable Salem Revised Code approval criteria for the conditional use permit **do not address** or even mention the regulations addressing Historic District overlay zones **nor do they reference** the incorporating documents that created and govern the Gaiety Hill/Bush's Pasture Park Historic District by the National Register of Historic Places in 1986.

Thanks very much for considering our further testimony.

Sincerely,
Kendra Mingo and David Craig
Member of Gaiety Hill/Bush’s Pasture Park Historic District
South Central Association of Neighbors (SCAN)
445 Leslie Street SE
Salem, OR 97301

References:

1. Salem Comprehensive Policies Plan. November 2015. Page 48.
<https://www.cityofsalem.net/CityDocuments/salem-area-comprehensive-policies-plan.pdf>

“The historic, cultural and architectural character of structures identified in the National Register of Historic Places and structures designated as historic buildings pursuant to the City’s land use shall be preserved. Preservation is achieved by limiting those uses that conflict with the historic resource.”

2. Salem Revised Code. Chapter 230. – Historic Preservation.

https://library.municode.com/or/salem/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=TITXUNDECO_UDC_CH230HIPR

The purpose of this chapter is to identify, designate, and preserve significant properties related to the community's prehistory and history; encourage the rehabilitation and ongoing viability of historic buildings and structures; strengthen public support for historic preservation efforts within the community; foster civic pride; encourage cultural heritage tourism; and promote the continued productive use of recognized resources, and to implement the policies contained in the Salem Area Comprehensive Plan for the preservation of historic resources.

3. Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development. Pages 10-11

https://www.oregon.gov/LCD/docs/publications/introductory_guide_to_land_use_planning_in_oregon.pdf

Conditional use criteria also vary from city to city and county to county, but they are normally contained in the same section of the zoning ordinance as the conditional use review procedures. Typically, the criteria will provide that:

- a. *The proposal be consistent with the comprehensive plan and the objectives of the zoning ordinance and other applicable policies of the city or county;*
- b. *The proposal have a minimal adverse impact on abutting properties and the surrounding area compared to the impact of development that is permitted outright, taking into account location, size, design, and operation characteristics of the proposed use;*
- c. *The proposal preserves assets of particular interest to the community; and*
- d. *The applicant has a bona fide intent and capability to develop, use the land as proposed and has some appropriate purpose for submitting the proposal.*

4. Salem Revised Code. Section 110.020 – Zones and overlay zones, generally.

https://library.municode.com/or/salem/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=TITXUNDECO_UDC_CH110GEZOPR_S110.020ZOOVZOGF

Land in the City is zoned to provide areas suitable for certain types of development. Each zone provides a set of regulations governing the uses, lot size, building setbacks, height, and other development standards. Property may also be subject to an overlay zone. An overlay zone establishes additional regulations beyond the base zone to address specific community objectives. In some cases, an overlay zone may provide exceptions to or supersede the regulations of the base zone.

Amy Johnson

From: Bryce Bishop
Sent: Monday, October 08, 2018 11:33 AM
To: Amy Johnson
Subject: FW: ADDITIONAL Public Comments - K.Mingo - CU-ADJ18-07 Conditional Use, 725 High Street

Amy,

Additional public comment for tonight's hearing.

Thanks,
Bryce

From: Kendra Mingo [mailto:kmingo@willamette.edu]
Sent: Monday, October 08, 2018 11:28 AM
To: Bryce Bishop <BBishop@cityofsalem.net>
Cc: lesliestreet345@googlegroups.com; Jon Christianson <edscannewsletter@gmail.com>
Subject: ADDITIONAL Public Comments - K.Mingo - CU-ADJ18-07 Conditional Use, 725 High Street

FOR THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF: October 8, 2018
CASE NO: CU-ADJ18-07
AMANDA NO: 18-106982-ZO and 18-109847-ZO
ADDRESS: 725 High Street SE
ZIPCODE: 97301
CASE MANAGER: Bryce Bishop Bryce Bishop, Planner II, BBishop@cityofsalem.net, 503.540.2399

Dear Mayor Chuck Bennett and Members of the City Council,

My name is Kendra Mingo and I live at 445 Leslie Street SE, Salem, OR with my husband David Craig.

Public Comment: I am entering comments into the public record regarding CU-ADJ18-07

Additional question for Mayor Bennett and City Council: I respectfully ask the City to provide a legal interpretation of an overlay zone and to clarify the regulations that apply to Historic District overlay zone in the City of Salem and how those regulations differ from a regular Single Family Residential neighborhood.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Kendra Mingo
445 Leslie Street SE
Salem, OR 97031

Kendra Mingo

From: Kendra Mingo
Sent: Tuesday, July 03, 2018 4:15 PM
To: 'bbishop@cityofsalem.net'; 'lesliestreet345@googlegroups.com'
Cc: David Craig
Subject: Comments for Public Record - Case number CU-ADJ18-07 Conditional use permit for 725 High Street SE

CASE NO: CU-ADJ18-07
AMANDA NO'S.: 18-106982-ZO & 18-109847-ZO
ADDRESS: 725 High Street SE
ZIPCODE: 97301
HEARD BY: Salem Hearings Officer
CASE MANAGER: Bryce Bishop

Dear Bryce,

Our names are Kendra Mingo and David Craig, and we live at 445 Leslie Street SE, four houses west of the Gaiety Hill home that has applied for a Conditional Use Permit and Class 2 Adjustment to allow an existing single-family dwelling at 725 High Street SE to be used as a short-term rental.

REQUEST: We respectfully request that the City of Salem Planning Division deny the consolidated application for a Conditional Use Permit and Class 2 Adjustment to use the single-family home at 725 High Street SE as a short-term, non-owner occupied rental for up to 6 non-related tenants.

Public Statement: We oppose the conditional use permit for two reasons: (1) the proposed land use is not consistent with the historic and cultural character of the Gaiety Hill Bush Pasture Park Historic District, and; (2) the request does **NOT meet two of the three criteria necessary for approval** as outlined in Section 240.005 of the Salem Revised Code:

- The reasonably likely adverse impacts of the use on the immediate neighborhood **CANNOT** be minimized through the imposition of conditions.
- The proposed use will **NOT** be reasonably compatible with and have minimal impact on the livability or appropriate development of surrounding property.

As you know, the Gaiety Hill Bush Pasture Park Historic District is **one of only four historic districts** listed in the National Register of Historic Places in Salem. The home in question, 725 High Street SE, was built in 1939 and is a *contributing building* to the Gaiety Hill Bush Pasture Park Historic District. As such, 725 High Street SE contributes to our *historic district*, described in Chapter 230 of the Salem Revised Code as:

"a geographically definable area containing a significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of buildings, structures, sites, or objects united historically or aesthetically by plan or physical development, and listed as a historic district in the National Register of Historic Places."

The home is also immediately adjacent to numerous other *contributing buildings* (all single-family residences) of the historic district (Table 1.)

Table 1. Proximity of 725 High St. SE to Contributing Buildings of Gaiety Hill/Bush's Pasture Park Historic District (Source: National Register of Historic Places (NHRP) Historic Districts – Contributing Buildings)

Name of Contributing Historic Building	Address	Yr Built	Relation to 725 High St.
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French Renaissance Residence - 490 Leslie St SE	490 Leslie St SE	1938	Next door
Bungalow Residence - 712 High St SE	712 High St SE	1920	Across the street
Bungalow Residence - 750 High St SE	750 High St SE	1920	Across the street
David W. and Beryl Eyre House	505 Mission St SE	1926	Across the street
Dr. & Mrs. A. D. Woodhmansee House	695 High St SE	1935	2 houses north
Pearce House	490 Oak St SE	1924	3 houses north
Smith-Fry House	606 High St SE	1859	4 houses north
Colonial Residence – 670 High St SE	670 High St SE	1923	3 houses north
Norman Farmhouse Residence	470 Leslie St SE	1938	1 house west
Cape Cod Residence - 460 Leslie St SE	460 Leslie St SE	1938	2 houses west
English Cottage Residence - 475 Leslie St SE	475 Leslie St SE	1930	3 houses west
Cape Cod Residence - 440 Leslie St SE	440 Leslie St SE	1938	3 houses west
Elizabeth Lord House – Lord and Schryver Conservancy	545 Mission St SE	1932	2 houses east
Bungalow Residence - 555 Mission St SE	555 Mission St SE	1920	3 houses east
Bungalow Residence - 535 Leslie St SE	535 Leslie St SE	1920	3 houses east
English Cottage Residence - 525 Leslie St SE	525 Leslie St SE	1935	2 houses east
Bungalow Residence - 545 Leslie St SE	545 Leslie St SE	1921	4 houses east
John A. Hetzel House – Cape Cod Residence	560 Leslie St SE	1937	4 houses east
Bungalow Residence - 565 Leslie St SE	565 Leslie St SE	1920	5 houses east
Colonial Residence - 595 Leslie St SE	595 Leslie St SE	1920	6 houses east
Norman Farmhouse Residence	470 Leslie St SE	1938	1 house west
Cape Cod Residence - 460 Leslie St SE	460 Leslie St SE	1938	2 houses west
English Cottage Residence - 475 Leslie St SE	475 Leslie St SE	1930	3 houses west
Cape Cod Residence - 440 Leslie St SE	440 Leslie St SE	1938	3 houses west
Walter and Della Smith House	460 Mission St SE	1938	4 houses south
Virgil Pringle House	883 High St SE	1880	5 houses south
Italianate Residence – 975 High St SE	975 High St SE	1880	7 houses south

The Salem Comprehensive Policies Plan (November 2015) states that *“the historic, cultural and architectural character of structures identified in the National Register of Historic Places and structures designated as historic buildings pursuant to the City’s land use shall be preserved. Preservation is achieved by limiting those uses that conflict with the historic resource.”*

If the City of Salem were to approve the conditional use permit and allow a *contributing building* in the historic district to be used as a non-owner occupied, short-term rental unit, then you would subvert both the policies and guidance put forth in the Salem Comprehensive Policies Plan, as well as the purpose of Chapter 230 of the Salem Revised Code, which is to

“to identify, designate, and preserve significant properties related to the community’s prehistory and history; encourage the rehabilitation and ongoing viability of historic buildings and structures; strengthen public support for historic preservation efforts within the community; foster civic pride; encourage cultural heritage tourism; and promote the continued productive use of recognized resources, and to implement the policies contained in the Salem Area Comprehensive Plan for the preservation of historic resources.”

Furthermore, converting a single-family residence into non-owner occupied, short-term rental unit for up to six adult, non-related tenants is unlikely to encourage preservation of the resource.

Thanks very much for considering our testimony and request.

Sincerely,
Kendra Mingo and David Craig
Member of Gaiety Hill/Bush’s Pasture Park Historic District
South Central Association of Neighbors (SCAN)

445 Leslie Street SE
Salem, OR 97301

RECEIVED

OCT - 5 2018

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

October 5, 2018

Conditional use/ Class 2 Adjustment Case Number: CU-ADJ18-07

Application No. : 18-106982-ZO & 18-109847-ZO

Notice of decision date: August 29, 2018

Staff Report objections

City Council Review October 8th

Gaiety Hill is a unique historic neighborhood struggling to keep its residential nature. Its location immediately adjacent to downtown means that its traffic is urban in nature and not characteristic of residential neighborhoods. Traffic is currently a massive safety issue that is inconsistent with Gaiety Hill's residential nature. Any increase in congestion is a major impact to the immediate neighborhood and its livability. The commercial nature of this enterprise cannot be mitigated through any imposed conditions. Our neighborhood is constantly being encroached upon by nonresidential uses, such as those requested by Pensco Trust Company.

SRC 240.005(d)(2) conditions for the conditional use have not been met. Specifically adverse impacts to the sounding neighborhood cannot reasonably be minimized through imposition of conditions. At the July 25 hearing along with the short term tenant parking further parking was requested by the property manager for this enterprise. It was clear from the described required cleaning, maintenance, and management activities and the required vehicles for these activities, that this proposed conditional use would not be consistent with Gaiety Hill's residential zoning, nor could any imposed condition make it thus. The hearings findings and Staff Report do not address even the required cleaning after each guest which has the potential to double the trips in and out of the parking across the sidewalk and into the heavily trafficked street. These safety and nuisance issues were not addressed in the findings or the Staff Report. Also, as we all know the frequency of trips for a short term rental is significantly larger than a residence or long term rental. We've all been on vacation and sightseeing, restaurants, and other entertainments significantly increase trip numbers. The finding that "The Hearing Officer finds that approval of the short-term rental in this location will not pose a unique or greater risk to safety than what is associated with other existing single-family dwellings in the neighborhood ." is inaccurate. Rather than being like an "existing single-family dwelling", it is far more like a three unit motel with management, cleaning, repairs, inadequate vehicle access, and inadequate parking located on a major downtown collector street. Would you like to live next to that? The inherent increase in number of trips in and out of the parking and the nature of unfamiliar drivers was not addressed in the findings and these safety risks cannot be mitigated through conditions.

The Staff Report documents 3,100 vehicles per day on this major downtown collector street. This is far more than a residential street. The Staff Report also states that there have been no crashes reported in the last five years attributed to vehicles backing out of a drive way. This is probably because there are very few drives on High that are so small they require backing out. From Trade to Oak the parking garage, account office, attorney office, and chapel all have enough parking so backing is not required. From Oak to Leslie there is only one drive on the east, which is so small it requires backing out. From Leslie to Mission on the east side there is another

small drive requiring backing. But on the west side there are four drives which are so small they require backing out. One of these is the proposed short term rental. From Mission to Kearney there is one drive on the west that is so small it requires backing out. From Kearney to Bush there is a Church with adequate access and one drive on the west that requires backing out. Because of the infrequency of back-out drives and the high concentration (four times the usual) of them on this block makes this short term rental one of the most dangerous drives. Drivers using High are expecting the limited access of a collector street and the renter is expecting a residential traffic flow. This is a very dangerous situation that cannot be mitigated.

Pursuant to the Conditional Use and Adjustment requested under SRC240.005 (d)(3), the proposed use would significantly increase the traffic on the already dangerously congested High Street, a collector street. Not only would there be guests (who would be unfamiliar with traffic flow of this dangerous street) coming and going, but there would be cleaning services and an increase in maintenance and management vehicles required for such an enterprise. There are no conditions that could mitigate this dangerous safety issue. There is no analysis of the increased trip required for maintenance, management, and cleaning. This is not a minimal impact on the livability of surrounding property.

The hearings office was incorrect not to consider the cumulative effect. Multiple parking spaces were asked for in the adjustments. Multiple parking spaces were granted in the adjustments. Therefore cumulative effect should have been addressed.

As requested in the Adjustment an increase in the parking would only exacerbate this already dangerous situation. Allowing two cars to park in a drive, one in the garage, and a third in the drive "to perform work" would cause continuous jockeying of these parked vehicles. Cars would increasingly be backing out across, a heavily used sidewalk, onto the dangerous congested High street. This would significantly detract from the livability and appearance of the residential area SRC250.005(d)(2)(B) and cause a cumulative effect that is not consistent with our residential designation SRC250.005(d)(2)(C).

There was no analysis of the impact this development would have on the Grand which is just blocks away. Especially when all this would be doing is stealing customers from the Grand.

There has been much talk at the hearing about the money the California investor has put into refurbishing the house. This would have been required of anyone wishing to reside in the house or could be recouped through long term rental or sale.

It is unconscionable for the current residential property owners and residents to bear the inconvenience, the reduced security, the reduction in safety, and ultimately the financial burden of this ill-conceived enterprise.

William Vagt
690 Liberty St SE
Salem, OR 97301

Monday, October 8, 2018

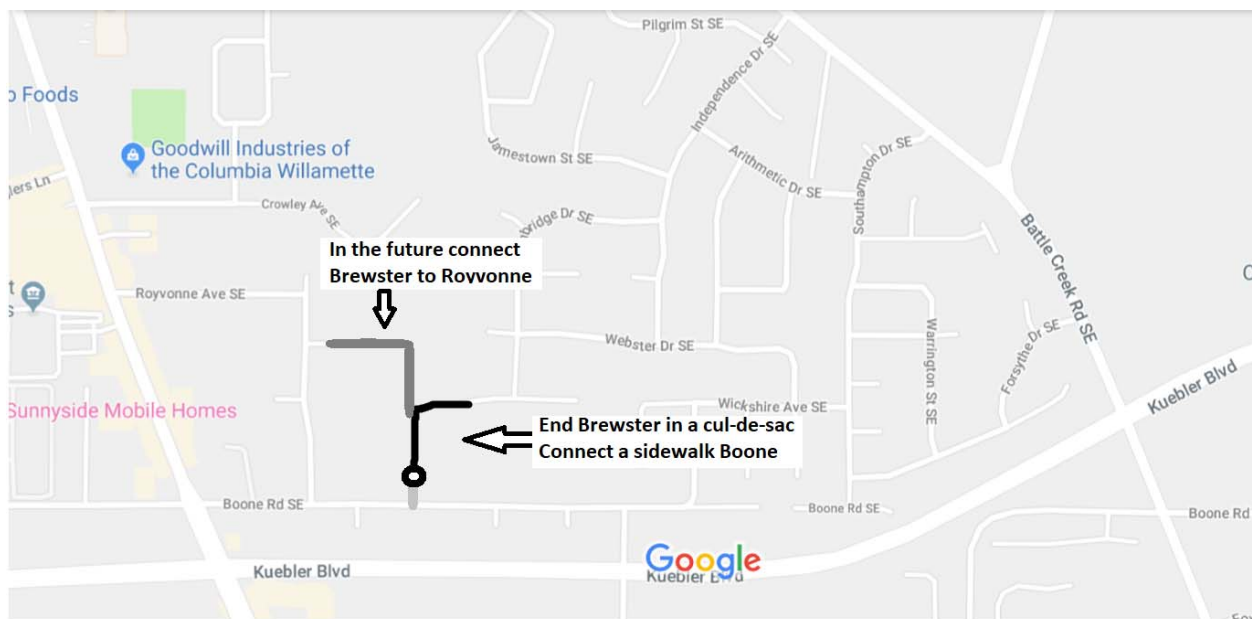
To whom it may concern,

I am writing to strongly propose a revision to development Case No. SUB-UGA1801.

The direct connection of Brewster Ct. to Boone Road creates an attractive shortcut between three major arterials, Commercial St., Kuebler and Battle Creek Rd. Commuters looking to bypass the intersections of these arterials will use this shortcut and significantly increase the traffic through the low use residential Cambridge neighborhood.

I propose possible the following changes to the development.

1. End Brewster in a cul-de-sac rather than a straight connection to Boone Road. This would protect the residential neighborhood from commuter traffic.
2. Create a pedestrian walkway from the cul-de-sac to Boone Road. This will connect pedestrians and bicycles in the Cambridge neighborhood to Boone Road.
3. In the future, connect Brewster Ct. to Royvonne Ave SE (an existing stub Street) which achieves a similar connection as proposed, but without creating such an attractive shortcut for commuters



Regards,

David Hands
1556 Brewster Court SE.
Salem, OR 97302
503-510-7915
davidh@esha.com

Monday, October 8, 2018

Amy Johnson

From: Bruce Carnine <bcarnine@qwestoffice.net>
Sent: Thursday, October 04, 2018 12:29 PM
To: Peter Fernandez
Cc: Alicia Blalock
Subject: Surcharge

Dear Mr. Fernandez

Suburban East Salem Water District is currently subject to a 7.5% Surcharge that was enacted on whole sale customers outside of the city limits that in my understanding was to basically account for costs linked to the use of the water system.

It is my understanding that the current COSA calculations account for our fair share costs for using the City's water system to receive water for the District to our intake meters, therefore, I find no reason for the 7.5% Surcharge to be in place. This appears to be double charging the District for costs already accounted for in the COSA formula.

Suburban East Salem Water District would like to propose that a recommendation be made to discontinue this charge to the District and, adjust the upcoming proposed rates accordingly.

I also sent a formal letter through the mail to your office.

I will try to get meeting dates from our board meeting Monday so we can coordinate with you the next meeting for the contract.

Thank you,

Bruce Carnine, Manager
Suburban East Salem Water District
phone 503-364-1620 fax 503-364-8215

Amy Johnson

From: Susann Kaltwasser <susann@kaltwasser.com>
Sent: Monday, October 08, 2018 3:08 AM
To: citycouncil; Chuck Bennett; Steve Powers
Cc: Irma Dowd; CityRecorder
Subject: Testimony on water rate increase
Attachments: ELNA comments on water rates 10818.pdf

Attached are comments from the East Lancaster Neighborhood Association regarding the proposed increase in water rate. Please enter this into the record for the public hearing item 4.d on October 8, 2018.

In case the attachment does not open below is the text of the document.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Susann Kaltwasser
ELNA co-president

October 8, 2018

To:
Mayor Bennett and Salem City Councilors
From:
Susann Kaltwasser, co-president ELNA
RE:
Water-Sewer Rate Increase (Item 4.d)

The East Lancaster Neighborhood Association board discussed the proposed increase in water/sewer rates. While some members are not pleased with the increase, we did not take a position on the proposal.

Our concern is over the impact that this increase will have on low-income households and those on fixed incomes. The board feels that there needs to be an increase in the assistance program for utilities.

Currently there is only a small discount for qualifying elderly or disabled persons who are also low income. The board asks that the Council consider looking at expanding the program to include all low-income families, especially those with small children.

This past year we have seen a sharp increase in property taxes from the two City bonds and the School District bond that will increase the pressure on those people on fixed incomes. Adding to this was an increase to the garbage fee, and we understand there may be another increase in those fees soon. All of this adds up very quickly and puts pressure on people who are trying to stay in their homes.

We know that the members of the Council are not heartless, uncaring people. We know that you want to address important infrastructure needs, but we also know there should be a balance between the City's needs and the needs for people to be able to meet their personal needs and safety.

Water is not a luxury. It is an essential need of everyone.

The unintended consequences of raising City fees are sometimes hard to judge. It is even harder when there is not good data being collected. Some time ago it was reported to the City Council that approximately 150 households have their water turned off each month. There was not data on what those people did in order to get their service restored. Staff just assumes that 'most people eventual pay their bills.' But where that money comes from is not tracked. Staff refers people to other agencies, but there is no follow up to see if they got assistance.

From personal experience in helping some of these people who had their water turned off, I know that some are making very difficult decisions on where to get money to pay their water bill. Some people have to forgo getting their medications, paying for heat, or making the car payment, for example. Some families who are under the supervision of DHS - Children's Services have been told that without water and heat, their children will be put in foster care.

I know that the Council does not want to believe they are part of the problem for such people. I know that you want to be part of the caring community that helps people stay in their homes, meet their basic needs and have a life that is without undue stress.

Other cities in our area have a more comprehensive assistance program. All the ones that I researched have programs for not only the disabled and elderly low-income customers, they include all low-income customers as well as deployed military families. Some administer the program themselves, while other donate funds to other social service agencies who are well equipped to determine eligibility and need.

Some cities get their funds by diverting a small amount of each water customer's bill to the assistance fund. Two examples are Portland which takes 1/2% and Eugene takes 1%. If we did that in Salem, it would be about \$0.35 to \$0.70 on average per customer. This is not an added fee, but a portion of their payment diverted to their assistance program.

Currently Salem has been using the funds that are donate. I do not know what that amount is this year, but in the past it was only about \$50,000.

Therefore, ELNA board asks the Council to consider the following actions:

1. Ask the staff to investigate expanding the financial assistance program to all household under the poverty level;
2. Begin collecting necessary data from customers and from social service agencies who deal with providing assistance, to see the extent of the need;
3. Make a donation to the Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency that provides support to needy families until other actions can be taken.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.