

David Jensen
47818 McKenzie Highway
Vida, OR 97488

(541)896-3395

COPY FOR YOUR INFORMATION

November 14, 2007

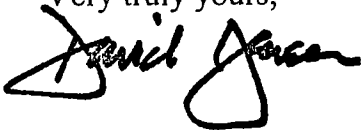
Lane County Land Management Division
Planning Commission
125 E. 8th Avenue
Eugene, OR 97401

Re: Re-Zoning File EA075588

Dear Lane County Land Management Division:

I have lived on the McKenzie River for the past 30 years. I am writing to support the application to re-zone property from Rural Industrial to Parks and Recreation at Blue River where the community will be able to develop a track and field facility. I enjoy jogging, and almost always have to do it either in Eugene where I work, or considerably below my home on the EWEB power canal. It is simply too dangerous to bicycle or jog on the McKenzie Highway. The contemplated track will provide a wonderful community recreation facility for those of us living along the river. Frankly, the property for years has been not only an eyesore, but probably dangerous. It would be wonderful to be able to see this improvement.

Very truly yours,



David Jensen

DJ:ljw

bcc: Jeff Sherman
54860 King Road
Blue River, OR 97413

October 28, 2007

Lane County Land Management Division
Planning Commission
125 E. 8th Ave.
Eugene, OR 97401

RE: PA075588

To the Planning Commission,

This letter is to encourage you to rezone the McKenzie Community Track and Field property from "Rural Industrial" to "Parks and Recreation." This rezoning will allow the completion of the track and field facility which will be so very important to the McKenzie Valley community.

Our two daughters participated in McKenzie School District's winning track program when they were students, and loved the physical activity so important to their developing minds and bodies, but the only practice field they and their fellow runners ever had was the highway in front of the school. We now have a chance to create a safe, beautiful, well-designed, publicly accessible facility just yards from the school grounds. The track would be centrally located in the long McKenzie Valley. It would be a safe area for students and staff from the school, as well as for the many community members who walk and run for fitness and health. It would allow athletes to run and train for competition and would allow the school district to host track meets for the school's track team, as well as "All Comers" meets for the community. It would be a very soft, level surface for those community members who, for health or safety reasons, are unable to access the area's trails.

We urge you to rezone this area, and to visit it yourselves to see what an ideal recreational property and beautiful benefit it would be to this entire community.

Thank you for your consideration,



Linda Schaefer
Michael B. Schaefer
49251 McKenzie Highway
Vida, Oregon 97488

Date: _____

To: _____

From: _____

SUBJECT: _____

October 26, 2007

Jane County Planning Commission
125 E. 8th Ave
Eugene, OR 97401

REFER to: PA075588

Please vote yes to allow the track at McKenzie High School - It is truly needed for the great track Program developed at the School and for others living in the community.

I cannot imagine our young children continually running on the highway - Lets make it safe for everyone and build a track

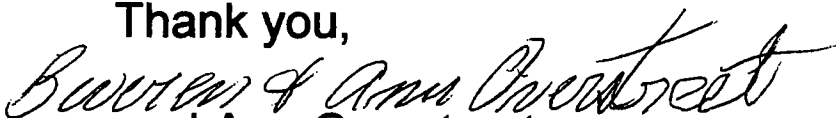
Thank you for listening
Brenda & Jack Holthaus
42053 Deerhorn Rd
Springfield, OR 97478
' 896-0106

Lane County Land & Management Division
Planning Commission
125 E. 8th Ave. Eugene, Or. 97401
Re. PA75588

Please consider and grant our request for changing subject property from Rural Industrial, to Parks and Recreation; for these and other reasons: Our community has evolved somewhat to a resort and retirement community, which precludes the need for industrial zoning. There is however a need for we seniors to have a safe and comfortable place to maintain our need for walking or running, depending on just how "senior" we all are. We do need income as a community to sustain the economy and provide service jobs for those who are working families with young people in school. To this end, such a zone change will attract others from outside the community; for such things as concerts, family reunions; and we also understand the Olympic Trials organizers are promoting our track as a favorable pollution-free place to work-out.

It is our considered opinion, there are more reasons to zone Parks and Recreation, than could be listed as needs for Industrial.

Thank you,


Beveren and Ann Overstreet
54655 McKenzie River Dr.
Blue River, Or. 97413

Janet and William Crandall
54691 King Rd.
Blue River, OR 97413

October 25, 2007

Lane County Land Management Division
Planning Commission
125 E. 8th Ave.
Eugene, OR 97401

Subject: McKenzie Community Track and Field Needs

Dear Sir or Madam:

We are writing in support of the proposed rezone of the proposed rezone of the property from "rural industrial" to "Parks and Recreation. We feel that this is an especially important project as one of us, Janet, must use a walker. Creation of a track surface will give her a safe place to exercise as using a walker on a road without sidewalks can be VERY dangerous. As our population ages we feel there will be an ever increasing need for a facility like this one.

Thanks very much for your consideration of our request.

Regards,

Janet and William Crandall

Janet and William Crandall

Lane County Land Management Division
Planning Commission
125 E 8th Ave.
Eugene OR 97401

11/7/07

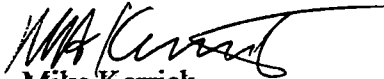
Dear Sirs

Refer to PA075588.

I am writing in support of the requested rezoning of the Mckenzie Community Track and Field from Rural Industrial to Parks and Recreation. We think the track is a very important asset to our community. It provides a much-needed safe place for recreational walking, especially for our older citizens because it is a soft and level place to pursue this healthy activity.

With the upcoming Olympic trials coming to the Eugene area next spring it offers an alternative place to practice especially for those athletes who might be impacted by high pollen counts in the valley.

Thank you for your consideration.



Mike Kerrick
Leaburg OR

October 25, 2007

Lane County Land Management Division Planning Commission
125 E. 8th Ave.
Eugene, OR 97401

Re: PA 075588

Greetings Planning Commission,

Thank you in advance for your careful consideration of this Zoning change request. My name is Wendy and I am a wife, mother and community member of the McKenzie Valley. I have lived here for 12 years and seen my community evolve from a timber-related economy to a tourist, resort, retirement existence.

Obviously the current zoning of this property is no longer appropriate for this community. The efforts of McKenzie Community Track and Field to re-zone is a necessary component to assist our community in transition despite of our timber economy woes. Similar to the phrase "when you get lemons, make lemonade," our community is preparing to utilize this property without individual or financial gain while attempting to share the fruits of well ness, education and safety with those near, and far. I can imagine my daughter's school track team being able to practice and hold home meets on an actual track (unlike the local pavement and gravel roads they currently use). Clearly, this is a positive step in the right direction.

I abundantly recommend the zoning be changed (without delay) to reflect the commitment and dedication of our community in transition.

Sincerely,



Wendy King
55357 McKenzie Hwy
Blue River, OR 97413
541-822-3506

M. GILBERT PORTER

P.O. Box 155
Vida, Oregon 97488
McKenzie River Hwy 45327
541- 896-3597

November 5, 2007

Lane County Land Management Division
Planning Commission
125 E. 8th Avenue
Eugene, OR 97401

Ref: PA075588

Dear Planning Commission:

The McKenzie Community Track and Field group (MCTF) has been working for almost five years now to fund and build a certified track for the McKenzie Schools that have never had a track and cannot afford to build one with their meager annual budgets. Under the hard work and leadership of Jeff Sherman and George Letchworth and a six-member volunteer Board of Directors—with enormous community and foundation support—the project now has accumulated in donations \$495,000 on the way to a goal of \$580,000 to complete the construction of the track, the two interior soccer fields, the landscaping, parking, drainage, wetlands lab, restrooms, storage building, and concessions. The activities that will take place here year around will provide a major site for athletic competition, for science projects in the wetlands lab and along the nature trails, and exercise for student athletes, walkers and joggers, retirees, and visitors who will be attracted to the beauty of the place and the enjoyment of athletic competition. In short, the site will be a substantial addition to the growth and the health of the Upper McKenzie community and, in fact, a source of pride for the whole state of Oregon.

I write, then, to urge the Planning Commission to approve the request from the MCTF to change the current zoning of the property from “Rural Industrial” to “Parks and Recreation.” This change will benefit many, violate no legal, property, or ecological restrictions, and harm no one. Many thanks for your consideration.

Yours truly,



M. Gilbert Porter, Ph.D. (U of O 1969)
Emeritus Professor of English

Lane County Land Management Division
Planning Commission
125 E. 8th Ave., Eugene, Or., 97401

11/02/2007

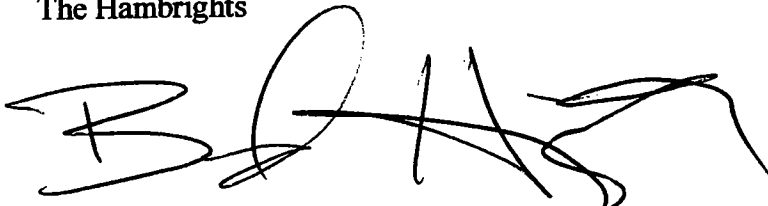
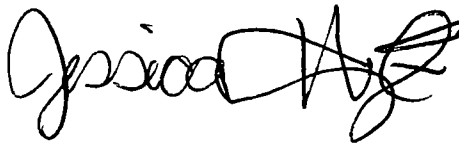
Refer to PA075588

I am a resident of Blue River, and have children that attend The Mckenzie Schools. This track is very important to have because it will provide safety for our students. As of now students are running on the Mckenz Hwy for their cross country, and track training. This is a very dangerous highway. It concerns me to see them running on it because of the many accidents that we have throughout the year. There is no room for these kids to quickly get out of the way of the vehicles. The track would provide a safe place for not only the students but the community as well.

As of now we do not hold any track meets at our schools. This would be a great opportunity to reach out more schools and have something for our students to be proud of, while bringing in money for the school. The mothers with the small children walking on the road, this track would be great to let their kids run around safely while these mothers can get their exercise. Elderly folks can safely use the track and be visible if they fall or have some kind of health emergency. All in all this track would be great for everyone in our community.

Thank-you,

The Hambrights

Brad and Jessica Hambright
51205 Blue River Dr
Vida, OR 97413

Do not see Blue River road

LANE COUNTY LAND MANAGEMENT
DIVISION
PLANNING COMMISSION
125 E. 8TH AVE., EUGENE, OR. 97401

Rod & Sharon Fouts
51207 Blue River Drive
Vida, Or. 97488
541-520-9864
riteway57@lycos.com

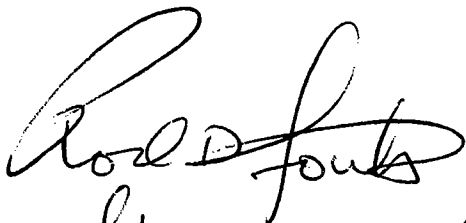
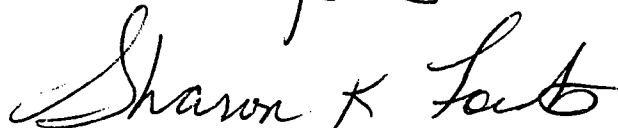
November 2, 2007

Refer to PA075588,

We are residents of the McKenzie School District and have Grandchildren Attending there. We would be extremely happy to have the track open for the kids to run and have their track meets there. The alternative has been, the kids running on the side of the highway, which if you have ever traveled hwy 126 you would know that it is not very safe. The Community has worked very hard on this project and it would be unreasonable to me to think you would not agree that it is important to have safe environments for our children. We desperately need this track!

Sincerely,

Signature

McKENZIE SCHOOL DISTRICT

No. 68

51187 Blue River Drive - Finn Rock, Oregon 97488

Kurt C. Cox
Science and Social Studies Department
McKenzie Middle School
51187 Blue River Drive
Finn Rock, Oregon 97488

RE: PA075588

Dear Lane County Planning Commission

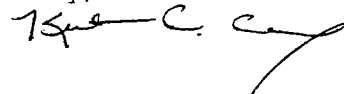
I urge you to rezone the area of the potential McKenzie Community Track from *rural industrial* to *parks and recreation* in a timely manner. This community based project is one that will work well to benefit the health of the citizens and guests of the upper McKenzie River communities as well as an environmental educational project center. As a member of the McKenzie Watershed Council, the potential of this showcase project to educate and bring economic diversity to a low socio-economic community is a resource waiting to be tapped.

I have been a McKenzie Valley resident, and teacher in the McKenzie School District, for twenty-two years. As a teacher and father, the running of our students on the public roadways during track season has been a great safety concern. The community track would provide a safe arena for our students to develop a healthy skill set and practice their events in a more supervised setting where the coaches can work with them to tune their skills. At a broader community level, the track has a great deal of potential in reducing obesity and creating a healthier adult community by having a solid, yet forgiving, surface to walk or run on, as well as a walking trail around the pond.

As a middle school science teacher, the track complex area provides diverse ecological settings and opportunities for our students to gain a more complete understanding of the complexities of their local environment. The pond area has been used by my students as a monitoring station for migratory avian communities, monitoring plant species, invasive species identification and extraction, macro-invertebrate collections, identifying indicator species for water health, aquatic chemical monitoring, amphibian reproduction and lifecycle and, through the use of depth meters installed by local community member, monitoring seasonal flow and containment of the pond. Several students have voiced an interest in developing a "community science" section at the kiosk where visitors could write their observations and also learn about local plants and animals and their relationship to the area.

This project is a potential jewel to the local community. However, as coal needs to have the right set of conditions to become a diamond, the track needs your force to move it forward. I urge you to weigh the benefits of rezoning this previously barren and unproductive former mill site transformation to a community focal point.

Sincerely,



District Superintendent
541-822-3338

High School Principal
541-822-3313

Elementary School Principal
541-822-3315

Lane County Planning Commission, pa075588
Nov, 08 2007

I am writing this letter in support of the McKenzie Community Track and Field. There are many reasons why this track would benefit our community along with all the obvious reasons such as a "safe place" for our high school students to train for their cross country and track events. I use this term a safe place due to the fact that for many years now we have had to use the shoulder of Highway 126 to train our young athletes this has never been a safe option, but unfortunately it has been the only one we have had.

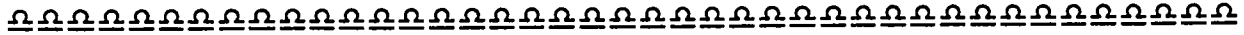
We have many adults in our community that would benefit from this track from moms walking with small children to elderly walking their dogs. I would love to see "all comer meets" held in our community this would be a great opportunity to introduce our teens into safe alternative activities during the summer months as well as having a place to host our own high school track meets as a an alumni of McKenzie High School this is one of the things we missed out on we always had to travel. What a beautiful place to host an event. When the school needed a new gym we jumped through hoops to make it happen. I would love to see the same enthusiasm and support in finally having a place where all members of our community could gather for more than just track and field.

I am a runner and I love to run on the McKenzie River Trail I have enjoyed it for years ,but as the years have passed the trail has been overran by mountain bikers I do believe we need to share the trail. Mountain bikes do cause damage to the trail and in turn it makes it hard to run on it. The track would definitely help with giving us runners another option than the highway. We have been in need of a track for over twenty years this would be something many will use for years to come.

Thank you,

Kathryn Price

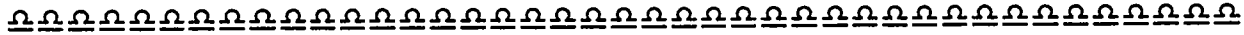
(541) 822-6033



Jane Q. DeGroot
56640 McKenzie Highway, M-2
McKenzie Bridge, OR 97413

(541) 822-3109

Nomads4fun@yahoo.com



November 14, 2007

Lane County Land Management Division
Planning Commission
125 E 8th Ave
Eugene OR 97401

Re: PA075588

Please rezone this property from Rural Industrial to Parks and Recreation.

The McKenzie Community Track and Field group will be creating a safe place for our walking and running fitness programs, both personal and for the school, a place for our school's track team to train and compete and will help bring money into our community as the athletes and their families come to train for the Olympic Trails to be held in Eugene in June 2008.

This area will be a centralized location for group meetings and provide educational resources for the community as well.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Jane Q. DeGroot

Adrienne D. Launer
56299 Hall Drive
McKenzie Bridge, OR 97413
November 10, 2007

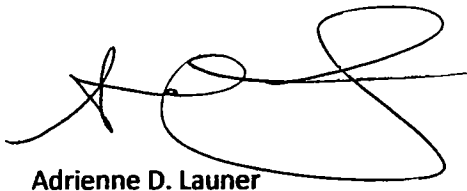
Lane County Land Management Division
Planning Commission
125 E. 8th Ave., Eugene, OR 97401

Refer to PA075588

I support the community track project. I personally look forward to using it. It is a wonderful location, close to the school, so the kids can easily get there. Currently, they run along highway 126. Even with the wide highway shoulders, the highway is a dangerous place to be. The track will give them a much safer place to run, a huge improvement over the highway.

I am a sports fan, and enjoy being a spectator at as many of the local competitions as I can attend. It will be marvelous to attend track meets next spring. Even if my own kid isn't competing, I enjoy watching the other kids compete. Participating in sports, including track and field events, will help these kids grow into healthy, fit adults. The track will be a wonderful community facility for all ages to enjoy, especially those of us who have quit running because our joints are aging. It's too tough on knees to continue running on the roads.

Thank you for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Adrienne D. Launer', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Adrienne D. Launer

10-28-07

Faye Steward,

Whenever I drive to Blue River to pick up a few items at the store I can't help but notice several seedy looking people hanging around the area of the gas station and the abandoned building next to it. I understand you are the person who can help these people move out of the area. We need to revitalize Blue River. The town has the possibility of being an attractive little community - good for tourism and good for us locals. As it is, I prefer to go to Vida for supplies and I also send my guests there.

October 25, 2007

PA075588

Lane County Land Management Division
Planning Commission
125 E. 8th Ave.
Eugene, OR 97401

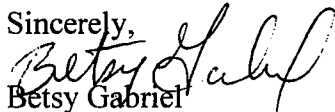
Greetings,

This letter is in regard to the rezoning of the property which has been donated to the community of which the McKenzie School District is a part, for the purpose of establishing a track. As a long time community member, and a McKenzie High School alumna, I am of the heart felt opinion that the track project must be seen through to completion.

The development of the site with a track will only add to the improvement of facilities available to the students of McKenzie School District, and the community as a whole. Certainly, a track will be an asset for practices, reducing the need for students to run along the roads and highways, as they have had no alternative to do for years, thus fostering their safety. In addition, it will provide a regulation facility for home track meets, something that has never been available to the students of McKenzie. The track and surrounding property would also be utilized by community members for personal fitness regimens. It is likely to become a regular meeting place for fitness walkers and runners. As people utilize an established area, a personal interest in stewardship of that area develops, and a greater interest in taking care of the area in and around Blue River is vital.

The town of Blue River has become an embarrassment. While there are still some business trying to make it, the greater appearance of the town is shameful...as if nobody cares. People visiting nearby lodging establishments are fearful of going into the town, and many locals simply avoid it. Perhaps developing a genuine concern for the betterment of an area, and actually taking steps toward its improvement has to take place from the fringes inward. There are those of us who keep up our homes and yards, who contribute to work days at places like that at which the track has been a project of focus, because we feel that every little bit helps. The rezoning of the track property would provide a park like area, a gathering place for exercise, for other community happenings, and sporting events. It would be a place to take pride in, and to take care of. With that, perhaps that caring attitude will eventually move in toward the center of town, and Blue River may at some future time, be a decent little town again.

Sincerely,


Betsy Gabriel

P.O. Box 181
Blue River, OR 97413

OCTOBER 24, 2007

PA075588

Lane County Land Management Division
Planning Commission
125 E. 8th Ave.
Eugene, OR 97401

To Whom it May Concern:

I am a McKenzie High School Alumni. I attended school at McKenzie from the 7th grade through out my high school years. The McKenzie District is a wonderful school in a beautiful location.

Unfortunately the McKenzie School district sits within an area that has been oppressed for some time. To drive into the McKenzie School parking lot, you would be surprised to find just a few miles down the road a deserted ghost town, a town that has been neglected and forgotten. Every attempt by community members to improve and build a thriving town in that area has continued to meet resistance. The Track and Field project is another example of that.

My question is WHY?

As a property owner and alumni, I want to see an area that is developed for use by school and community.

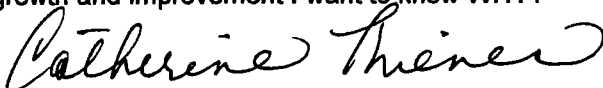
When I was in school and participating in track we would travel to other schools that had beautiful facilities for our competitions. When we had home track meets we would have to travel to a park in Blue River. There were no bleachers for spectators. There was no PA system for announcing. It was an after thought that decreased the participation and support from community. It was an embarrassment.

Today, it is even worse. How do we expect our children to respect property and participate in community and the good for the planet etc. when they are not even able to be shown value through the presence of facilities to participate in simple track and field events.

Allowing this donated property to become established shows not only the children that attend McKenzie High school that they are valued, it shows the town of Blue River and its residents that there is still life there. Community is needed. A central location is needed to safely exercise. A track and field that the participants of the track team can be proud of to host other teams is needed.

A glimmer of life is needed in this dying community. There are a number of families that have lived here for over 50 years. Each family can tell tales and history. Wouldn't it be nice to be able to continue to improve an rebuild this community into a thriving area again? In order to do that we need participation and events that pull people together. A park, a track provides the first of many steps to do that.

When someone says NO, or wants to stop progress in this area, when someone wants to stop growth and improvement I want to know WHY?



CATHERINE M. THIENES

October 30, 2007

Lane County Land Management Division
Planning Commission
125 E. 8th Ave.
Eugene, OR 97401

I am a life long resident of Lane County who purchased a home in the Blue River area three years ago. I have talked with many residents who would love to see some progress made in the area, with some new facilities that could serve those families who choose to live here. This area has been depressed for years, and it seems that little has been done to try to improve the situation. There are proposals and ideas floating around the community, and people now seem ready to make good things happen.

The proposed track facility is just the kind of thing this community needs. It would provide a place where parents could take their children to walk, hike and play. It would provide the Mckenzie School students a place to safely practice for the track and cross country seasons. This area is in dire need of some positive things that can provide alternatives to running on the highway.

Donations have been secured and a lot of hard work has already gone into this project. It would be a shame to see it die now. Blue River has a chance to make some positive progress, now. Please consider the alternative. Now is the time to take the first steps toward revitalization for the future of Blue River.

Respectfully,

Rick Ewoniuk
P.O. Box 157
Blue River, OR 97413



October 31, 2007

Lane County Land Management Division
Planning Commission
125 E 8th Avenue
Eugene, OR 97401

RE: PA075588 McKenzie track project

Dear Lane County Planning Commission:

I am writing this letter in support of the track project at Blue River, Oregon. The project will require rezoning of the property from "rural industrial" to "parks and recreation" but has the full support of the community and would be an asset to all concerned.

The situation at the high school, McKenzie High School, for training for competitive running events is deplorable and downright unsafe. Construction of a track on this property would certainly help this situation. A track on this property would also allow use by the general community and be a safe, level place for the more elderly citizens to walk or run for fitness.

I see no reason for any further delay on this matter, the sooner the rezoning can be accomplished and the planned project completed, the sooner it can be utilized and be an asset for the community for training, education, meeting place, and just generally a place of pride for the community.

I urge you to approve the rezoning of this property.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Fitch". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized font.

Michael Fitch
1269 Island Court, Springfield, OR 97477

October 27, 2007

PA075588

Lane County Land Management Division
Planning Commission
125 E 8th Ave.
Eugene, OR 97401

To Whom It May Concern:

The current state of Blue River is appalling. A once thriving, attractive little town has been reduced to transient camps, ugliness and the destruction of business plans for those trying to survive in this area. Community efforts to change this situation have been foiled again and again and as a rural community we often feel forgotten by the *powers that be* in Lane County.

I own and operate Drift Inn Bed and Breakfast, which is located ½ mile west of the town of Blue River and while my property is located on a beautiful stretch of the McKenzie River, clients of mine have mentioned that they feel fearful of walking through the nearby town, due to the groups of loitering people, many of whom live illegally in the business zoned buildings in the town. This state of affairs has been brought to the attention of Faye Stewart and hopefully somebody, somewhere will help us change this situation soon.

Blue River now has the opportunity for a Community Track and Field Center. Property has been donated to this area for a track, which will be not only a place for sporting events, but also an area for residents of all ages to enjoy as a beautiful place to walk, to meet, recreate and to enjoy. This would be a functional, beautiful park and it is necessary!

Please hear the voices of the residents of this McKenzie River area, who are trying to find ways to change an oppressive situation into one that promotes healthy growth. We *need* this Community Track and Field Center.

Sincerely,



Carolyn Gabriel
PO Box 365
Blue River, OR 97413

REC'D NOV 13 2007

**Lane County Land Management Division
Planning Commission
125 E. 8th Ave.
Eugene, Oregon 97401**

**Subject: Rezoning the 13 acres that comprise the McKenzie Community
Track and Field Grounds.**

I know you are well aware of the possibility for the McKenzie Valley to have one of the most beautiful track facilities in the county with the rezoning of the 13 acres mentioned above.

The site will offer the entire community an excellent facility for exercise; and recreation. Also a great way to get to know your neighbor and to get out and enjoy the beauty of the area.

Those of us who have lived in this Valley for many years have always known of the continuing drug related problems in Blue River. The young people there have very little to do so head in the wrong direction.

There's the possibility for High School Cross Country and Track and Field Events for the High School as well as regional/sectional, meets qualifying for the state meets.

Then there's always the possibility for athletes appearing in the 2008 Olympic Trials to use the facility to practice prior to that event.

The South end of the Track and Field Facility has a beautiful Nature Conservancy with a trail around a mill pond offering the possibility of viewing a variety of wildlife - ducks, beavers, and also a Birders paradise.

This area has been considered a low income area since the Dams were completed and construction workers all moved away and left empty homes and those who remained with little to do to occupy their time.

This facility will offer the youth in the community an outlet to work off their energies and just maybe one could become the next great track athlete from Oregon - and you know we do come up with some pretty great ones.

Your favorable consideration will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Joyce M. Brooks

(Mrs. Pierce R. Brooks)

P.O. Box 75

VIDA, OR 97488

REC'D NOV 07 2007

Lane County Land Management Division
Planning Commission
125 E. 8th Ave.
Eugene, OR 97401

RE: PA075588

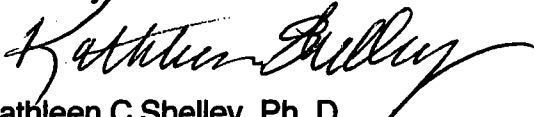
Dear Commission Members:

For several years the McKenzie community has been working to build a track and field facility in Blue River on property donated by Seneca Lumber Company. Students and community members have contributed materials and many hours of labor to help this project become a reality. Our goal is to provide both students and community members with a local facility where they can enjoy time together and participate in healthful activities. Community members are very proud of their progress on this project, and look forward to its completion in the near future.

As you probably know, rural communities rarely provide opportunities for students to gather and enjoy time together in a safe and supportive setting. The McKenzie Community Track and Field Project will help to fill that need in our community. In addition, the site can also serve as a living laboratory for science exploration. There is a stream flowing through the property, and part of the development plan includes for easy access. Students can utilize this area for observation and research. Real life, real time learning is much more effective than reading and/or conducting experiments in an isolated laboratory.

I am certain that you will understand the importance of this project to our community, and will expedite your approval.

Sincerely,



Kathleen C Shelley, Ph. D.
46525 McKenzie Highway
Vida, Oregon 97488
541-896-3210

HOWE Kent

From: HOPSBРАН@aol.com
Sent: Friday, June 08, 2007 1:24 PM
To: HOWE Kent
Subject: Support for PA 07-5588

Hi Kent,

We are contacting you to express our support for approval of PA 07-5588, the Plan Amendment/Zone Change request from the McKenzie Community Track and Field group to rezone 12+ acres from Rural Industrial to Rural Park and Recreation. It is important that these acres remain as open space and benefit the community as a site for recreation and education. We understand that McKenzie schools do not currently have a track and field facility, so creation of this recreation area is important. Apparently funds have been committed to improve the running surface.

Thanks for your consideration,

Nena Lovinger and Bob Emmons

See what's free at AOL.com.

David Jensen
47818 McKenzie Highway
Vida, OR 97488

(541)896-3395

November 14, 2007

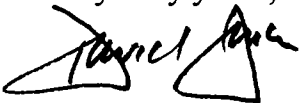
Lane County Land Management Division
Planning Commission
125 E. 8th Avenue
Eugene, OR 97401

Re: Re-Zoning File PA075588

Dear Lane County Land Management Division:

I have lived on the McKenzie River for the past 30 years. I am writing to support the application to re-zone property from Rural Industrial to Parks and Recreation at Blue River where the community will be able to develop a track and field facility. I enjoy jogging, and almost always have to do it either in Eugene where I work, or considerably below my home on the EWEB power canal. It is simply too dangerous to bicycle or jog on the McKenzie Highway. The contemplated track will provide a wonderful community recreation facility for those of us living along the river. Frankly, the property for years has been not only an eyesore, but probably dangerous. It would be wonderful to be able to see this improvement.

Very truly yours,



David Jensen

DJ:ljw

Blue River CDC

To: Lane County Planing Commission
Lane County Land Management Division
PSB 125 E. 8th. Av. Eugene Oregon

11, 19. 2007

From: Jim Baker
President
Blue River Community Development Corporation
P O BOX 320
Blue River Oregon 97413

Contact
Jim Baker
51013 McKenzie Hwy.
Finn Rock Oregon 97488
541-622-3379

Ref: PA075588
or PA 1244?

We the Blue River Community Development Corporation are supporting PA075588 the rezoning request by McKenzie Community Track & Field. This proposal; meets all the requirements of Lane County the state of Oregon and common sense.

The current zoning Rural Industrial is totally inappropriate & probably no industrial development would be allowed under the three basin rule,

The use of this property as a track & Field facility is highly desirable This well keep this property in open space & put it into public use.

This use will benefit the Youth of our community, Seniors, Students, Local businesses & all the Schools in our league as none of them have regulation Tracks.

This zone change is good for the economy and the environment

The Track is a needed asset to the economy of the Blue River Water District one of the most severely economically depressed areas of Oregon
"see attached report" the Blue River Survey

The Track Facility will be the second in a series of projects to revitalize Blue River.

First was the improvements to the Blue River Water system

Second completion of the Track Facility,

Third Will be approval of PA076215 the rezoning of the McKenzie River Mountain Resort [The ex Blue River Ranger Station + 6 acres]

Fourth will be getting a public waste water treatment facility within the Blue River Water District [Blue River Development node] currently there is a application for a grant to fund a feasibility study of a waste water treatment facility within the Blue River Water District boundaries

The Blue River development node needs a long range comprehensive review to address the desirable changes that are happening & can happen with a public waste water treatment facility

I expect to be seeing a lot of the Planning Commission in the next few years but I do not expect any other proposal to have the massive support that the McKenzie Community Track and Field proposal has.

Here is a fast summary of the history of the McKenzie Community Track and Field (MCTF)

1. Prior to accepting the property from Aaron Jones future board members walked the property with two individuals from the community who had worked at the Blue River Mill. Roy Richardson and Pud Juza walked the property with several members of the MCTF board of directors and indicated what had occurred on various portion of the property. Both Mr. Richardson and Mr. Juza indicated that they did not know of any major contamination. Since the 12.87 acres is mostly located on the old mill pond which had been filled with clean rock and dirt the board members felt confident that there was little possibility of contamination.
2. At the meeting with Aaron Jones when he offered to donate the property the issue of possible contamination was raised by a neighbor present at the meeting and Aaron assured those present that the property was clean. Mr. Jones later paid for **Phase I and Phase II environmental assessments. Neither assessment identified any potential problems.**
3. A group of community member assumed the responsibility for accepting the property and raising the funds for: A certified track and field for the community, Soccer fields for grades K-5, an accessible and educational wetlands for use by the school and community. **The MCTF 501 (c) (3) was established on March 31, 2004.**
4. In the spring of 2004 the MCTF and community volunteers were clearing the property and burning slash. A neighbor called LRAPA and John Morrissen from LRAPA investigated. MCTF had a burn permit, Gene Flint the local fire chief was present and we had all of the necessary equipment (water truck, etc). **No action by LRAPA was necessary.**
5. A concern regarding contamination at the property site was raised by a member of the community in May of 2003 in a complaint to the Oregon DEQ. In April, 2004 MCTF received a letter from the **Oregon DEQ indicating that no environmental problems were identified. (Oregon DEQ letter April, 19, 2004.**

6. In the spring of 2006 a complaint was made to the Oregon DSL by a neighbor. George Letchworth met with Mr. John Otsyula from the DSL at the property site. Mr. Otsyula indicated that we were in violation of exceeding the fill of more than 50 yards of material. Mr. Otsyula indicated he would follow up with a letter but did not do so. In September of 2006 we received a Cease and Desist Order. We were also told in an email that we could not remove vegetation until we had had completed a Wetlands Delineation. A wetlands delineation was completed in October of 2006.

On November 6 and 7 we received letters from the Oregon DSL. Indicating that the "original log pond was non-jurisdictional because it was artificially created from uplands per **OAR 141-085-0015** (5g). Therefore, the wetlands identified within the study are the remaining areas of the log pond and are non-jurisdictional." The second letter indicated that we had only filled 37 yards and since we did not exceed 50 yards a fill permit was not required. **On April 4, 2007 MCTF Received a letter from the Oregon DSL Indicating that Enforcement File No. 6353 was closed and that we were not in violation and that no violation had occurred on the property (Oregon DSL letter April 4, 2007).**

7. On August 15, 2006 a neighbor, Mr. Harry Bonini, filed a Petition for Superfund Preliminary Assessment with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Representatives of the MCTF met with two EPA officials in February, 2007. The EPA report was completed on **April 30, 2007. The EPA report indicates that there was no basis for action.**

8. During the summer of 2007 George Letchworth was passing the track site and Mr. Harry Bonini and a young man were in the track driveway. Mr. Letchworth stopped and asked if they needed some assistance. The young man was Garrett Dorsey who is a Regulatory Project Manager with the US Army Corps of Engineers and he was there based on a complaint that Mr. Bonini had made to Peter DeFazio, US Congressman. Mr. Letchworth later talked to Mr. Dorsey and asked to be notified if there were any significant problems. **Mr. Dorsey was aware of the previous Oregon DEQ, DSL, EPA and Wetlands Delineation reports. No report of concerns were forthcoming from the US Army Corps of Engineers.**

As you can see the Track has been reviewed by many agencies and some such as LRAPA & DSL found they had NO JURISDICTION yet a vast amount of tax payer dollars were spent.

The McKenzie Community Track & Field has received financial support in a amount just under \$500,000.00 With financial donors ranging from the Gift of the property by Aaron Jones, The Nike Grant, The Ford Family Foundation Grant to donations as small as \$1.00 and many hours of work

Thank You

Jim Baker

Blue River CDC

ATTACHMENT "A"

11, 19. 2007

" BLUE RIVER COMMUNITY SURVEY"

Lane County Planing Commission
Lane County Land Management Division
PSB 125 E. 8th. Av. Eugene Oregon

Jim Baker
President
Blue River Community Development Corporation
P O BOX 320
Blue River Oregon 97413

Contact
Jim Baker
51013 McKenzie Hwy.
Finn Rock Oregon 97488
541-622-3379

**Lane County Community and Economic Development Program
And
Blue River Water District**

“Blue River Community Survey”

By: Talal Al-Rahbi, Lane County C. & E. D. Assistant,
Peter Thurston, Lane County C. & E. D. P. Coordinator,
Edward Weeks, Ph.D., PPPM Director, University of Oregon

Introduction

The report is based on the fielding of a survey that was conducted recently in Blue River Community to assess the community’s low-moderate income thresholds. Lane County Community and Economic Development Program conducted the Survey, in the period May 29 – June 21, 2003. Under the oversight of David Kavanaugh of the Oregon Economic and Community Development Department (OECDD), and by working closely with professor Edward Weeks, Lane County Community and Economic Development Program (LCCEDP) planned, pretested and conducted this survey.

Survey Methodology

I. Sample

Due to the fact that Blue River is an unincorporated community, and there is no complete list (a census) of the people residing within the Blue River Water District, a process needed to be defined for arriving at an accurate residents list. The list we used to conduct the survey was developed through the following steps*:

* The process of obtaining the Blue River Water District residents’ list was developed after two meeting and close communications between the Lane County Community and Economic Development Program and both Jim Baker, President of Blue River Community Development Corporation, and Ann Robson, Member of Blue River Water

1. Identified the residents of the community of Blue River as those residing within the legal boundaries of the Blue River Water District. This was completed using a tax lot map that shows exactly the legal boundaries of the Blue River Water District.
2. Obtained Blue River Water District's households billing list that includes all addresses of households that are Water Districts service recipients. Most of the addresses in this list are post office box mailing addresses.
3. Add to the above list all the families who are known to be residing within the Blue River Water District boundaries, but are not recipients of the Water District service. Primarily these are residents known to have their own wells.

Also, added to this list are families known to be residing in multiple family households, or more than one household receiving water using one Water District meter. This was confirmed by one survey questionnaire.

4. Obtained Blue River Fire District structures list, which includes street addresses of all structures that are located within Blue River Water District boundaries.
5. Conducted a cross checking between the Water District's list and the Fire District structures list. The Fire District's list was the base list, and was checked with the Water District's list to make sure that no household address, located within the boundaries, were left out. Moreover, for all addresses that are on the Fire District's street addresses list, but not on the Water District list; an in-field (Windshield) verification was conducted to insure that the new addresses are not vacant or businesses. A second verification was conducted during the door-to-door surveying.

The above steps resulted in a total number of (101) households within the boundaries of Blue River Community. When conducting the survey, the result brought the number

District Board. Professor Edward Weeks attended one meeting, and he was closely informed of the progresses. The in field (Windshield) verification of addresses was conducted by Jim Baker and Ann Robson.

down by four numbers to a total of (97). The process in which the result was attained is summarized in the following:

- a. The total number of households on the list = 101
- b. The survey (in both telephone and door-to-door interviews) resulted in taking off the list four households (2 abandon houses, 1 house had being sold and the new owner of the house did not move in yet when the survey was conducted, and 1 moved out).
- c. The survey resulted in taking off the list all summer residents who answered No to the survey instrument question: “Is this your primary residence? Do you live six months or more of the year in Blue River”, and those who could not be reached when conducting the survey. In addition, three other households were taken off the list for two reasons; first, these households have been identified by community members as being summer residents only. Second, we were unable to reach them when conducting the survey. The total summer residents are five (2 answered “No” to the above question and 3 known summer residents that could not be reached).
- d. The survey also resulted in adding to the list five more households (3 were found in a multiple family household, 1 was dropped out of the original list by error, and 1 house was found during the door-to-door survey)

The total number of Families: 97

II. Data Collection

The survey was conducted in two forms, telephone survey and door-to-door. We conducted telephone interviews to cover as many households with telephone lines as possible from the final list of household. Conducted door-to-door interviews to all other households without telephone line, in addition to all households, which we were unable to reach by telephone calls.

Interviewer training was conducted on May 29, 2003. Telephone interviewing was conducted at a different time of the day May 29 – June 21, 2003. In person interviewing was conducted on two days, Thursday June 5, 2003 between 10:00am and 2:00pm and Saturday June 14 between 10:00am and 2:30pm. We have completed 83 interviews with adults age 18 and over. Up to 9 telephone calls were made to each valid telephone number, and two visits to households without a telephone line or disconnected telephone lines. In addition to this, at least one visit to all households with a valid telephone number that could not be reached by telephone. Interviews averaged 3 to 4 minutes. We have achieved an 85.5% response rate and 2% refusal rate.

Despite the fact that we completed 83 interviews, 3 respondents refused to answer the key income question, therefore our sample size n=80. At this sample size, the confidence interval is around ± 5 at the 95% confidence level. However, in presenting results for income thresholds we used data for sample size n=80. For all other results, we used sample size n=83.

III. Survey Instruments

The Survey was initiated mainly to assess low-moderate income thresholds in Blue River, and to use the same effort to collect information concerning the following:

1. Number of households and families including information about multiple families within households.
2. Median and arithmetic mean (average) family income.
3. Opinion on Blue River's community facilities.
4. The number of families that currently uses the services of the McKenzie clinic.

The key survey questions on the household/family size and family income thresholds were taken out of a sample survey instrument provided by OECDD. Jim Baker, President of Blue River Community Development Corporation, initiated the community

facilities and the clinic services questions. Working closely with David Kavanaugh of OECDD, Lane County Community and Economic Development Program developed, tested, and implemented the survey instrument.

Survey Results

1. Family Size:

Respondents were asked: “How many persons in your family reside at this address, including yourself?” Respondents’ answers represented 198 persons in all. All persons were distributed across household sizes as follows: 25% in one-person families, 47.5% in two-person families, 8.8% in three-person families, 11.3% in four-person household, 3.8% in five-person families, 1.3% in six-person families, 1.3% in seven-person families, and 1.3% in nine person families.

2. Family Income Thresholds:

Respondents were asked: “During 2002, was the total money income of your family before taxes above or below \$ _____,” specified amount, which was contingent upon family size.

For Blue River Community, Oregon, the low and moderate family income thresholds by family size were defined using Oregon Community Development Block Grant 2003 Low and Moderate Income limits sheet that was provided by OECDD. The sheet was effective February 20, 2003. The income thresholds for Lane County, by family size, are showing in table 1.

Table 1: Low-Moderate Income Thresholds, by Family Size

Family Income	Family Size
\$28,500	1
\$32,600	2
\$36,650	3
\$40,700	4

The Income information for 80 interviews, covering 190 persons in families that live in the Blue River Community, is summarized below in table 2. Also, we have developed a table for comparing the distribution of family size by family income (table 3).

Table 2: Persons Below Low-Moderate Income Thresholds, Blue River, Oregon, June 2003.

Number Persons in Family	Low- Moderate Income Threshold	Persons Above	Persons Below	All Persons	% Below	DK/Refuse Resp'ts	Number Survey Respondents
1	\$28,500	6	14	20	70.0%	0	20
2	\$32,600	24	52	76	68.42%	2	40
3	\$36,650	12	9	21	42.86%	0	7
4	\$40,700	8	28	36	77.78%	1	10
5	\$44,000	0	15	15	100.00%	0	3
6	\$47,250	6	0	6	0.00%	0	1
7	\$50,500	0	7	7	100.00%	0	1
8	>\$53,750	0	9	9	100.00%	0	1
Total		56	134	190	70.53%	3	83

Table 3: Comparing the distribution of family size by family income

Number of Person in the Family	Families with low and Moderate Incomes		Families above Low and Moderate Income	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
One	14	25.5%	6	24.0%
Two	26	47.3%	12	48.0%
Three	3	5.5%	4	16.0%
Four	7	12.7%	2	8.0%
Five	3	5.5%	0	0.0%
Six	0	0.0%	1	4.0%
Seven	1	1.8%	0	0.0%
Eight	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Nine	1	1.8%	0	0.0%
Total	55	100.0%	25	100.0%

2. Blue River’s Family Income Median and arithmetic mean (average).

Respondents were asked: “For the year 2002, how much would you estimate the total family money income from all sources to be (exactly/as close as possible) _____” Only 60 families provided the money income amount, and 23 declined to provide it. The results are summarized in table 4.

Table 4: Blue River’s Family Income Median and mean

Median	\$30,000.00
Average (arithmetic mean)	\$32,738.08

3. Opinions on Community Facilities Constructions & Question on using the services of the McKenzie Clinic.

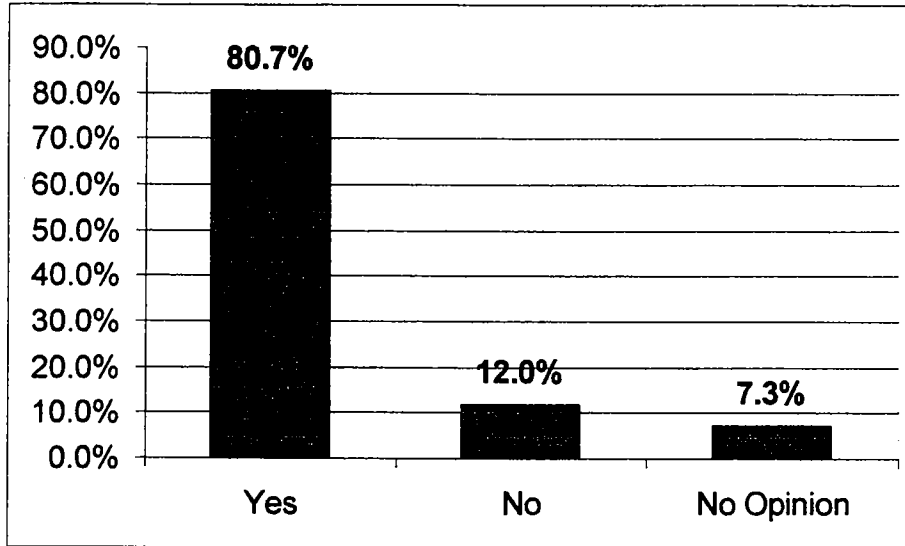
Responding to a request by the Blue River Community Development Corporation, we included three questions in the survey related to community facilities as follows:

- a. “Do you support development of track and field facilities for community and school use? The facilities will be paid for through private contributions” Yes/No
- b. “Do you support construction of a Soccer field at the McKenzie Track and Field facility for use by elementary age boys and girls?” Yes/No
- c. “Do you currently use the services of the McKenzie Clinic?” Yes/No

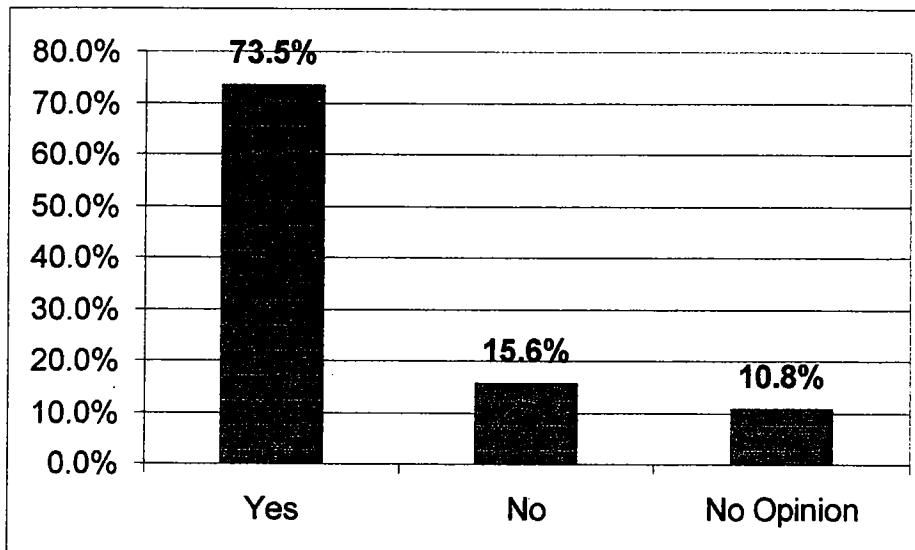
Respondents were giving the option of answering yes or no to the above questions. We did not anticipate the respondents to withhold from answering yes or no, therefore, the interviewers marked “no opinion” when the person interviewed did not have an opinion for the questions or said “neither”.

The responses to the above question are summarized in the graphs below:

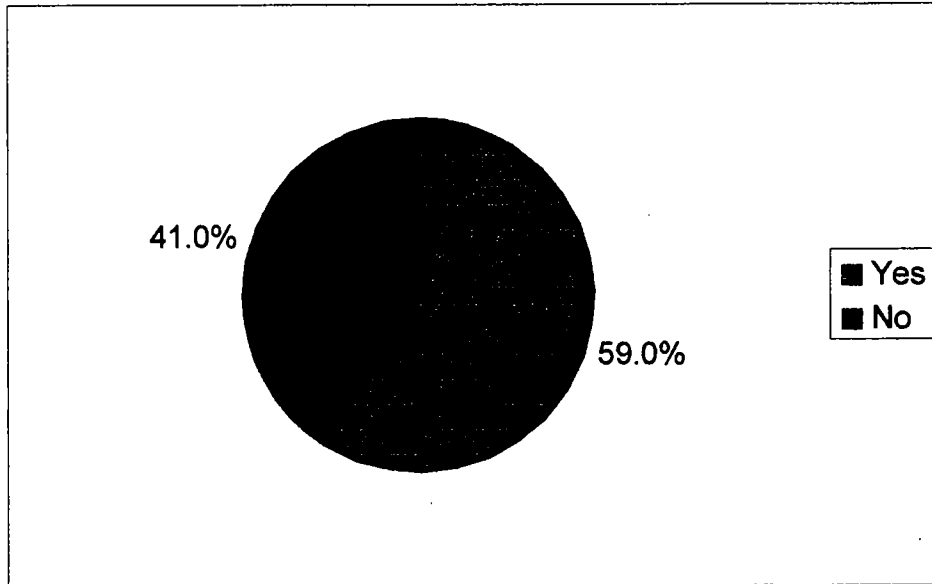
Graph 1: “Do you support development of track and field facilities for community and school use? The facilities will be paid for through private contributions”



Graph 2: “Do you support construction of a Soccer field at the McKenzie Track and Field facility for use by elementary age boys and girls?”



Graph 3: “Do you currently use the services of the McKenzie Clinic?”



Conclusion

The results of this survey indicate that Blue River Community does meet the 51% low-to-moderate family income level required to qualify for CDBG. Although we could not interview all families living in Blue River, this survey's sample size suggests that the final result would not have been different.



REF: PA 075588

To Whom It May Concern:

Request the Lone County
Commissioners support the
development of the track
and field at McKinzie
High School.

Neil E. Conannon

Former owner of Davis Tr. Park.
Paid a bundle of residential
and business taxes to Lone
County for 30 years.

November 19, 2007

PA075588

Lane County Land Management Division
Planning Commission
125 E. 8th Avenue
Eugene, OR 97401

Dear sirs,

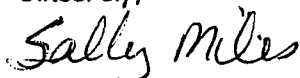
I am writing in support of the McKenzie Community Track and Field Project and their request to rezone property in Blue River from "Rural Industrial" to "Parks and Recreation". I am a resident of Blue River and my children attend McKenzie Elementary School. I believe that the track project benefits both the McKenzie School District and the community of Blue River tremendously by providing a safe place for students and community members to come together to participate in healthful activities and would like to see the project completed.

My children and I have spent several Saturdays pulling weeds, planting trees, clearing brush, and otherwise helping the many supporters of the track improve and beautify this park-like area. It has provided a wonderful opportunity for my children to work together with neighbors and give back to their community and develop a sense of pride and ownership in their community and its future. The track property is near the school and off the main highway, thereby providing a safe, convenient place for the children to walk and run and explore nature. My children like to time each other running laps around the track and look forward to watching and competing in track meets at this facility in the future.

I would like to see the McKenzie Community Track and Field Center completed to become a regulation facility for track meets, a meeting place for community events, an educational facility for nature studies, and a source of pride and revitalization for the community of Blue River. The completed track would provide a safe, centrally located place for students and staff at the school and members of the community to meet to walk and run for fitness and health as well as run and train for competition. Track meets for the school's track team as well as "All Comers" meets for the community would be held at the track. Science classes would do field studies at the park. Concerts, family reunions, youth soccer games, and other community events and activities would be held at the track.

I am asking the Lane County Planning Commission to recognize the benefits of the McKenzie Community Track and Field Center to the McKenzie River community and approve this project. It means so much to our school and community.

Sincerely,



Sally Miles

PO Box 148

Blue River, OR 97488

Lane County Land Management Division
PSB 125 E. 8th Avenue
Eugene, OR 97401-2926
Attention: Deanna Harris

Regarding: PA075588
Rezoning request of the McKenzie
Community Track and Field

From: George A. Letchworth, Ph.D.
55429 Delta Road
Blue River, OR 97413
541 822 3744

This is a letter of support for the rezoning request of the McKenzie Community Track and Field (MCTF). **I strongly support the rezoning of the MCTF property** and have been actively involved on the board of directors of the MCTF. I have invested thousands of hours and money in the project so I have a substantial commitment to the project.

The Blue River community and the McKenzie Schools have been in decline since the 1980's. There are currently a number of efforts to turn the decline around and to develop a thriving rural community. The community has been selected as one of the four rural Oregon communities in 2008 to participate in the Ford Family Community Development program. The Blue River CDC is active in pursuing a sewer system for the community that would support the building of affordable housing. The former Blue River Ranger Station has sold and is being developed and could potentially support a number of jobs. The MCTF is a non-profit that has a vision of providing: 1. A certified track and field, 2. A soccer field for K-5 grades, 3. An educational and accessible wetlands site. An unfortunate death of a young man who would have been a high school senior has galvanized the school and the community to focus on providing some positive alternatives for the local youth (Prevention Coalition). Optimistically, we may have the critical mass of events and the proper time to make a positive difference in our community.

It is important to recognize that there is strong community support for the MCTF project as evidenced by the individuals engaged, time devoted to the project and the substantial financial contributions. It has been amazing to see a small rural community move toward the completion of a \$600,000+ project (currently a bit over \$500,000).

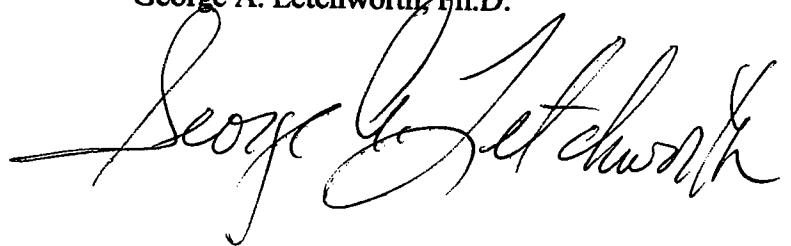
There are many positive facets of the MCTF project but those that are important to me are:

1. The MCTF project can accomplish what is considered an important Oregon goal, the rehabilitation of a mill site. MCTF is and can transform a millpond into a track and field "of dreams" and the portion of the millpond that is still a pond into an "educational and accessible wetlands".

2. MCTF will provide an "open space" that will benefit the school and the community in many ways. The benefits are set forth in the rezoning application and in the letters of support.
3. The MCTF is an important keystone in the revitalization of the Blue River community. The site is ¼ mile east of the McKenzie Schools and will provide resources that support a number of wellness activities such as track and field and soccer. The middle school and high school science classes have used and will increase their usage of the wetlands for science research. The MCTF site is one mile west of the Blue River community center and provides a western anchor (along with the McKenzie Schools) for the development of the community.
4. Last but surely not least, the track and field will provide a safe, level and soft surface for those of us who wish to walk, run, or rehabilitate our new knees, hips, etc. We have a substantial retirement community that needs a site that is conducive to wellness and the MCTF would like to provide the site.
5. The track and field will provide the school population with a first class facility that will benefit our community youth. The T&F facility can also be a "recruitment tool" as the school develops a program to attract families and students to our school. We need to increase our school enrollment and having the MCTF resources available will be a really strong selling point for some families. Speaking of selling, the MCTF facilities can also be used by the businesses in our community to entice newcomers.
6. The future vision of the MCTF is to have a multi-use site that enhances our community. We have a landscape plan that involves using native plants and eliminating the invasive plants (we have currently planted 2,500 firs and cedars). We have had a number of community workdays where we have removed many invasive plants. Unfortunately we were told not to remove invasive plants for a long time while a state agency reviewed a complaint and the invasive plants had a "field day".

In summary, I strongly support the rezoning of the MCTF site and look forward to living in a vibrant rural community.

George A. Letchworth, Ph.D.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "George A. Letchworth". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "G".

November 26, 2007

To: Lane County Land Management Division
PSB 125 E. 8th Avenue
Eugene, OR 97401-2926
Attention: Deanna Harris

From: Frances Everett Letchworth, Ph.D.
55429 Delta Rd.
Blue River, OR 97413
541-822-3744

Re: PA075588
Rezoning request of the McKenzie Community Track and Field
SUPPORT of the McKenzie Community Track and Field

I am highly supportive of the McKenzie Community Track and Field. As a long-term member of the Blue River community, a mother, and a psychologist, I perceive that the proposed community track and field would be an excellent resource and addition to our community. **This is a project that will benefit our community and our local school.**

From a wellness perspective, the Community Track and Field will provide a needed area for walking, running, other track and field events, and soccer. For children and adolescents in our community the track and field will provide a much needed resource. Students at our local McKenzie Schools will be able to use the facility and will no longer need to practice relays on a highway. Other community members will also be able to use the track and field for exercise. Parents with young children will have an area to exercise where they can still supervise their children. When I had younger children I took them to a track (in another state) and watched my sons play while running in circles around them. We all enjoyed it. Older adults will also have a level surface for walking for fitness and rehabilitation, if needed.

The track and field proposal also plans to promote wetlands protection and community education. Our local school will be able to use the wetlands for education. I also understand that the project complies with applicable environmental requirements and perceive that it is a low-impact development.

I perceive this is an ideal project for our area and community. I have summarized some of the benefits of the proposed McKenzie Community Track and Field. This project has extensive community support, and I know that other community members

Frances Everett Letchworth, Ph.D. Page 2

have been and will be identifying other benefits. Large numbers of volunteers of all ages (children-older adults) have donated their time and, when feasible, have made financial contributions.

Please facilitate and support the McKenzie Community Track and Field and help us create what we call our "Field of Dreams". Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Frances Everett Letchworth, Ph.D.

Frances Everett Letchworth, Ph.D.

89055 Whitewater Rd.
Springfield, OR 97478
November 20, 2007

RE: PA075588

To Whom It May Concern:

The Blue River area has been afforded a great opportunity to make improvements in their community with the development of the McKenzie Community Track and Field/community park. During the 1980s there was an effort and accompanying funding to try to improve the village of Blue River. Apparently those funds were exhausted and, along with the loss of two popular restaurants, one store, and the infamous Blue River Tavern, the area fell further in decline. In recent months Blue River became the home to many transients and undesirables who were making the local residents feel uncomfortable walking even a short distance to the post office or to the one remaining store.

My family and I were residents of the upper McKenzie valley for 30 years. I have been an employee of the McKenzie School District for 19 years. My children received their educations at McKenzie. Our sons both ran cross country and track and field. The only place for their distance runs was along the busy McKenzie highway or, for shorter runs, along Blue River Drive.

I would personally like to recommend that the Lane County Planning Commission approve the rezoning to allow a track and community park to be completed for the betterment of the Blue River area. The McKenzie Community Track and Field Foundation has put in a huge effort of planning, recruiting weekend volunteers, and chasing down grants and donations to make the track feasible. This might be the boost the area needs to bring in more visitors and to provide a place for local residents and, of course, McKenzie School students to walk, run, or work out in our beautiful outdoors. In addition, the completion of this project in the next few months would give Lane County another area for Olympic Trial participants to train.

Sincerely,



Catherine A. Beam

From: Peter Almeida
46589 McKenzie Hwy
Vida OR 97488

To: Lane County Planning Commission
125 E 8th St, Eugene OR 97401

Re: PA07558 Rezoning McKenzie Track Site

I write to add my voice to those from our community who support ~~for~~ changing the zoning of the McKenzie Community Track and Field from "Rural Industrial" to "Parks and Recreation". Aside from creating a safe place for the promotion of health activities and sports, as a park this site will also serve as a magnet for community events, family gatherings and education.

Please move to make this zoning change.

Thank you,
Peter Almeida

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48045 McKenzie Hwy
Vida, OR 97488

November 19, 2007

Lane County Land Management Division
Planning Commission
125 E 8th Ave
Eugene, OR 97401

In regards to: PA 075588

Dear Madam or Sir:

I am writing to you today concerning the request being presented to rezone property in the Blue River area from "Rural Industrial" to "Parks and Recreation". If this request is approved, the McKenzie community will be able to move forward with plans to begin building a recreation area for the residents with the first step being construction of the track.

The town of Blue River is home to the McKenzie School District. McKenzie is one of the few schools in our state that has K-12 students on one campus. This type of school not only creates a feeling of closeness for the students, it also brings together all the members of the community to support activities in the area. The opportunity for the McKenzie River community to have a recreation area of this kind is long overdue and desperately needed to continue to grow as a positive environment for our children and their families. This area would give everyone a safe, local place for young and old to meet together for various activities during the year. After the track area is completed, this will provide a place for the school to hold both educational and athletic events without incurring excessive transportation costs and/or travel time. Families will be able to use this area for recreation as well, giving them a much needed place for safe exercise and outdoor activities.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter of support for the above mentioned zoning request. The construction of a park and recreation area of this kind is something the residents of the McKenzie River area will be very proud of in the coming years and we are confident the Planning Commission will approve this request.

Sincerely,
Christie Rosenthal

• • • • •

54860 King Rd.
Blue River, OR 97413

Lane County Land Management Division
Planning Commission
125 E 8th Ave.
Eugene, OR 97401

RE: PA075588

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to voice my support of the McKenzie Community Track and Field project and to urge you to support rezoning the site to Parks and Recreation.

I am the track and field and cross country coach at McKenzie Middle and High Schools as well as the Industrial Arts Teacher and Physical Education teacher for grades K-12. I have been working for many years to build a track facility for the community and school and I am President of the McKenzie Community Track and Field nonprofit organization that has worked to achieve this goal. The track program is widely supported in the community, with a core of dedicated members, including myself, who will continue to support and maintain the facility for many years to come. This track will be important not only for our school's track team, but it will also be the only track in our conference that will be able to host the district meet, because it will be the only regulation size track.

I have lived in the McKenzie Valley for 29 years and have 2 children who are graduates of McKenzie High School and 1 who is currently attending the high school and 1 in the middle school. They have all been on the track and cross country teams through middle school and high school and they and their team mates have learned so much from the discipline, commitment, and excellence that these sports demand, which are also important skills that will help them achieve success in college and make them good citizens in the community. They have worked hard and achieved some recognition and success in the state, but we feel the time has come to move to the next level which they can only achieve with a facility where they can practice all the events of track and field. Some parents, who have never been able to see their children compete because we have not been able to have a home track meet, can finally share in the joy and achievement of their child's hard work. Also, all those children and adults who have never seen a track meet because they are so far away, will finally have the opportunity to witness the fun and excitement of track and field and perhaps be drawn to join in themselves and begin the road to fitness, in a sport where anyone can compete and maintain lifelong fitness and health. Because of the diversity of its events, track and field really does have something for everyone, regardless of their abilities, unlike many other sports. I am also a member of the McKenzie PTA and a member of McKenzie's Wellness Committee. I feel the track facility and park will not only be a much needed place for our school track team to finally have a safe place near the school to practice and host track meets, but will also be a place for school P.E. classes and for science classes studying wetlands to meet and explore. It will also be a great place for adults to come to work out together, enjoy all comers' track meets, as well as a large community site to have concerts, festivals, reunions, and other activities for the local community as well as draw others into the community to discover our beautiful setting and draw much needed tourist dollars into our river economy.

It is particularly urgent that rezoning is not delayed, so we can have the track ready in time for the 2008 Olympic Trials athletes to have a beautiful regulation sized track to practice on prior to competing in the trials. Our clear fresh air makes a welcome alternative for those with asthma or allergies, to the pollens in the Willamette Valley at that time of year.

I believe strongly in the importance of this project for the future of our community and the health, safety, and economic well being of my students and athletes as well as the staff and community members.

Please grant the rezoning for such an important project for this community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeff Sherman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "J".

Jeff Sherman

McKenzie Schools PTA
51187 Blue River Dr.
Finn Rock, OR 97488

November 14, 2007

Lane County Land Management Division
Planning Commission
125 E. 8th Ave., Eugene, OR 97401

To Whom It May Concern:

In March of 2007 the McKenzie Schools PTA voted to take a stand in favor of the McKenzie Community Track and Field. We are now asking you to rezone the property that has been donated for this track from 'Rural Industrial' to 'Parks and Recreation.'

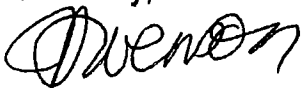
The PTA supports the McKenzie Community Track and Field as this place will be a great resource to the school and the community at large. The track will be available to students and staff for walking and running for exercise, for physical education classes, for the track team to practice on and for "home meets."

There is a natural stream running through the property as well as native plant and animal species. This land can be a valuable resource for our science teachers. McKenzie Schools has students from Kindergarten through twelfth grade and students will have the opportunity to study this land, the flora and fauna over many years and through many seasons.

This land will also be available for community events and the PTA will have the opportunity to hold events on this land. This could also give our small rural school more visibility. There are few places outside of the school grounds that are available for PTA sponsored events.

One of the reasons we want to get the track finished this spring is so athletes from all over the country who are competing in the Olympic Trials in Eugene in June 2008 can come here as a place to train before and during the trials. The Olympic Trials organizers are already promoting our track for that purpose on their web site and have a link to our web site. Think of what a wonderful opportunity it would be for our students to see athletes training for the Olympics!

Sincerely,



Joy Swenson
PTA President

52959 McKenzie Hwy.
Blue River, OR 97413

Lane County Land Management Division
Planning Commission
125 E 8th Ave.
Eugene, OR 97401

RE: PA075588

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to voice my support of the McKenzie Community Track and Field project and to urge you to support rezoning the site to Parks and Recreation.

My husband and I have been members of the McKenzie River Community for many years and are owners of the Christmas Treasures store near Blue River. One of our sons attends McKenzie High School and the other two sons are graduates.

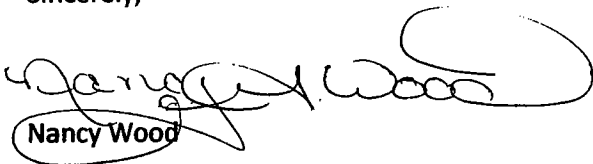
We feel the track facility and park will be a much needed place for our school track team to finally have a safe place near the school to practice and host track meets, as well as for P.E. classes and science classes studying wetlands to meet and explore. It will also be a great place for adults to come to work out together, enjoy all comers' track meets, as well as a large community site to have concerts, festivals, reunions, and other activities for the local community as well as draw others into the community to discover our beautiful setting and draw much needed tourist dollars into our river economy.

It is particularly urgent that rezoning is not delayed so we can have the track ready in time for the 2008 Olympic Trials athletes to have a beautiful regulation sized track to practice on prior to competing in the trials. Our clear fresh air makes a welcome alternative to those with asthma or allergies to the pollens in the Willamette Valley.

Our local clinic and the school are working hard to encourage our community members both young and old to be more active to help their health and to maintain a healthy weight. But for many the dangerous highway or few twisting roads or uneven rocky trails are not an option, so the soft smooth track in an open area are much more forgiving on old arthritic joints or elderly who fear for their safety with the many cougar and bear sightings we have had.

My husband and I have personally made a sizable donation to the track fund because we believe in the importance of this project for the future of our community and the health, safety and economic well being of its members. Please join us in supporting such an important project for this community.

Sincerely,



Nancy Wood

54860 King Rd.
Blue River, OR 97413

Lane County Land Management Division
Planning Commission
125 E 8th Ave.
Eugene, OR 97401

RE: PA075588

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to voice my support of the McKenzie Community Track and Field project and to urge you to support rezoning the site to Parks and Recreation.

I am a Family Nurse Practitioner at the McKenzie River Clinic, the only medical clinic in the McKenzie Valley.

In providing health care for residents and visitors of the McKenzie Valley, I also strive to educate them in the importance of achieving and maintaining physical fitness as a means for preventing and treating many physical as well as mental illnesses including heart disease, stroke, certain cancers, diabetes, arthritis, depression, and many other illnesses that can be directly worsened by lack of physical activity. Many of my patients speak of their inability to walk safely on uneven rocky forest trails or roads, or our narrow, twisting highway, because they have disabilities that limit their mobility. But the soft smooth track is much more forgiving on arthritic joints, or those with other disabilities.

Others are fearful of being out alone in remote, isolated areas. Some who are elderly or have small children fear for their safety with the many cougar and bear sightings we have had in recent years. The open, central location of the track will allow many to meet there and walk or run in comfort and safety and to socialize, while enjoying a beautiful view of the surrounding mountains, all positive aspects that will encourage people to continue their exercise program by removing so many of the current barriers. And it will do so at no cost to them, which allows even the most disadvantaged to benefit.

The track program is widely supported in the community, with a core of dedicated members, including myself, who will continue to support and maintain the facility for many years to come.

I have lived in the McKenzie Valley for 27 years and have 2 children who are graduates of McKenzie High School and 1 who is currently attending the high school and 1 in the middle school. They have all been on the track and cross country teams through middle school and high school and they and their many team mates have learned so much from the discipline, commitment, and excellence that these sports demand, which are also important skills that will help them achieve success in college and make them good citizens in the community. They have worked hard and achieved some recognition and success in the state, but we feel the time has come to move to the next level which they can only achieve with a facility where they can practice all the events of track and field. And some parents, who have never been able to see their children compete because we have not been able to have a home track meet, can finally share in the joy and achievement of their child's hard work. And finally, all those children and adults who have never seen a track meet because they are so far away, will finally have the opportunity to witness the fun and excitement of track and field and perhaps be drawn to join in themselves and begin the road to lifelong fitness in a sport where anyone can compete and maintain

lifelong fitness and health. Because of the diversity of its events, track and field really does have something for everyone, regardless of their abilities, unlike many other sports.

I am also a member of the McKenzie PTA and a member of McKenzie's Wellness Committee. I feel the track facility and park will not only be a much needed place for our school track team to finally have a safe place near the school to practice and host track meets, but also be a place for school P.E. classes and science classes studying wetlands to meet and explore. It will also be a great place for adults to come to work out together, enjoy all comers' track meets, as well as a large community site to have concerts, festivals, reunions, and other activities for the local community as well as draw others into the community to discover our beautiful setting and draw much needed tourist dollars into our river economy.

It is particularly urgent that rezoning is not delayed so we can have the track ready in time for the 2008 Olympic Trials athletes to have a beautiful regulation sized track to practice on prior to competing in the trials. Our clear fresh air makes a welcome alternative for those with asthma or allergies, to the pollens in the Willamette Valley at that time of year.

I believe in the importance of this project for the future of our community and the health, safety and economic well being of my patients. Please grant the rezoning for such an important project for this community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Sherman R.N., C., F.N.P." The signature is written in a cursive style.

Mary Sherman, R.N., C., F.N.P.

52959 McKenzie Hwy.
Blue River, OR 97413

Lane County Land Management Division
Planning Commission
125 E 8th Ave.
Eugene, OR 97401

RE: PA075588

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to voice my support of the McKenzie Community Track and Field project and to urge you to support rezoning the site to Parks and Recreation.

My wife and I have been members of the McKenzie River Community for many years and are owners of the Christmas Treasures store near Blue River. One of our sons attends McKenzie High School and the other two sons are graduates.

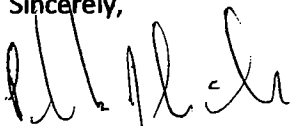
We feel the track facility and park will be a much needed place for our school track team to finally have a safe place near the school to practice and host track meets, as well as for P.E. classes and science classes studying wetlands to meet and explore. It will also be a great place for adults to come to work out together, enjoy all comers' track meets, as well as a large community site to have concerts, festivals, reunions, and other activities for the local community as well as draw others into the community to discover our beautiful setting and draw much needed tourist dollars into our river economy.

It is particularly urgent that rezoning is not delayed so we can have the track ready in time for the 2008 Olympic Trials athletes to have a beautiful regulation sized track to practice on prior to competing in the trials. Our clear fresh air makes a welcome alternative to those with asthma or allergies to the pollens in the Willamette Valley.

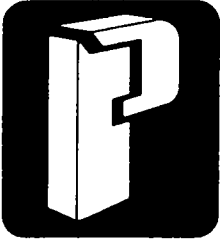
Our local clinic and the school are working hard to encourage our community members both young and old to be more active to help their health and to maintain a healthy weight. But for many the dangerous highway or few twisting roads or uneven rocky trails are not an option, so the soft smooth track in an open area are much more forgiving on old arthritic joints or elderly who fear for their safety with the many cougar and bear sightings we have had.

My wife and I have personally made a sizable donation to the track fund because we believe in the importance of this project for the future of our community and the health, safety and economic well being of its members. Please join us in supporting such an important project for this community.

Sincerely,



Patrick Dibala



November 12, 2007

The Lane County Land Management Division
Planning Commission
125 E. 8th Ave.
Eugene, OR 97401

Re: PA075588
McKenzie Community Track and Field

Dear Commissioners:

My wife, Yolanda and I, own a cabin at 55185 Delta Road in Blue River. We're writing to ask you to vote "YES" to rezone this property from Rural Industrial to Parks and Recreation.

The McKenzie River community has a wonderful opportunity to transform an under utilized piece of land into a permanent facility that will be enjoyed by all of the members of the community as well as those lucky people who visit us from the early spring to the late fall. The opportunities for our community are unlimited as we recognize the full range of uses, this land can be used for; a Park and Education Center, Family Reunions, Concerts, Wetlands Communities and of course Athletics. There is something here for everyone.

Please vote "yes" for this wonderful opportunity.

Very truly yours,

William H. Peacock
President

whp/slf



PEACOCK Construction, Inc.

P.O. Box 1818 • 3421 Golden Gate Way • Lafayette, CA 94549 • 925/283-4550 • Fax 925/283-0784
License No. 423901

McKenzie River Clinic
P.O. Box 183
Blue River, OR 97413

Lane County Land Management Division
Planning Commission
125 E 8th Ave.
Eugene, OR 97401

RE: PA075588

To Whom It May Concern:

We are writing to voice our support of the McKenzie Community Track and Field project and to urge you to support rezoning the site to Parks and Recreation.

We serve the health care needs of the people of the McKenzie River Valley as the only medical clinic in the valley.

We recognize the importance of our role in advocating for not only the best health care possible for our patients, but also the importance of helping our community to develop a safe and accessible place for our patients to walk, run, and exercise even if they have disabilities that limit their mobility, but not their need to maintain the highest level of fitness to achieve a healthy weight, and prevent or delay many diseases that are directly tied to a lack of fitness.

Obesity has become an epidemic in our society and our community has chosen to take an active role in helping our members and visitors to become fit and help prevent heart disease, stroke, certain cancers, diabetes and other illnesses that can be directly worsened by lack of physical activity. For many the dangerous highway or few twisting roads or uneven rocky trails are not an option, so the soft smooth track in an open area are much more forgiving on old arthritic joints or elderly who fear for their safety with the many cougar and bear sightings we have had.


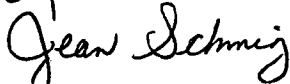
We feel the track facility and park will be a much needed place for our school track team to finally have a safe place near the school to practice and host track meets, as well as for P.E. classes and science classes studying wetlands to meet and explore. It will also be a great place for adults to come to work out together, enjoy all comers' track meets, as well as a large community site to have concerts, festivals, reunions, and other activities for the local community as well as draw others into the community to discover our beautiful setting and draw much needed tourist dollars into our river economy.

It is particularly urgent that rezoning is not delayed so we can have the track ready in time for the 2008 Olympic Trials athletes to have a beautiful regulation sized track to practice on prior to competing in the trials. Our clear fresh air makes a welcome alternative to those with asthma or allergies to the pollens in the Willamette Valley.

We believe in the importance of this project for the future of our community and the health, safety and economic well being of our patients. Please grant the rezoning for such an important project for this community.

Sincerely,

 Amy K. Otoupaik

 Linda Maxwell
 Jean Schmig

Nov. 19, 2007
Ref. # PA075588

Lane County Land Management Division
Planning Commission
125 E. 8th Ave.
Eugene, OR. 97401

To Whom It May Concern,

I am a McKenzie Graduate, property owner and an employee of the McKenzie School District, my husband also owns a small business in the area.

This valley is in desperate need of a place for all the residents to enjoy and take pride in. There has been a long history of substance abuse and lack of pride in the community for years and it shows in the vacant buildings, lack of jobs and transient population and the general overall appearance of the town.

Several of the students and their parents have volunteered many hours on the community park and track project to improve our community. It saddens me to think that the project, after all the hard work, may never be completed.

McKenzie has had a wonderful Track and Field program for years with out the facilities to support it. Just imagine the quality of that program if there were a facility that everyone took pride in. At the current time participants of the program are running on the roadway near the school creating a danger for runners and motorists alike. In this community there are parents who do not allow their children to participate do to the lack of a proper facility and the dangers faced on the roadway. Shouldn't we encourage our children to participate in healthy behaviors and sport programs, knowing that they are safe?

The Park and Track project will be an asset to a failing community. It will give the members of this community (children and adults alike) a place to enjoy and take pride in.

Every small step counts, so please help us make this project a reality.

Sincerely,



Brenda Cline

Blue River Oregon
Nov. 19, 2007

Same County Planning Commission
Refer to PAO 756-88

Lets:

We support the community
Track and Field team and
the rezoning of the property from -
"Rural Industrial" to Parks & Recreation.

We are ^{an} active ^{couple} retired who
live in the community and
would make use of the facility.
We are interested in having
a safe place for school and
community members to walk
and run for fitness and health,
as well as for all the school
activities.

Sincerely:

Sybil A. Fillman

Arthur Fillman

Wayne T. and Claire E. Hildebrand
P. O. Box 125
Vida, OR 97488

28 November 2007

Lane County Land Management Division
Planning Commission
125 E. 8th Ave.
Eugene, OR 97401

Re: PA075588

Dear Commission Members,

The subject change in zoning of the area for the McKenzie Community Track and Field from "Rural Industrial" to "Parks and Recreation" would be an important improvement. It would recognize the reality that no industrial activity remains in that area; and it would permit recreational and athletic activity that would be of benefit to many groups and the entire community.

Recreational pursuits would benefit from the park and education center that will be located there. The athletic venue would permit safer exercise for both McKenzie school students, but others of all ages as well, who would no longer have to walk, jog, or run in heavily traveled roadways or ankle twisting rocky wood and grassland trails.

The forthcoming Olympic Trials needs, and recognizes the value of, the track and field venue for "off-campus" training for those awaiting the competition for their particular events. The commercial benefit to the community from this activity, whether great or small, would be most welcome; and, quite frankly, is sorely needed.

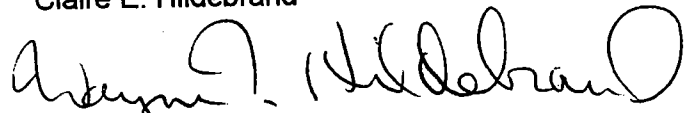
There are no arguments against making the requested change.

For all of these reasons we most sincerely and strongly encourage you to act in the best interests of all, be they local area or other Lane County residents, and make this change.

Very Truly Yours,



Claire E. Hildebrand



Wayne T. Hildebrand

Lane County Land Management Division Planning Commission
125 E. 8th Avenue
Eugene, Oregon 97401

Refer to PA075588

11/19/2007

We are writing this letter of support in hopes to get approval to rezone the McKenzie Community Track and Field from Rural Industrial to Parks and Recreation. We have lived in this community for over 30 years and now have our own children growing up here. Living in such a rural area there are very limited recreational spots for our Children, and Adults to be able to meet and hold events such as Track Meets, Reunions, Concerts, Nature Walks etc.

We believe that if our children and other community members have a safe place to meet and organize recreational events that it will cut down on them getting involved in other unhealthy activities. We also have a lot of elderly people in the community that would benefit greatly from being able to get out and walk/run/play in a safe area that is constructed for such activities.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Garth and Brenda Hamlow". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Garth and Brenda Hamlow
McKenzie Bridge, OR

November 15, 2007

To: Lane County Management Division

From: Roger D Herbert

I would like to encourage you to approve the McKenzie High School Track and Field Project. As a long time track and field coach in Lane County, I fully support the addition of track and field facilities in the county. Jeff Sherman and the community of Blue River have worked for many years to acquire valuable donations, money and volunteers to make this project a reality.

Lane County and the various communities within the county should benefit by the addition of useable recreation facilities. With the coming of the Olympic Trials next spring, this would be a nice addition to the promotion of Lane County as a place to visit, vacation and train.

I would hope that Lane County would approve this project.

Sincerely,

Roger D Herbert

1133 Fir Acres
Eugene, Oregon 97401
541-345-0919

Richard Shepherd
PO Box 2007
McKenzie Bridge, Oregon,
97413

Lane County Land Management Division
Planning Commission
125 E. 8th Ave
Eugene Oregon, 97401

Dear Lane County Planning Commission,
I am writing to show my support for the rezoning of the future McKenzie
Community Track and Field. Your reference number for this project is PA075588.

This property is ideal for the proposed use as being Parks and Recreation instead
of Rural Industrial. The days of using that property as an industrial site are long
gone.

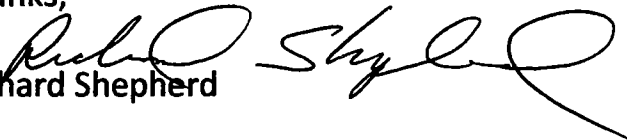
This community needs a track field for our children. The field can have many uses
as being zoned Parks and Recreation. Our kids for many years have had to run on
the highway and other roads for cross country and track. They deserve better.

With the upcoming Olympic Trials, it is urgent that the project go forward without
further delay. Our community will benefit financially from any events that could
be held at the track field.

Please allow the rezoning of this property.

Thanks,

Richard Shepherd

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Shepherd", written over the printed name.

Jocelyn Swenson
45533 McKenzie Hwy
Vida, OR 97488

November 18, 2007

Lane County Land Management Division
Planning Commission
125 E. 8th Ave., Eugene, OR 97401

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing in support of rezoning the land for McKenzie Community Track and Field to parks and recreation. Living in a rural area and on a heavily used highway means that my family has very few places where we can walk safely. The McKenzie Community Track and Field would add another safe area for my children to run and walk in a safe environment.

This place would also be a great recourse for the McKenzie Schools. When my son was in sixth grade he was involved in track as an extra-curricular sport. Since the school didn't have access to a track all of the team's meets had to be at other schools, often requiring that the students leave school long before classes were over and not getting home until after 10 pm on school nights. This schedule proved to be too much for my son and he has not pursued the sport again. Having a local track would mean that at least some of the meets could be "home" meets and would cut down on the amount of travel required of our athletes for this sport.

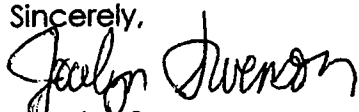
This area could also be a safe place for residents to walk, jog or run. The level and soft track, in a centrally located area that would feel safe even for our seniors. The area would be available for many community uses, including family reunions, parties and concerts.

One of the reasons we urgently want to get the track finished this spring is so athletes from all over the country who are competing in the Olympic Trials in Eugene in June 2008 can come here as a place to train before and during the trials to get out of the pollution and pollen of the Willamette Valley. The Olympic Trials organizers are already promoting our track for that purpose on their web site and have a link to our web site. It will bring money into our community as athletes and their families come to our community to train and recreate.

In this era of an obesity epidemic we need to make as many safe places for exercise as possible. Allowing this land to be rezoned would create another resource for our community to encourage a healthy and active lifestyle. Our community needs this.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,


Jocelyn Swenson

Steve Mealey
42112 Holden Creek Lane
Springfield, Oregon 97478
November 20, 2007

Lane County Land Management Division
Planning Commission
125 E. 8th Ave.
Eugene, OR 97401

REC'D NOV 21 2007

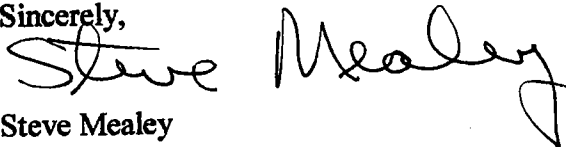
Re: PA075588

Dear Commissioners:

I strongly support the effort to complete by May 2008, the McKenzie Community Track and Field Facility near Blue River Oregon. I understand a Lane County rezoning action is needed in order to facilitate the completion of this important community project.

Please take whatever timely action is needed by the Planning Commission so rezoning is completed by late January 2008 and asphalt and rubber surfacing of the track can be completed in April 2008.

Sincerely,



Steve Mealey

November 15, 2007

REC'D NOV 21 2007

To: Lane County Management Division

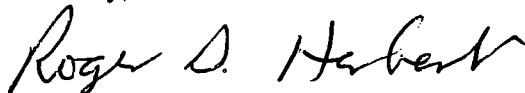
From: Roger D Herbert

I would like to encourage you to approve the McKenzie High School Track and Field Project. As a long time track and field coach in Lane County, I fully support the addition of track and field facilities in the county. Jeff Sherman and the community of Blue River have worked for many years to acquire valuable donations, money and volunteers to make this project a reality.

Lane County and the various communities within the county should benefit by the addition of useable recreation facilities. With the coming of the Olympic Trials next spring, this would be a nice addition to the promotion of Lane County as a place to visit, vacation and train.

I would hope that Lane County would approve this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Roger D. Herbert".

Roger D Herbert

1133 Fir Acres
Eugene, Oregon 97401
541-345-0919

November 17, 2007

PA075588

Lane County Land Management Division
Planning Commission
125 E 8th Ave.
Eugene, OR 97401

To Whom it May Concern:

As a retired elementary teacher at McKenzie River School for 25 years, and a resident of the McKenzie River Community since 1959, I appreciate the necessity of developing our community assets for our youth. Although my husband and I do not live in close proximity, we have on several occasions enjoyed walking the area known as the McKenzie Community Track and Field area in Blue River, and marveled at the inspired work and dedication members of the community have been investing in planting trees, clearing brush, maintaining and developing the track, and building an attractive information area.

The kids love their school. Dedicated people have made it a place for kids to thrive, but it isn't enough to keep them constructively busy and healthy for much of the time they spend outside of the school and its activities.

The need is great. I understand a zone change is needed to allow for the development of this area for a track and community park. It seems so obvious to us that we wonder why there would be any objection on the part of the planning commission to grant this change. How sad, what a disaster, what a loss to the community it would be for this zone change not to be granted.

Sincerely,

Jean and Terry Liittschwager
90432 Fish Hatchery Road
Leaburg, OR 97489

HARRIS Deanna M

From: jbjeeep [jbjeeep@saw.net]
Sent: Saturday, November 24, 2007 10:15 PM
To: HARRIS Deanna M
Cc: BAKER Jim (SMTP)
Subject: Reference: PA075588, The McKenzie Community Track and Field rezoning request

Lane County Land Management Division
Planning Commission
125 E. 8th Ave., Eugene, OR 97401

Lane County Planning Commission,

This is a letter of support for The McKenzie Community Track & Field. I am a former Alumni of McKenzie High School (1984) and my family still lives in the area. I visit the area several times a year or more.

As I understand it, there is a request to rezone what is commonly know as the old mill site from Rural Industrial to Parks and Recreation.

I think that this is an important thing for many reasons, it would provide a safe place for people to meet to walk or run, that is off the road and centrally located. It would also be a safe place for students and staff from the school and community members to walk and run for fitness and health, and to run and train for competition, and to hold track meets for the school's track team, as well as community meets. I wish that we had had such a facility close to the school when I was enrolled there.

The track is supposed to be a soft level surface which is good for the older community members (including my own aging parents) who are at risk of falling or are simply concerned about their safety if they try to walk on the rougher isolated trails.

My understanding is that it is also being developed not only as a park but as an education center too. I personally would look forward to seeing a nature trail/park area there in the very near future. While I personally am not be particularly interested in walking on a track, a nice nature trail would be attractive to me. A well planned nature trail in the area would also be a benefit to the school children and of use in their classes.

One of the reasons I have heard that they urgently wish to get the track finished early this spring is so that the athletes who are competing in the Olympic Trials in Eugene in 2008 can use the track as a place to train before and during the trials. In my opinion, this would bring money, attention and additional general recreation to the area if this were to happen in time. The Trials are a very big deal, and while Eugene is known for its runners and its tracks, we can make a name for our own here and now with the Trials athletes.

In short, I think that this rezoning would be a good thing, and that the track area is a wonderful idea, that should have been done sooner. I also think that there is no reason to keep the current zoning on the property in mention, as it has long been standing idle. We all know that the mills & logging that were the heyday of this area are not going to come back, so lets put the property to a better use for the community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jennifer Baker
PO Box 436
North Bonneville, WA 98639

REC'D NOV 23 2007

11/19/2007

LANE COUNTY LAND MANAGEMENT DIVISION
Planning Commission
125 E. 8th Ave.
Eugene, OR 97401
Re: PA075588

On behalf of the McKenzie Valley Ministerial Association we would like to encourage you to endorse and expedite the construction of the community running facility near the McKenzie Schools in Blue River. The McKenzie Valley lacks recreational facilities for community use and especially for the youth of our area. An outdoor running facility would provide opportunity for community members to exercise together in a safe and attractive environment. It would serve a secondary purpose of providing a place for the McKenzie High School sports programs to host other schools for running and field events. This would eliminate the need for student athletes to practice by running through the brush and the trails of the hills around the school.

The residents of the McKenzie Valley have raised a large amount of the funding for the running facility as evidence of their belief in the value of this project.

Thank you for considering our request. As ministers, we are praying that God will provide avenues for this part of the McKenzie Valley to become an attractive and desirable place for community recreation. We believe that the community running facility will help provide such an atmosphere.

Sincerely,



Pastor Dick Roberts, McKenzie Bible Fellowship
On behalf of McKenzie Valley Ministerial Association

HARRIS Deanna M

From: Rep Holvey [Holvey.Rep@state.or.us]
Sent: Monday, November 26, 2007 2:25 PM
To: HARRIS Deanna M
Subject: RE: PA075588, rezoning request for the McKenzie Community Track & Field

Deanna Harris
Lane County Land Management Division
Planning Commission
125 E. 8th Ave.,
Eugene, OR 97401

RE: PA075588

Dear Ms. Harris,

I am writing in support of the McKenzie Community Track & Field's request to rezone their property from Rural Industrial to Parks & Recreation. This site is planned as a practice facility for the 2008 Olympic Trials and the rezoning of the facility would be a major step in economic rehabilitation for Blue River, one of Lane County's most depressed areas.

I appreciate your attention to this issue.

Respectfully,

Paul Holvey
Oregon State Representative
District 8

REC'D NOV 27 2007

SCHAEFERS GUIDE SERVICE

Oregon and Idaho Rivers

November 26, 2007

Lane County Land Management Division
Planning Commission
125 E. 8th
Eugene, Or 97401

RE: rezoning request PAO75588 - Blue River Prop.

Dear Planning Commission:

I fully support the McKenzie Community Track and Field Committie in their request for a zoning change so they can continue their plans for a community track facility in the Blue River area and near McKenzie Schools. As a river guide, I can see next summers Olympic Trials in Eugene a great opportunity to show visitors what the McKenzie area has to offer the sportsman and a new track facility at this site would bring many people to the McKenzie valley.

Thank you,



Steve Schaefer