

RE: HACSA/Sponsors' proposed apartment complex at the Acorn Park/Oak Patch site to offer permanent housing to 54-60 male ex-cons who have graduated their program. This project will also include two full-time parole officers, who can be expected to have a normal caseload, adding approximately 100 more parolees periodically coming through this neighborhood for counseling.

While we applaud the work that Sponsors does in the community, we contend that this particular project is in the wrong location. While it admirably houses at-risk individuals, this leaves other vulnerable populations in our community to bear the brunt of the risk.

Risk of Criminal Harm, Especially to Children, Women, Elderly and Disabled

According to what Sponsors has told the community, occupants would have histories which could include sexual offenses, robbery, drug dealing and other drug-related crime, homicide and murder. They have said there will definitely be sex offenders, just not sexual predators. Will the parolees coming through include sexual predators? We do not know yet.

This is a neighborhood filled with children. Aside from the many schools, the proposed site is bordered on the west by a children's playground, two other playgrounds in the apartment complexes and on the east, by a children's gym. Imagine sex offenders walking daily by the picture windows where children are engaged in gymnastics. Or sitting in the park bench staring at children in the playground. Imagine ex-drug dealers observing the patterns of young people traversing the park or strolling along the bike path. In California, siting this project next to the playground would be illegal.

Moreover, about ten apartment and condominium complexes already crowd Oak Patch on both sides of the street, stretching from the bike path winding through what would be 12th and 13th to West 18th. There are five schools in the vicinity: McCornack Elementary School, Kennedy Middle School, The French Immersion School, Churchill High School, The Quaker School, the National Academy for Artistic Gymnastics, two playgrounds, several day care centers and Acorn Park itself with its own playground. Dense neighborhoods foster criminality. Adding 60 male ex-cons and near 100 parolees courts catastrophe.

Oregon rates for return to prison (recidivism) are 20% to 30% over the last three years. Sponsors claims their West University project has a 100% success rate but their statistics do not include people they have kicked out for violations! So we do not know the actual numbers.

Sponsors graduates who will be housed, working and monitored for street drugs at this proposed housing project, will probably do well, but it would be to expect no crime. Moreover, this is permanent housing, so the key number is lifetime recidivism. National five-year rates for re-arrest (not return to prison) are 76%. Note: Oregon rates are lower, but measure imprisonment, not arrest.

An Alternative That Would Better Serve This Neighborhood

This proposed complex would take up the last remaining open space, a space now occupied by two houses belonging to a beekeeper, two organic gardens and bees. Pesticides have never been used on this land.

Envision the City of Eugene purchasing the land from HACSA—and developing a Community Center and Public Library extension, with ample community garden spaces. This would promote arts, culture and ecology (promote the bee population because it is dwindling in recent years: resulting in more food crops), serve the children, and make the neighborhood a safer and better place to live. And we would (studies suggest) wind up with less crime, and fewer people in prison.

Other Issues: Public Utilities and Public Services

Traffic. The original R-2 application falsely claimed Oak Patch as the main access. But it is Acorn Park Street, a narrow two-way street. One can assume at least 50 more cars (including reporting parolees) turning onto 11th Avenue from Acorn without a traffic light. This is an added danger for children crossing Acorn Park Street to the playground in the park.

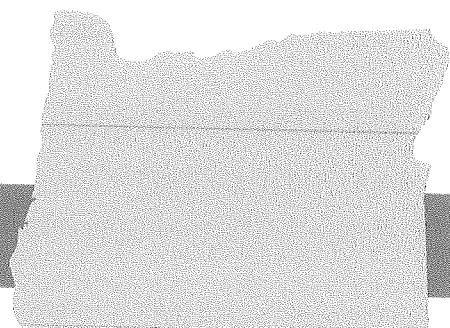
Fire Hazard. Oak Patch, from 13th to 18th is one of the most densely packed streets in Eugene. Getting rid of the alley/driveway on the southern segment of this property and packing in more apartments, fills this area with wood buildings, begging the question of fire hazard.

Sewage. The waste from 60 additional units draining onto Oak Patch may just be the final straw for the sewage system.

We respectfully submit this to HACSA Project Manager Steve Ochs and Planner Jacob Fox and HACSA staff. Thank you!

ACORN PARK COMMUNITY FOR WELL-BEING
PO Box 5152, Eugene, OR 97405

email: apop.homes@gmail.com



GUN VIOLENCE AND BACKGROUND CHECKS IN OREGON

Support for the Second Amendment goes hand-in-hand with keeping guns away from criminals and other dangerous people. But loopholes in the law make it easy for dangerous people in Oregon to get guns, resulting in needless violence—from deadly domestic abuse to suicide and school shootings. Research shows that common-sense public safety laws reduce gun violence and save lives. This fact sheet brings together the findings of Everytown's original investigations and analyses of relevant law enforcement and public health data to illuminate trends in gun violence and crime in Oregon.

THE TOLL OF GUN VIOLENCE

In the last decade of available data, 567 Oregon residents were murdered with guns, and an additional 3,440 died in firearm suicides or accidents.¹ More than half (54%) of suicides in the state were committed with guns.²

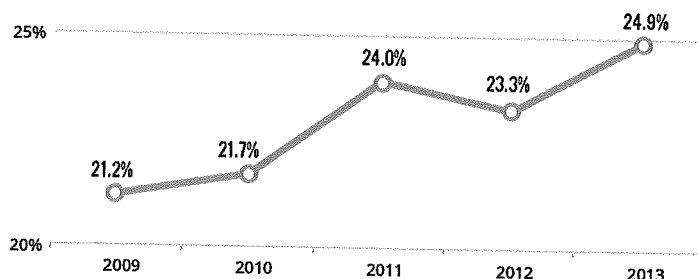
Dangerous people who never should have had a gun in the first place commit a significant share of gun violence. **More than half of Oregon law enforcement officers who were shot to death between 1980 and 2014 were killed by individuals who were prohibited from possessing firearms.**³

A large number of Oregon guns wind up in the wrong hands, making Oregon a source of crime guns recovered in other states in the region. Between 2006-13, **4,232** guns originally purchased in Oregon were recovered by law enforcement from crime scenes in other states.⁴

The share of Oregon crime guns that were likely trafficked has jumped between 2009 and 2013. A gun is considered to have been trafficked if it has a short "time-to-crime," meaning it was recovered by law enforcement at a crime scene less than two years after its original sale by a licensed dealer. By 2013, **nearly 1 in 4 guns recovered from Oregon crime scenes had a short time-to-crime.**⁵

**BY 2013, NEARLY
1 IN 4 GUNS
RECOVERED FROM OREGON
CRIME SCENES HAD A
SHORT TIME-TO-CRIME**

SHARE OF CRIME GUNS RECOVERED IN OREGON WITH SHORT TIME-TO-CRIME



Source: Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives

PREVENTING GUN VIOLENCE

For 20 years, federal law has required licensed gun dealers to conduct a background check for every firearm purchase.

In Oregon alone in 2013, the background check system **blocked 3,982 gun sales to prohibited people, including felons, domestic abusers, and other dangerous people.** And since 2007, the system has successfully blocked more than 31,000 gun sales to those prohibited from possessing guns.⁶

LOOPHOLES IN GUN LAWS UNDERMINE PUBLIC SAFETY

Background checks are the only systematic way to keep guns out of the hands of criminals. But in Oregon, background checks are generally not required on gun sales between unlicensed parties – including those who meet anonymously online.

This loophole in our background checks system is especially dangerous considering the vast, virtual gun show that now exists on the internet. Dozens of websites—like Armslist.com, the self-described Craigslist for guns—each host tens of thousands of ads for unlicensed gun sales and provides a forum for strangers to connect and arrange offline gun transfers, just like Craigslist does for furniture sales and concert tickets. In less than two years, the online market experienced an almost sevenfold increase in the number of guns available, no background check required.⁷ And a national investigation conducted by Everytown in 2013 showed that 1 in 30 would-be gun buyers participating in this market (3.3 percent) had prohibiting criminal records.⁸

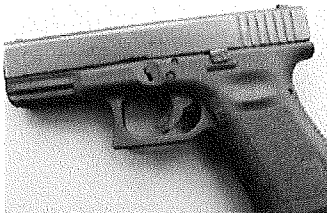
An Everytown review of online gun sales in Oregon showed that unlicensed sellers posted 14,000 gun ads over a seven-month period on just four websites — **a rate of more than 25,000 gun ads posted a year.**

This dwarfs the number of unlicensed sales conducted at gun shows: unlicensed sellers in the state post more gun ads online each week than they sell at gun shows in a full year.

ARMSLIST
FIREARMS MARKETPLACE

**FOR SALE: GLOCK 27
.40 CAL**

Price: \$300
Seller: Private Party
Listed On: Monday, February 9, 2014
Location: Portland, Oregon, US



Contact Seller

**EACH YEAR IN OREGON, JUST FOUR
WEBSITES POST OVER**

25,000

**gun
ads**



BACKGROUND CHECKS SAVE LIVES

Expanding and strengthening the background check system is a proven way to make a difference in gun violence prevention. In states that require a background check for all handgun sales, there are:

↓ **46% FEWER**
women shot to death
by intimate partners⁹

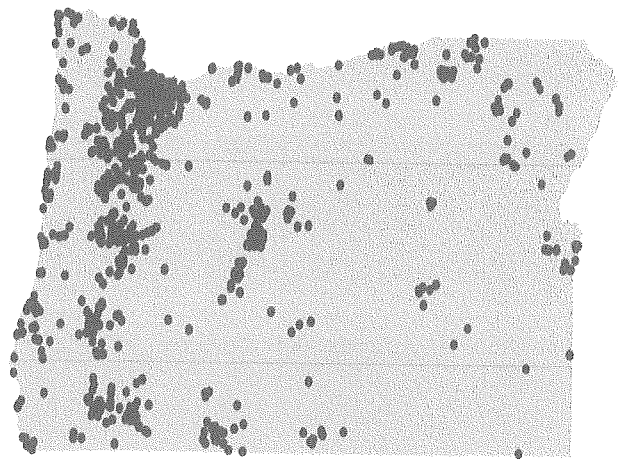
↓ **48% FEWER**
law enforcement
shot to death with
handguns,¹⁰ and

↓ **48% LESS**
gun trafficking¹¹

STRENGTHENING BACKGROUND CHECKS IN OREGON

The Oregon legislature should pass legislation to require criminal background checks for every gun sale and transfer in Oregon, with reasonable exceptions for family transfers, hunting, and self-defense. This would expand the existing system to make sure that everyone buying a gun in Oregon passes a criminal background check, no matter where they get the gun and no matter who sells it to them.

Meeting at a licensed gun dealer to complete a background check is easy. There are 1,471 federally licensed gun dealers in Oregon authorized to conduct background checks — more than 4 times the number of post offices — and 94.6% percent of Oregon residents live within 10 miles of one of them.¹²



LICENSED GUN DEALERS IN OREGON

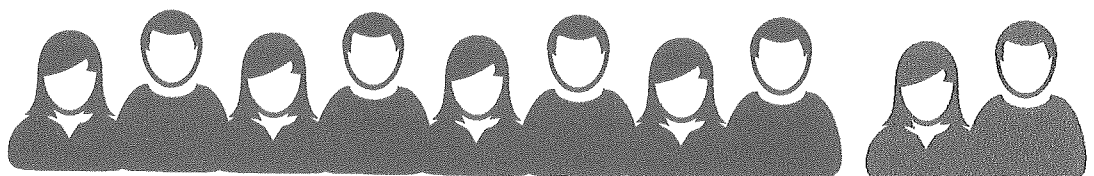
IN OREGON, THERE ARE

1,471 LICENSED GUN DEALERS

– MORE THAN 4 TIMES THE
NUMBER OF POST OFFICES



81% of Oregon residents¹³ — as well as 74 percent of NRA members¹⁴ and 55 percent of licensed gun dealers¹⁵ — support requiring criminal background checks for all gun sales.



EVERYTOWN FOR GUN SAFETY is a movement of Americans fighting for common-sense policies that will reduce gun violence and save lives. Everytown is the largest gun violence prevention organization in the country with more than 2.5 million supporters including moms, mayors, survivors, and everyday Americans who are fighting for reforms that respect the Second Amendment and protect people. At the core of Everytown are Mayors Against Illegal Guns, founded in 2006 by former New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg and former Boston Mayor Tom Menino, and Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America, a grassroots movement of American mothers founded on the day after Newtown. Learn more at www.everytown.org and follow us @everytown.

NOTES

1. Centers for Disease Control, "WISQARS" (Web-based Injury Statistics Query and Reporting System)," available at <http://1.usa.gov/VTdKK9> (last accessed September 2014).
2. *Ibid.*
3. Everytown analysis of FBI Law Enforcement Officers Killed or Assaulted, 1980 – 2013. See: <http://1.usa.gov/1q6CZ84>.
4. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) trace data, available at: <http://1.usa.gov/1stn8HY>.
5. *Ibid.*
6. Everytown for Gun Safety analysis of FBI data, February 12, 2014.
7. Mayors Against Illegal Guns, *Felon Seeks Firearm, No Strings Attached*, September 2013, available at <http://every.tw/1p1Zc77>.
8. *Ibid.*
9. Everytown for Gun Safety, *State Background Check Requirements and Rates of Domestic Violence Homicide*, January 2015, available at <http://every.tw/1Aj9HZj>.
10. Everytown for Gun Safety, *State Background Check Requirements and Rates of Firearm Homicide Against Law Enforcement*, January 2015, available at <http://every.tw/1Aj9CVz>.
11. Daniel Webster, Jon Vernick, & Maria Bulzacchelli, "Effects of State-Level Firearm Seller Accountability Policies on Firearm Trafficking," *Journal of Urban Health* (July 2009). To gauge gun trafficking, the authors measured the ratio of likely trafficked guns recovered from crime scenes to the total of guns recovered. A "likely trafficked gun" was defined as having been recovered at a crime scene and not in the possession of its original purchaser within one year of its last legal sale.
12. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, available at <http://1.usa.gov/1zTVB6A>. Data is for FFLs with a type 1 or type 2 license.
13. Add link to Oregonian poll: <http://bit.ly/1JAe3pk>.
14. Luntz Global, Gun Owners Poll for Mayors Against Illegal Guns, July 2012, available at <http://every.tw/luntz>.
15. Garen J. Wintemute, Support for a comprehensive background check requirement and expanded denial criteria for Firearm Transfers: Findings from the Firearms Licensee Survey, 91(2) *J Urban Health*, (April 2014).

SB 941: Gun Background Checks

Talking Points in Support

- This legislative session, Oregon has the opportunity to help reduce crime and save lives by passing criminal background checks on all gun sales. This is the single most effective thing we can do to keep guns out of dangerous hands and it's supported by 81% of Oregonians.
- This common-sense measure would help keep guns out of the hands of convicted felons, domestic abusers and people with severe mental illnesses—by closing the loophole in Oregon's law that allows these dangerous people to get guns without a background check, no questions asked.
- Currently in Oregon, people who are prohibited from purchasing guns can buy guns through unlicensed sales—such as on the internet and in parking lots from strangers—with no background check, and no questions asked. And across the country each year, millions of guns are transferred each year without a background check through these unlicensed transactions.
- Nothing can stop all gun violence, but background checks are proven to help prevent crime and save lives. In states with background checks on all handgun sales, 46% fewer women are shot to death by intimate partners, and 48% fewer law enforcement officers are killed with handguns in the line of duty.
- Background checks are quick and easy, and go hand-in-hand with Oregonians' Second Amendment rights. Because with rights come responsibilities.
- This bill would help keep guns out of the hands of dangerous people by ensuring that all Oregonians undergo the same background check when buying a gun.

COMMON OPPOSITION STATEMENTS AND COUNTER POINTS

SB 941 says private sales and transfers to go through a background check. That means people will have to run a background check every single time they hand a gun to someone—even just to look at or to take a shot while hunting.

SB 941 has clear exemptions for hunting, trapping and target shooting, firearms safety or training courses, for self-defense, and other situations the transferee and the firearm are in the presence of the transferor. Simply handing someone a firearm is not a transfer and does not require a background check.

SB 941 is a really complicated and a burdensome government regulation scheme.

SB 941 means that private sales and transfers will go through the exact same background check process that has been working well for gun dealers and their customers for years. It is a simple way to help keep guns out of the hands of criminals and the dangerously mentally ill.

SB 941 will create a registry of every gun owner in Oregon.

SB 941 does not create a registry. It simply means that private buyers and sellers will use the same background check and record keeping process that has been working well for gun dealers and their customers for years.

The Oregon background check system expanded in 2000, when Oregon voters approved requiring background checks for gun show sales. A registry was not created then—and won't be now, under SB 941.

SB 941 requires private parties to obtain a background check through a licensed dealer; that's inconvenient, especially for rural private sales.

SB 941 would require private buyers and sellers to run the background check through licensed gun dealers, which has several benefits. The presence of a dealer ensures that there is a third party witness to the transfer, and gun dealers are specially trained to spot fraudulent identification.

It's also safer: Private sellers won't be in the potentially dangerous position of informing a felon that the gun cannot be sold. Rather, a dealer who has training and experience in communicating background check results can inform the potential buyer.

Meeting at a licensed gun dealer to complete a background check is easy. There are 1,471 federally licensed gun dealers in Oregon authorized to conduct background checks — more than 4 times the number of post offices — and 99.9% of Oregon residents live within 25 miles of one of them. Almost 95% of Oregon residents live within 10 miles of a federally licensed gun dealer.



June 2, 2015

Regarding: IN THE MATTER OF A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING SECOND AMENDMENT RIGHTS
BCC Meeting, Agenda Item 8 (b)

From: Lane County Republican Party

The Oregon Republican platform plainly states this party's support for 2nd Amendment rights. It says under the heading of Self-Protection:

"It is an unalienable right of all people to use any reasonable and necessary force to defend and protect themselves, others and their property. All citizens have the right to keep and bear arms in a manner of their choosing without government interference."

This party strongly supports the resolution referring to SB 941 and requests you approve it today.

This is a 2nd Amendment issue and ANOTHER unfunded state mandate that continues to erode Lane County's law enforcement budget, without any reasonable return in stopping criminals.

The Oregon state legislature passed this unenforceable law with a feel-good title and shoveled the costs onto smaller jurisdictions like Lane County, requiring you to expect your taxpayers to pay the bill.

As a board, you recently went to the voters for the Lane County jail, for millions of more tax dollars to compensate for unfunded mandates plaguing this jurisdiction that are eating away at the general fund. And your constituents, the taxpayers, made another sacrifice from their check books to support you and public safety.

On behalf of over 55,000 registered Lane County Republicans, we would like to encourage this board to pass the resolution that references SB 941, so the law-abiding can freely protect themselves, using their civil rights guaranteed by our constitution's 2nd Amendment, which shall not be infringed.

Thank you.

Cindy Land, Chairman
Lane County Republican Party