

Elizabeth LaFleur

From: Susan Bergstrom <susanb2@bendbroadband.com>
Sent: Monday, January 10, 2022 7:42 AM
To: cityplanningcommission@bendoregon.gov; Elizabeth LaFleur
Cc: apust@beconeng.com; lawence.a.crosby@gmail.com; neilbryant8484@gmail.com; mark.morrison3@gmail.com; anniefast@gmail.com; Judith Aikin; jx2hinds@bendbroadband.com; Robert Haase; reedstager@gmail.com; Joan Alles; Awbrey Highlands; Marcy Bee; Mark and Jody Tuttle; Carrita And Bob Foster
Subject: West View Development Project, PLLD20211031

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After reading Judith Aikin's excellent letter to you, dated December 27, 2021 about her concerns with adding the proposed density of 42 units in the West View Development and the increased traffic problems (especially well documented in Judith Aikin's letter), specifically in the winter, which I totally agree with, I am wanting to add my concerns about wildfires and the evacuation that may be necessary.

Since we have multiple wildfires each year in our drought stricken Central Oregon, we need to consider what problems the increased density would cause if an evacuation were necessary. I was living in Sunriver in 1990 when the Awbrey Hall fire occurred. I was working as a Home Health RN for St Charles from 1993 to 2013. I heard for years from the residents of Deschutes River Woods about the horror of trying to evacuate during that 1990 fire.

At 3:06 pm on August 4, 1990 a fire was reported in Shevlin Park near Aspen Hall (dispatchers mistakenly referred to it as Awbrey Hall). It quickly spread south scorching 3,353 acres in 12 hours. At 9:30pm the fire crossed Century Drive, destroying 16 homes in Sunrise Village. At 10:30pm the fire crossed the Deschutes River towards Deschutes River Woods destroying 6 more homes there.

Nearly 3,000 people were evacuated from threatened homes that night, many in Deschutes River Woods, where residents recalled huge traffic backups as drivers waited to turn left (north) from Baker Road onto Highway 97, toward Bend. According to [KTVZ.com](https://www.ktvz.com/story/news/local/2010/08/01/the-awbrey-hall-fire-20-years-later-fiery-legacy-lingers/) on August 1, 2010 "The Awbrey Hall Fire 20 Years Later Fiery Legacy Lingers", Some officials feared an inferno could **reach those trapped in their idling cars**. An emergency secondary exit was created years later, and officials focused on making sure neighbors didn't have only one way in or out.

It was not the first or the last wildfire to take Central Oregonian's homes. In recent times, there have been other frighteningly rapid wind-aided fires in 2018 in Paradise, California, in 2020 in Detroit, Oregon and this winter in Boulder County, Colorado, among others too many to mention here.

With 42 units proposed, we could see 84 plus panicked evacuating cars (we have no bus service here, so everyone needs to have a car) all in a queue from the exit of the cul de sac, attempting to get on Glassow Drive. This could prevent the current residents on Glassow Drive from exiting their driveways onto Glassow Drive in a timely manner. We do have NW Palisades Drive, which intersects NW Glassow Drive to the south to use as a second exit in case of a wildfire disaster, though Palisades probably merits closing in winter or at least during wintry conditions, due it's steep decline and history of cars, school busses and snow plows sliding down it on ice.

What we'd like to see: We want the developers to plan single family residences on the lots with enough Auxiliary Dwelling Units to meet the city's required level of density. **And** we do not want a cul de sac: we want a through street with 2 entrances on Glassow Drive.

Sincerely,

Susan Bergstrom
susanb2@bendbroadband.com