

August 8, 2023

To:
Development Review Board A

From:
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Subject:
Opposition to proposed development of Edith Green Park

Edith Green Park is an open and very lightly developed green space that is accessible to all residents of Charbonneau. It is mostly grass with a few benches with expansive and unobstructed views outside the Urban Growth Boundary to open fields, a distant treeline of evergreens, an edge of mountain foothills and a hazelnut orchard. How beautifully Oregon is that! The park is well-used by residents including dog owners and their pets. I am not a dog owner but I use the park nearly every day as a way station on my walks and a peaceful place to enjoy the unobstructed view and to talk with friends.

The proposed development includes two shelters. While the shelters can protect from exposure to rain or sun, the shelters would also significantly block one of the highlights of the park, the unobstructed view into the adjacent field and forest of the development-restricted area. I would mourn the loss of this outstanding view.

The proposed development also includes a fence for a dog run. The fence would be an unsightly block of the view and degrade the feeling of openness in the park area. It could also lead to a muddy area in the dog run and lead to more issues with the animal interactions in the restricted space. The current open park is not perfect and there can be rare issues with dogs and sometimes with people. However, exchanging one set of rare and minor issues with another set of issues hardly seems to be a positive development.

My suggestion to the Development Review Board is to not approve the proposed park development and return it to the Charbonneau Board for further consideration. It seems a shame to do a major develop in one of the only lightly developed parcels in Charbonneau.

