



Rebecca Markham <rmarkham@ci.sandy.or.us>

Comments for file number 23-031 DR/FSH. Application for addition at 37220 Dubarko Road

Christy Morgan <christy.morgan6@frontier.com>

Wed, Oct 11, 2023 at 1:21 PM

To: planning@ci.sandy.or.us

We are aware of the application for an addition submitted by our neighbors at 37220 Dubarko Road. We were thinking we would receive a notice but since we did not, we found the public notice on the city website. Since we fit the criteria of owning land within 300 feet we felt it would be appropriate to submit comments.

We realize the comments should be in regards to the municipal codes, however reading through and fully understanding codes for the average citizen is difficult and time-consuming. We have no issues with the Elsberry's proposed home addition. Their home does not have a downstairs bedroom and full bathroom which would be necessary for them. We would hope that a senior with a disabling medical condition would be allowed modifications/additions of their existing premises to afford the person the ability to stay in their current home. It would be in the same vein as rights afforded under the Fair Housing Act. It would be unfortunate to see them given no other choice but to leave their long-time home. We appreciate them as neighbors as they have been a long-time, stable presence in our neighborhood. Their property and house are always meticulously maintained which helps add appeal to our older neighborhood.

On a side note, the mentioning of this being a location planned for the Tickle Creek Trail surprises us. We will address this as it could fall under 15.44 Erosion Control. When the trail was being planned, we spoke to the professional who located the trail. He said there was no room to have the trail located behind Elsberry's home. In addition, the section of land behind their house that intersects with the road culvert is on a steep slope. The bank along the creek adjacent to their property would be eroded by trail use. As we understand it, trails can be carefully located near a waterway without a buffer when there's little to no slope to enhance the trail users' experience, but that is not the case in this location. The trail professional had said the best location of the trail south of the Dubarko/Sandy Heights intersection would be on the west side of the creek which would allow the proper trail width and buffers but the city's parks and recreation department did not pursue that option because one or more landowners would not allow access to their land. That was the reason the trail was routed onto the sidewalk until it joined the trail again at the park. For several years we have interacted with people in front of our house who are walking the trail and no one has ever complained about not having a continuous trail through the woods.

We'd like to thank you in advance for considering our comments.

Sincerely,

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