

November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Dear Planning Commission Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the development plans up for consideration.

I would like to express support of the Crow's Feet and Trans Cascadia projects. I believe the proposed plans offer a thoughtful and phased approach to improving an underutilized property into a space that promotes outdoor activity and recreation.

As a mountain biker it's obvious what drives my interest in these projects. Although mountain biking originally drew me to the Westfir/Oakridge area, it was the small-town character and sense community that compelled me to move here. The locally owned and independent nature of the businesses here is what gives this place its charm. I believe the applicants' ambition supports these values and builds upon the existing character of the area. These projects would add vitality and structure to a corridor that is already experiencing increased use.

It's clear a considerable amount of thought and work has gone into the development of these plans up to this point, both technically and environmentally. One of the most valuable aspects of this area is the natural landscape and I have full faith that the environmental integrity will be maintained through compliance with Lane County's development mandates. Maintaining the feel of the Westfir core should be a primary consideration throughout this process.

I do appreciate how the Trans Cascadia plan improves upon the open-space character of the site and provides community amenities from what is currently an idle lot. The Crow's Feet proposal to renovate the existing infrastructure instead of redeveloping the site entirely will be low impact to both the residents and landscape.

Travel Oregon recently found that outdoor recreation supported \$15.6 billion of revenue statewide in 2019. In Lane County specifically, the outdoor industry contributes \$67 million in state and local taxes and provides over 12,000 jobs. Moving forward with these proposals will allow Westfir to benefit from this ongoing trend, all while retaining the rural character that defines this community.

Kind regards,

Benjamin Sachdeva

P.O. Box 496

Oakridge, OR 97463