

Mayor and City Council
City of Westfir
47441 Westoak Road
Westfir, OR 97492

Mayor Cornelius and Council Members,

My name is Kevin Rowell and I have lived in Oakridge since 2004. I work for the USFS as the Trails Manager and OHV Manager in Recreation. I regularly use the Westfir Portal across from the old scaling station currently being used as the Transcascadia Excursions' business location. I am writing to enthusiastically support Nick Gibson and David Marchi's development proposal in Westfir. I would like to attend the Special Council Meeting coming up on the 22nd, but I will be out of town. Please accept this letter in lieu of my in-person support.

On a personal note, my family and I have known Nick and Jessie Gibson since 2015. We are family friends and enjoy some of the same outdoor activities. I know Nick and Jessie to be kind-hearted, honest people who care about this community and want to see it thrive economically, socially and environmentally. I think they are good people to have in our community.

I have reviewed the proposal I think it is well thought out and would enhance the community of Westfir in several important ways. First, there can be no better form of economic development than one where people are encouraged to come to our community to spend their vacation money. Vacation money is easily spent and directly benefits local people who work in the area. Further, vacationers rarely use very many taxpayer funded services while on vacation and have little impact that requires City maintenance or other expenditures.

Second, the type of tourism being proposed by Transcascadia and being supported with Crow's Feet's development proposals is mainly mountain biking. I also work in the outdoor recreation industry and know that most mountain bikers are rule-followers. Often, they are professionals who have money to spend and are socially and environmentally conscious with their spending money. I am certain that the presence of a "good element" (outdoor tourists) will help us all find some relief from the undesirable folks who are more and more often harassing visitors, dumping trash and using our surroundings with apparent disregard for the social and natural environments. *Good land uses inherently discourage or prevent bad land uses.* My own professional experience has given me many examples of this dynamic.

I strongly support Mr. Gibson and Mr. Marchi in their development efforts. I respectfully ask you to join me in welcoming them and their business ventures to our community. Please call or email if I can be of any assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

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