

Mairead Geraghty

I would like to suggest that the parking lot that is being proposed at the corner of 79th Ave SW and 260th be moved further down 260th to the main entrance to the park (near Dockton Forest bike trails). There is already an access road there and PLENTY of room to clear out trees etc. to put in a parking lot. It would make a lot more sense to put the parking lot further down 260th for the following reasons:

1. You're not upsetting the aesthetics, or quiet & serenity of a neighborhood by putting a parking lot across the street, not to mention ruining the natural view. No one in the neighborhood wants to live across from a parking lot, when it's not essential that the parking lot be located there, especially when it's not like there is a lack of land to put it on.
2. There are no residences anywhere near the main entrance so no one is going to be disturbed by having traffic coming and going all day, especially in peak usage time (summer/weekends).
3. If the parking lot were to be put at the main entrance perhaps people using the park would be more encouraged to stay on Dockton Road and access the park that way rather than using 79th ave SW as a speedway as is happening on a regular basis and particularly on weekends. More signage on Dockton Road encouraging drivers to get to the trail head via Dockton as opposed to Upper Gold Beach would be a great idea.
4. The volume of parking on the corner of 79th ave SW & 260th has increased considerably in the past 18 months to the point that traffic can sometimes barely make it around that corner due to people parking on both sides of the street. This is a metro route and a school bus route and it makes it almost impossible to pass at times.
5. Weekends are a nightmare in fine weather for residents of 79th ave SW due to people using their drives as turnarounds due to the volume of vehicles using this entrance and turning around to try and find parking.

From a practical stand point I would encourage those in charge to REALLY take this into consideration and think about moving the parking lot.

I attended the meeting and I know about the capping of the old firing range and that a parking lot would be a convenient way to do this. It's been uncapped for years and not bothered anyone. Why not clear and cap an area that's nowhere near any homes instead? The old firing range gets hardly any foot/horse or bike traffic compared to the park across the street and thus it's not stirring up any major quantities of arsenic or chemicals to a level that's dangerous. I urge you to take my comments and concerns into consideration and I would appreciate if you would reach out to me via the email or mailing address provided if you have any counter to said concerns.

Thank you.