

Honorable Council members.

Many of you were present several years ago when the sponsor for the presently proposed ordinance put forth a similar one that was hotly debated by proponents, the community, environmental groups, along with county officials from the Executives office, DPER, and council members.

Hundreds of hours and dollars were spent, both by county and community, on determining the best way to administer the requested ordinance. Changes were made to address the issues presented by both the proponent and the community through the master plan process and an EIS.

I find it disturbing that an esteemed member of this council would put forth another ordinance to try and circumvent those previous requirements

It is ironic that two other items on today's agenda are in regards to protecting salmon and water and land quality. The intent of the proposed ordinance 2015-0437 is in complete disharmony with the intentions of those two agenda items.

You are being asked to undo critical environmental considerations and community concerns that were addressed in the finalized 2011 ordinance. The changes within this proposed ordinance grant Pacific Raceway an interim use permit to mine gravel and build 400,000 SF of building without the required masterplan and EIS. Where is the guarantee that this will not become another unfinished project once the gravel has been removed as it was for the bogus second dragstrip permit?

I realize that each of you have numerous issues to consider every day yet this is one item that should not be lightly passed over as it will have far reaching impacts on the environment, fisheries, and the surrounding communities, along with the granting Pacific Raceway the exclusive ability to override established environmental protections,

I urge each of you do diligent research on previous legislation concerning Pacific Raceway. Request files from DPER that document past history. Become familiar with the layout of this facility in its proximity to Soosette Creek, the Soos Creek Hatchery, the potential for disastrous slides on the steep slope areas, and the devastating affect unmitigated expansion will have on the properties in this vicinity.

Linda Worden