

August 8, 2021

Ms. Heather Kibbey
City Manager / City Recorder
P.O. Box 1104
Lake Oswego, Oregon 97035

RE: Stark Boat Ramp – Comments for Consideration

Dear Heather,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments concerning continuing discussions at the August 9, 2021 Rivergrove City Council Meeting regarding matters associated with operation and use of the Stark Boat Ramp.

As a former City of Rivergrove Planning Commissioner, I am extremely dismayed that the tyranny of a few continues to distract and absorb the City's resources on a matter that seemed to be put to rest for the greater good some time ago. I am also concerned that that there may be a misguided exclusionary and "keep them out" mentality permeating some parts of our otherwise welcoming community in a time that calls for inclusion and healing.

Simply put, there is no substantiated evidence that use of the Stark Boat Ramp by the Rivergrove community and others causes any real issues whatsoever. There are only anecdotal claims of "occasional" parking issues and "some" blocking of boat ramp access by people with a right to be there, from what may be called "NIMBY" neighbors who seem to refuse to acknowledge the reality of the property they bought near public space and adjacent to a public waterway.

Accordingly, I believe it would be arbitrary and capricious for the City to:

- Reduce hours of operation in any way from current hours which are perfectly reasonable as they are and strike a proper balance;
- Restrict parking in any manner at all given the non-issue of parking in the area to start and the lack of ability to enforce any parking restrictions as well; and
- Require that gates are kept closed during hours of operation, since that is unnecessary, the current closure mechanism violates ADA requirements, and any arguments about safety risks to children – who if one were to even go along with this scenario, would surprisingly need to be so unsupervised so as to dart away from their caregivers at Lloyd Minor Park, specifically head toward the ramp, navigate across Dogwood without being hit by a car, and down the long ramp to the river – are frankly specious and unfounded.

I, as someone concerned about City resources and the good will of this community, hope the City quickly finds an end to this and decides to uphold the public's right to continued open access at the Stark Boat Ramp to a public waterway, without any further restrictions or impediments.

Sincerely,

/s/ Hub Adams

Hub Adams
City of Rivergrove resident