My name is Tom Lackman

I am a 15 year property owner and resident of the Stafford Hamlet.

Until a few days ago, I was also a member of the Hamlet's Board of Directors.

I resigned from the Board for reasons including my belief that the Board has been acting improperly and is not fairly representing the community's interests.

Others recognize this as well which is why owners of over 1,000 acres in the Hamlet - half of the buildable land - boycotted the Hamlet's recent community vision election.

The Board overruled my motion that this vote follow the double majority process as outlined in the bylaws.

Of course any vote by individuals only would be 85% against development since the owner of a 100 acre parcel would get one vote and a renters or owners of a small house along the Tualatin River may get 4 or 5 votes.

Many of us think Metro is correct in seeing that this area with its immediate access to major freeways and jobs, is long overdue for development.

With respect to my friends and neighbors, it is my belief that those opposing inclusion of the area in the Urban Reserve are elitists interested only in protecting Lake Oswego's scenic backyard for themselves.

The idea of 5-acre martini farms within metropolitan Portland is just not right on many levels.

While I live in the community and enjoy the view too, I don't think that these well-to-do residents should be immune from the clear need for expanding the UGB.