

February 2, 2025

Via Electronic Mail

House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Testimony Opposing HB 3013

Dear Honorable Legislators:

Be careful what you wish for. This Bill will make it much harder – even impossible in many cases – to accomplish the many sensitive public projects that are needed in Oregon, such as:

- Homeless Housing
- Low Income Housing
- Parks Improvements
- Drug Treatment Centers
- Police Stations
- Hospital Improvements
- School Additions

In my 43-year career running my own firm, as an architect, civil engineer, landscape architect, and planner, I've successfully sited and accomplished many highly sensitive community projects that required an extensive land use process, such as:

- Housing for People Living with AID's;
- Low Income Housing
- Multnomah County/City of Portland 9-1-1 Center
- Methadone Clinic
- Portland International Airport improvements
- Hospital Heliports
- Portland, Lake Oswego, and State of Oregon Parks improvements
- Regional Recycling Center
- Police Stations

In every case, for community projects like these, there is always at least one person who objects to having the thing in their neighborhood. Our existing Oregon Land Use Laws are generous in ensuring that all individuals get their chance to provide input at the land use hearing – objections or support – for whatever the issues are for the proposed project.

After a Public Hearing and its outcome, our existing land use laws then allow:

- an appeal to the Land Use Board of Appeals (LUBA), and
- after a remand, another appeal to LUBA, and
- following that, an appeal to the Oregon Court of Appeals, and
- then after that, an appeal to the Oregon Supreme Court, and
- after that an appeal to the United States Supreme Court.

Those existing appeal processes easily already allow any opponent of a project the ability to stop the project from going forward for at least two to ten years of time, - even if the objector is just one person and the other ninety-nine supported the project.

Our Oregon Land Use process is already heavily weighted in favor of protecting the rights of individual opponents to projects. This already allows good and necessary public projects to be delayed and delayed, with little merit. This Bill will make it virtually impossible to get these kinds of important public projects accomplished in the future.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Respectfully,

Aron Faegre Architect

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Aron Faegre". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Aron Faegre, AIA, PE