

Submitter: Brent Rosskopf
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3971
May 21, 2025

Chair Bowman and Honorable Members of the House Committee on Rules,

I am writing as a property owner at 85797 HWY 99S to express how this project would negatively impact our property, businesses and the greater community of Goshen. The effect on property value, quality of life, and safety are of great concern. This is not to mention the unelected financial impact that we have already, and will continue to experience if this bill goes through.

Having added traffic in an already dangerous zone puts myself, my employees, and my neighbors at risk. I am also concerned about the environmental impacts from odor, vermin, and emissions. Having seen firsthand the flood potential on that property it is important to mention the inevitable contamination of our wetlands, waterways, and groundwater. We already feel, see, and smell the impacts of having a landfill one mile away and are deeply disturbed by the idea of another, even closer to people and business. I also encourage you to consider the implications of what an emergency would look like at this facility — recycling and landfill centers are at great risk of hazardous fires. Last year alone we had two fires nearby that threatened our business, lives, and livelihood. If an issue were to arise at this facility it would undoubtedly shut down the I-5 and put the entire community of Goshen in jeopardy.

The Goshen “GREAT” plan was specifically designed and approved by the DLCD to lift up the Goshen area by encouraging desirable use and clearly prohibiting another waste facility in the area. I hope that our neighborhood does not become the epicenter of a “Goshen Garbage” plan. It is important to note that this extremely costly project was denied public vote, even though we, the public, will be the ones to pay for it with our dollars, with our health and with our safety.

Please consider the negative impacts to both residential and commercial property holders here in Goshen and vote no on Oregon House Bill 3971.

Sincerely,
Brent Rosskopf