

Honorable Michael Jordan
Honorable Bill Kennemer
Honorable Larry Sowa

February 20, 1999

Clackamas County Commissioners

Dear Commissioners:

We write to you regarding the county's proposal to reopen Hardscrabble Quarry on Hwy 224 between Carver and Barton. As some of you are aware, we recently received informal notification of this proposal. So far two large public meetings and several smaller meetings have been held. (See attached newspaper clipping). It is the strong and unanimous decision of the citizens of the Grant Park Citizens Planning Organization (CPO) that this unique area should not be destroyed, but rather than it should be preserved in perpetuity as a park, and that rock for county roads be obtained from any of the other quarries within Clackamas County. We are more than happy to work with Clackamas County and with METRO to achieve this end.

We are adamant in this decision and nothing will cause us to change it. We do not wish to listen to assurances by county personnel and/or their consultants that there will be no traffic problems, no noise problems, no dust problems, no trackout problems. We do not wish statistics about the cost or quality of the gravel which could be produced on this site. All of these issues are immaterial to us. We believe this area should be preserved because of its unique natural beauty, botanic and geological features, it's proximity to the Clackamas River State Scenic River, and to the planned Clackamas River Greenway. We strongly believe that this is the highest and best use of this area. We believe that the county has erred in this proposal, but that it is not too late to reverse this error.

As officers of Grant Park CPO and as its elected representatives, we ask the following of you

1. To direct county staff to drop this quarry from consideration and to extend the investigation to other quarries, publicly or privately held, within Clackamas County.

2. To direct county staff to work with METRO and with the Grant Park CPO in developing plans to convert this area into a park, hopefully in the short term—certainly in the longer term.

Already, certain members of the Grant Park CPO have formed the Clackamas River Basin Conservation Alliance. (See attached flyer) This alliance is prepared to raise substantial sums of money to retain consul and to carry the fight for the preservation of Hard Scrabble Quarry as far as it shall be necessary.

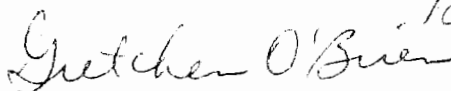
As officers of the CPO we view this fight between members of the CPO and their elected representatives and paid civil servants to be wasteful of resources on both sides of the issue. All these resources will be better spent on development of the Greenway and its environs for current and future generations, as is certainly desired by both the CPO and the county.

As new commissioners in Clackamas County we ask you to give this matter your immediate and serious consideration, before any further scarce county resources are devoted to it. We ask you do this with all possible haste. Finally, in the event that you do not see fit to grant this request, we ask you


3. To schedule time in the next Commissioners' meeting to hear arguments from officers and members of the CPO

Thank you for your consideration. We are hopeful of hearing from you in the near future.

Sincerely yours,


Gretchen O'Brien

Gretchen O'Brien
Secretary


Paul Arzt
Vice President


Linda Gebhardt

Linda Gebhardt
President

Grant Park Citizens Planning Organization