

Kevin Kreitman, City Manager Janelle Booth, Assistant City Manager/City Engineer Scott Cowan, Mayor

March 31, 2023

Via email:

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Linn County Board of Commissioner c/o Alyssa Boles, Planning Manager Rm 114, Linn County Courthouse PO Box 100 Albany, OR 97321

RE: Case No. PLN-2022-00807

Dear Commissioners:

On March 14, 2023, the Board of Commissioners voted to deny the proposed comprehensive plan map amendment and zone change request under Case No. PLN-2022-00807. This motion greatly disappointed me and many people of the City of Millersburg. I know that as Commissioners of Linn County, you take every person's concerns seriously and this has been a difficult decision for you. This case has been framed as a choice between opposing interest; however, there is a path to compromise that addresses the voiced concerns. It will be in all parties' best interests to meet jointly with the City of Millersburg before adopting any final land use decision.

A joint meeting between the County Commissioners and City Council of Millersburg will provide an opportunity to address our mutual interests and concerns. This meeting is expressly provided for in the County's adopted procedures for urban growth boundary adjustments.

Linn County Ordinance 80-163, amended by Ordinance 81-344, provides in relevant part:

"4. If the board *** issues a decision in opposition to the city council determination, a joint meeting of the city council and board may be held to attempt to work out differences in position***."

The City understands that the Commissioners have concerns regarding the proposed comprehensive plan map amendment and zone change. We request a joint meeting, so the City can address the Commissioners' concerns through possible modifications of the rural zoning

designations, supplemental evidence, or compromises that address current and future development concerns.

The City of Millersburg will be a fair partner in the planning for our community's future needs. Economic development and supporting the farming industry can coexist and thrive together as shown by our mutual history. We have an opportunity to create up to 1,000 new jobs for our community and over a billion dollars in investment. Sofidel has given the City assurances that if the County and the City reconcile their differences promptly, it is not too late to realize this opportunity for everyone in Linn County. But we must act quickly. The mutual needs of our joint communities are justification for our two governments to meet. I am willing to work a little harder and a little longer to overcome our differences.

Please defer your vote on Case No. PLN-2022-00807 until you have had an opportunity to meet with the Millersburg City Council under Ordinance 81-344.

Sincerely,

Scott Cowan

City of Millersburg Mayor

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