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June 28, 2024

City of Bend Planning Department 710 NW Wall St Bend, OR 97703

Re: Deschutes River Design Review Planning Application for a Cedar Split Rail Fence Along Deschutes River Corridor at 777 NW Riverside Blvd, Bend, OR 97703 (Tax Lots 171232CB00099, 171232BC04700, 171232BD07100, 171232BD05400)

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing to formally submit a planning application for the installation of a 46-inch high cedar split rail fence alongside the existing river wall and paved trail within the Deschutes River Corridor in Drake Park. See plan sheet L1.00 included with this application.

Project Overview:

The primary purpose of this project is to address park vegetation protection and goose management along the Deschutes River. Geese congregating in Drake Park and the waste they deposit on the asphalt path and within the park create potential dangers for park users and the environment, especially with the recent increase in avian flu outbreaks. The installation of a cedar split rail fence will ensure the safety of individuals enjoying the park and recreating along the Deschutes River Trail (DRT).

The Bend Park and Recreation District (BPRD) is a leading contributor to the health and well-being of the Deschutes River and its riparian zones. The District intends to use this new fence to address goose management issues along this stretch of the river corridor.

Compliance with Deschutes River Corridor Design Review Zone:

Our proposal aligns with the objectives outlined in the Deschutes River Corridor Design Review Zone, as specified in the City of Bend Development Code (Section 2.7.650). The key objectives include recognizing and respecting the natural beauty of the Deschutes River, conserving and enhancing the riparian zone, allowing flexibility in development proposals, maintaining scenic quality, conserving property values, and preserving water quality. Our project seeks to address these goals while enhancing public safety and enjoyment of the riverfront.

Design Review Procedure:

We understand the importance of the Design Review Procedure outlined in the City's development code. The accompanying design plan illustrate our commitment to the project's success, addressing all necessary criteria specified by the Planning Department.

Minimum Standards and Compliance:

Our proposal adheres to the minimum standards set forth in **Section 2.7.650**, particularly those related to building and parking setbacks. No buildings are proposed, and the existing trail and river wall will not be modified as part of this proposal. The proposed fence will be located adjacent to the existing trail and river wall, which is within the 30-foot riparian setback and the 40-foot waterway overlay zone setback. **BDC 2.7.650.E.2** allows features such as fencing within the setback provided that they are compatible with the existing area, and conserves natural features. Cedar split rail fencing has been used along other sections the river within the WOZ, including the newly constructed area just downstream at Pacific Park (**Permit # PLDR20240022**). The fence design and material selection will add to the natural surroundings allow wildlife passage (while discouraging geese) while maintaining adequate protection of the park vegetation and for pedestrian safety.

Site and Design Review Criteria:

We have carefully considered the Site and Design Review Criteria outlined in **Section 2.7.650(F)**. Our project emphasizes the conservation of natural features, compatibility with the existing area, appropriate use of colors and materials, and consideration of public access along the riverfront. The proposed cedar split rail fence will contribute to the preservation of the visual character and quality of the park's vegetation while promoting public safety.

Conclusion:

In conclusion, we believe that our project aligns with the goals and policies of the Deschutes River Corridor Design Review Zone, and as such, seek the approval of the installation of the cedar split rail fence. We are committed to ensuring that this project enhances the Deschutes River Corridor while safeguarding the riverfront environment and providing an enjoyable experience for the community.

We appreciate your time and consideration of our application. If you require any additional information or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me at (541) 706-6154 or ian@bendparksandrec.org.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

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Sincerely,

Ian Isaacson

Landscape Architect, BPRD