

TESTIMONY RE: 175TH AVENUE "KINK" (TR3)
BEAVERTON PLANNING COMMISSION
DECEMBER 3, 2014

Roger C. Henderson, CPA

1. I have lived at 17565 SW Cooper Mountain Lane (aka Road) since March 1992.
2. While we have witnessed tens of automobile crashes on 175th in that time, by far the most have been on straight sections of the road, not in the kink. Most can be attributed to excess speed, and perhaps driver impairment. A guardrail was installed just below Cooper Mountain Lane on the west side of the road to prevent the frequent excursions into the blackberry vines at that location.
3. It is less steep to go down the hill with a pair of switchbacks (the kink) than it would be to go straight down the hill. Ask any skier.
4. The kink acts as a natural traffic calmer. Straightening the road will just increase speeding and potentially increase accidents.
5. Eliminating the kink will require the destruction of three residences, which is an unnecessary and significant cost, as well as a major life disruption for the current residents.
6. While I certainly would not recommend 175th as a bus route (think west around the mountain), school buses are currently navigating the kink without apparent difficulty. Therefore Tri-Met should be able to handle the kink as well.