

UMATILLA COUNTY
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

ROAD VACATION REPORT

PROPOSED VACATION OF SOUTHWEST "S" AVENUE, LOCATED IN
THE NE $\frac{1}{4}$ OF THE SE $\frac{1}{4}$, SECTION 19, T4N, R28E, W.M., UMATILLA
COUNTY, OREGON.

May 15, 2019

DESCRIPTION OF OWNERSHIP

Property proposed to be vacated consists of a 50-foot public road right-of-way 350 feet in length. It was dedicated to the public in 1972 in the Plat of Westland Estates as recorded in Book 10, page 5 of Town Plats, Umatilla County, Oregon. The public road has three adjoining owners; Jeffrey and Shelly Darcy to the north, Dean Cherry to the south, and Margaret Gass to the west; the east side is bounded by County Road No. 1239, Agnew Road. All aforementioned adjoining owners are also petitioners of the proposed vacation.



PROPERTY USES

The property is currently used for access by adjoining property owners to the north and south. The adjoining property to the south accounts for the majority of usage as this public road is a main access point to the rear of the property. This property also has various structures encroaching onto the 50-foot public road right-of-way; these include: detached garage, small outbuilding, and various fence lines. The majority of the property is overgrown with weeds and native vegetation.

ASSESSMENT OF PUBLIC INTEREST

The right-of-way has not been used by the general public in its lifetime. Currently, there is no signage or other indicators that this is a public road. The road is used rarely by adjoining owner's north and south. Adjoining owner to the west does not use this right-of-way as there are other more practical access points off Bloom Road, Cottonwood Bend Road and Westland Road. At one time a westerly addition to the Westland Estates Subdivision was planned. SW "S" Avenue was created to maintain access to Agnew Road for the future additions. This never happened nor are there any current plans to further develop this area. Currently surrounding lands are zoned EFU-40 or Light Industrial so further residential division is unlikely.

The adjoining owners to the north and south would benefit from the vacation by adding an additional 25 feet by extension of their existing property lines to the center of the vacated right-of-way. Maintenance of the overgrown strip would then be the responsibility of the owners, likely improving appearance, fire danger, and providing weed mitigation. In addition, the encroachments by the structures of the southerly adjoining property would no longer be a problem.

The Umatilla County Planning Department finds no conflict relating to the proposed vacation. It has also been confirmed that no public utilities exist within this right-of-way. The petition for vacation was submitted by 100% of the adjoining owners and therefore no public hearing or notice is required. The Umatilla County Public Works Department finds this vacation to be in the public interest based upon the aforementioned facts and recommends the public road right-of-way be vacated as described in the petition, effectively returning 0.4 acres to the tax rolls.