

8640 SW Milon Ln
Portland, OR 97225

Case File: DI2020-0002. Holman's Directors Funeral Home

Dear Lauren Russell,

I am writing to you in regards to the proposed Holam Funeral Home going in at 3230 SW 87th Ave. I have been advised to direct my concerns to you during this appeal process.

It is my understanding that a notice was delivered to nearby homeowners prior to the December 23rd petition deadline. Unfortunately, my partner and I did not receive this notice and were informed by a neighbor after the fact.

My home is located at 8640 SW Milon Ln., which shares a yard with the property located at 8630 SW Milon Ln, bordering on this property. I am petitioning against this funeral home going in this close to my home. Our neighborhood is full of families, which is why my partner and I chose our home in the first place. While the neighborhood boasts a handful of commercial properties (a dealership, restaurants, fitness shops, a veterinary office, etc.), a funeral home is not acceptable. Being someone who suffers from anxiety, I find the idea of seeing body bags and hearses constantly in my neighborhood to be a crippling idea. Additionally, safeguarding the neighborhood's children and, someday, my own, from experiencing this is something I am adamantly fighting for.

Death is a part of life. I have a very deep respect for people in the profession of death and dying; however, I do believe it takes a very strong and specific person to be able to handle this on a daily basis. The idea of being around death every single day is of incredible concern to me and my mental health, as well as the mental health of this community. In addition to the mental wellbeing of the neighborhood, I am greatly concerned that a funeral home will impact the rentability of my home, should I choose to do that in the future, as well as the resale value.

Please advise on the best way to appeal this plan. My neighbors and I are vehemently against this and will do all that we can to make sure this business is not allowed to operate this close to a residential neighborhood. I would like to find a quick resolution to this so that both my neighborhood, and the funeral home business, can quickly move on.

I hope I have effectively communicated the financial and emotional concern surrounding this petition. Please contact me upon receipt so that we may discuss next steps.

Thank you,
Rebecca Bertone
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