

8630 SW Milon Ln  
Portland, OR 97225

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

To the City of Beaverton

My home is located at 8630 SW Milon Lane with backyard that borders on the property of proposed business. I would like to appeal the proposal a funeral home going in right next to my home.

We did not receive a letter from the City of Beaverton regarding this proposal that was submitted on Dec 3<sup>rd</sup> with due date to appeal on Dec 23<sup>rd</sup>. Nor did we have any notification of this proposal over the past year. We missed the opportunity to appeal hence we are joining our neighbor Susan Corbett on her appeal.

The decision made by the City of Beaverton on Feb 2<sup>nd</sup> to approve Holman's Funeral home to exist is based on the premise of maneuvering around definitions and codes. Holman's Funeral home pre-app notes from July 2020 included a crematorium (which was not disclosed on the City of Beaverton website till after the Feb 2<sup>nd</sup> decision). There are no details of changes to their current proposal or withdrawal of original plan. In addition, no confirmation that crematorium will never be proposed in the future once they get professional service approval.

This is a family neighborhood on the edge of commercial properties. While there are a dealerships, restaurants, soccer shop, vet etc. next to our homes, a funeral home this close to our home is not acceptable. It is not a professional services business like the other business as they represent. It is closer to a cemetery as defined by the code.

Being of Hindu faith, this goes against our beliefs of living this close to place of final rituals, storage/processing or resting of the deceased. It is our responsibility to safeguard our children from unnecessary psychological trauma of seeing body bags and hearses going on and off the property at all hours of the day. While I understand death is part of life and we all need to take care of our families and friends that pass away, a funeral home this close to homes of a family neighborhood is not acceptable. It belongs in an industrial zone or commercial zone that is not adjacent to a residential zone.

With children playing in the back yard or from the living room window within feet with easy visual to the body being transferred from mode of transport to the building is not acceptable. They would have questions and death would be all they would think about as it is right there for them every waking moment. Dead bodies stored longer term to be process. Our religious and parenting style would like to keep our children innocent of such things until they are mature enough to understand the whole life and death cycle. To have this forced onto the developing young minds and on our religious beliefs is almost a form of emotional abuse. It is as if our civil

right of upbringing our kids at the pace that we want as parents and the right to practice our religion have been taken away.

We did not choose to buy a home next to a funeral home. I can guarantee that everyone including members of the City of Beaverton that has kids that will be will not want to live next funeral home with clear line of sight of a funeral home with all the activities that come along with it.

To add, most adults do not find it acceptable to be around death 24/7. Even more so for people of faith in numerous cultures. We leave in a different time with folks with various emotional and psychological challenges from their past such our military veterans. It takes a special person and physiological strength to be able to handle such sadness. Besides the emotional trauma and superstitions associated with dead bodies, no family will be willing to live next to a funeral home with activities around the clock. Holman Funeral home provides zero service value being this close to a residential zone and is better suited in an industrial zone.

I hope you understand the hypersensitivity and emotionality of our plea and take into consideration the young families of the community.

In summary here are the questions to ask:

- Why are definitions and codes being maneuvered around to help Holman move next to a family neighborhood?
- Why is the language of storage of bodies or mortuary being removed from the decision even though it is planned?
- Why is crematorium now being removed from application as that is the ultimate plan by Holman?
- Why is Holman's Funeral home being so inconsiderate to moving adjacent to a residential zone? They are in the business to take care of families and should know better.

Thank you

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