

Submitter: Jason Flint

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Semiconductors

Measure: SB4

My name is Jason Flint and I am the owner of Manning-Kamna Farm, which sits at the intersection of NE Evergreen Road and NE Jackson School Road just north of Hillsboro. When Hillsboro Economic Development Director Dan Dias talks about the "The Green area to the lower left" of his map of future semiconductor production sites, he's talking about my home.

My wife Laura and I bought this farm in 2013. It has existed since the late 1850s and is a Donation Land Claim property. Elizabeth Manning built her farmhouse here in 1876 and we still call it home today. It is on the National Register of Historic Places and is a landmark within the region (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Manning-Kamna_Farm). More importantly, it is situated almost directly across Evergreen Road from Evergreen Middle School, half a mile north of Jackson Elementary School and fewer than two miles from Glencoe High School.

This is where Dias and the City of Hillsboro want to put industrial facilities on the basis that they "adjacent to our urban growth boundary with urban services on both the Southern and Eastern sides." What he neglects to mention is that those services are in place to serve residential communities to the south.

Even the Northwest Hillsboro Alliance, which has long sought redevelopment of the land around Manning-Kamna Farm, argued that the best use of that land was for residential development—even mapping out that preferred use:
<http://nwhillsboro.org/concept-plan.html>. The City of Hillsboro poured millions into sidewalk, bike lane and street light improvements on Jackson School Road in an effort to connect the Evergreen Road neighborhoods to a thriving downtown business district (<https://www.hillsboro-oregon.gov/our-city/departments/public-works/projects-bids/jackson-school-rd>).

Now, despite having adequate industrial land within its Urban Growth Boundary for semiconductor facilities and having willing land partners to the north of our property for future industrial development, the City of Hillsboro wishes to bring in this plot for industrial purposes and shoehorn industrial facilities beside residential developments and schools. While Laura and I were never consulted about these plans and are, by no means, ready or willing to vacate our property, we are even less motivated by Hillsboro's ill-conceived plan to expose unwitting residential communities to industrial emissions and traffic.

The city will note that companies are held to strict emission standards and are

required to use costly equipment to scrub their emissions of their most toxic elements. But that requires activating said equipment, which Hillsboro business Intel didn't for nine weeks out of the last year (<https://www.oregonlive.com/silicon-forest/2023/02/intel-emissions-risked-significant-environmental-harm-oregon-regulators-say-because-safety-equipment-was-turned-off-for-9-weeks.html>). Locals already feel as if Intel is producing its own microclimate through its emissions (https://www.reddit.com/r/mildlyinteresting/comments/f2kt5y/this_is_a_cloud_created_by_an_intel_campusnot_the/?utm_source=amp&utm_medium=&utm_content=post_title) and DEQ already places Hillsboro's pollutant levels above those of much of Oregon (<https://www.opb.org/news/article/oregon-deq-air-toxic-pollutants-above-average-levels-report/>).

As landowners on the parcel that Hillsboro seeks to industrialize, despite its proximity to neighbors and students, we must strongly object to bringing said parcel into the Urban Growth Boundary for this purpose. Gov. Kotek rightfully points out that Oregon has 111,000 fewer homes than it needs at the moment. If this state is going to start building the nearly 36,000 homes it needs each year while preserving its natural resources, it has to use the land available to it far more judiciously. If Laura and I are going to lose our home to encroaching development, we'd sleep more soundly knowing we helped neighbors live here than harmed their health.

Sincerely,

Jason Flint