

Friends of Eastside Trails
3301 Seminole Road Silverton, Oregon 97381

February 8, 2018

House Transportation Committee - Chair
Representative Susan McLain

Reference: HB 4092

House Bill 4092 is a stealth bill that by-passes the Oregon land use laws and deliberately avoids a transparent public process. Super siting bills like this create very bad state-wide precedent and reinforce the perception that the Legislature doesn't believe in or practice transparency and input from impacted stakeholders.

The sponsors of HB 4092 cite a seven-year process of hearings, a need to save time and money, and the need to insure emergency preparedness. However, A local land use process exists which, if the airport used it, could accommodate the needs of the airport, farmers, and nearby communities. Instead, the sponsors of this bill elected to go to the legislature to try to get its own special bill. As for emergency preparedness, there is no need for improving the Aurora Airport runway since the Salem Municipal runway is just 22 miles away.

Friends of Eastside Trails, together with concerned citizens in Silverton, have been involved with local planning and land use issues for several years. Passage of Senate Bill 1573 removed land use planning by local government. HB 4092 will do the same.

We vigorously oppose this unlawful intrusion to local land use authority and ask that the Committee reject HB 4092.

Sincerely,

Charles L. Baldwin, President
3301 Seminole Road
Silverton, Oregon, 97381

cc: Honorable Rick Lewis
bcc: Members of the Committee