

A Tale of Two Counties

-Not Authored by Charles Dickens-



Friends of Marion County | P.O. Box 3274 | Salem, OR 97302

HB 2790A

Hearing Before the Oregon Senate
Committee On Environment and
Natural Resources

Chair, Senator Michael Dembrow
2019 Regular Session

May 9, 2019



Amends definitions of "outdoor mass gathering" for purposes of land use and public health laws. Requires counties to consider outdoor mass gathering as **land use decision only if gathering involves more than 3,000 individuals** or is agri-tourism on lands zoned for exclusive farm use. Requires applying only clear and objective standards to permit review for agri-tourism gatherings of 500 individuals or less. Requires counties to **review public health impacts of outdoor mass gathering** of more than 500 individuals. Allows county to **consolidate mass gathering review** with land use decision. Makes approval of consolidated permit subject to appeal only to Land Use Board of Appeals. Allows county to **charge larger fee for approval of larger outdoor mass gathering.**



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Two Willamette Valley Counties with Large OMG Applications

Marion County	Linn County
2018 Population 345,000	125,000
2017-18 Budget \$412 MM	\$145 MM



Two Different Outcomes

Marion County	Linn County
2018 First Application	10 yr History
Application Denied	5 yr Permit Revoked





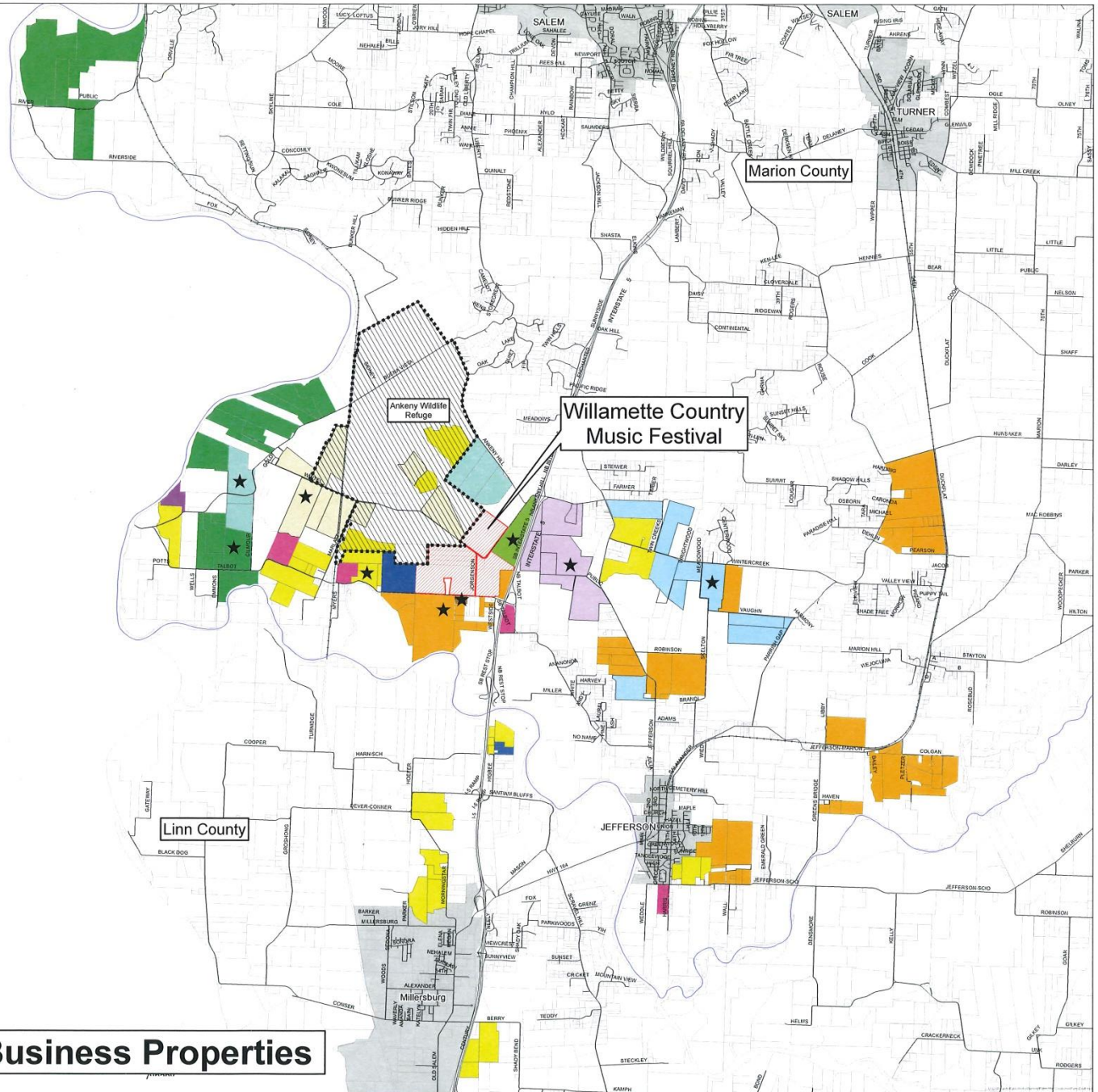
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June 5, 2018

Legend

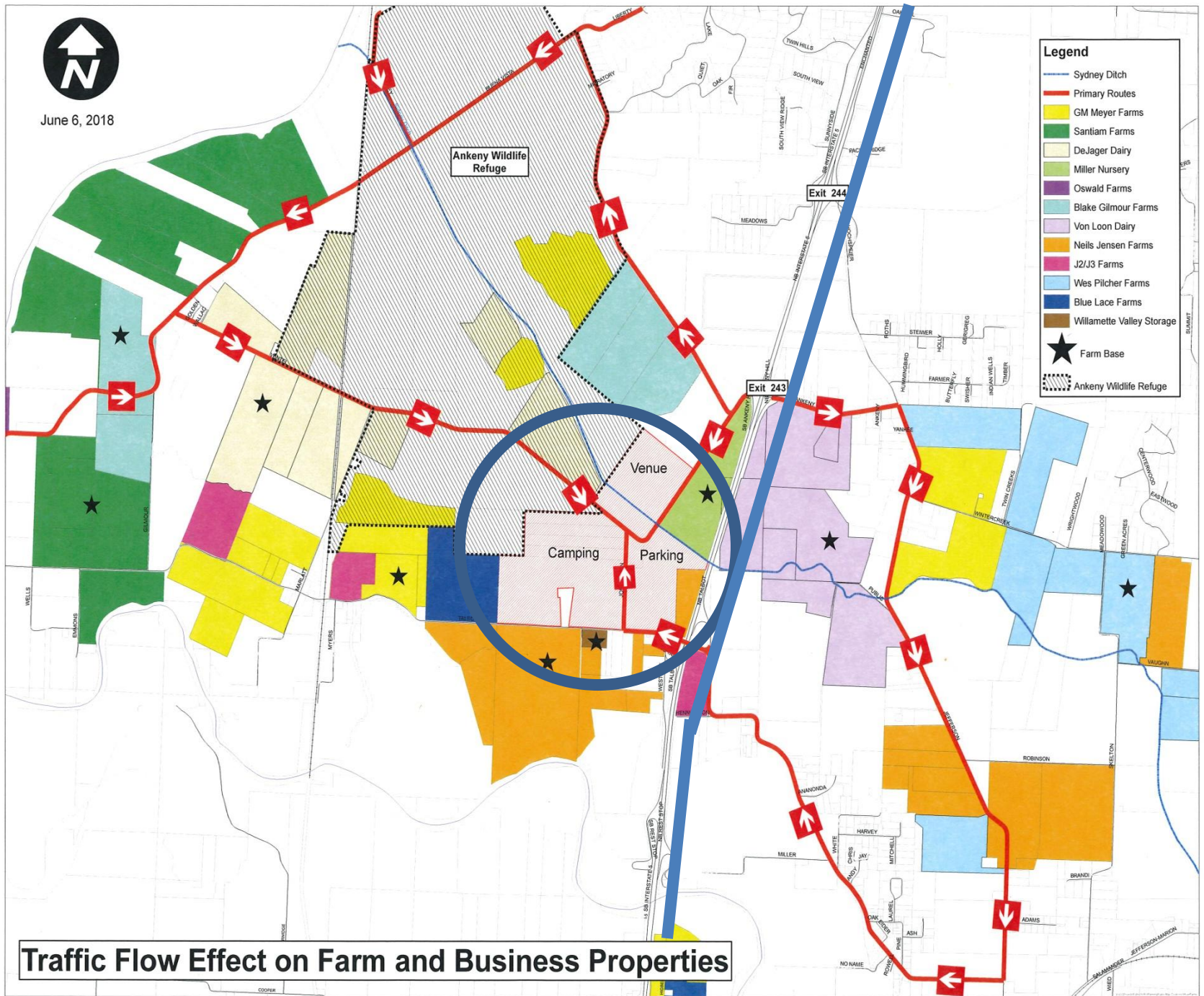
-  GM Meyer Farms
-  Santiam Farms
-  DeJager Dairy
-  Miller Nursery
-  Oswald Farms
-  Blake Gilmour Farms
-  Von Loon Dairy
-  Neils Jensen Farms
-  J2/J3 Farms
-  Wes Pilcher Farms
-  Blue Lace Farms
-  Willamette Valley Storage
-  Farm Base
-  Ankeny Wildlife Refuge



Effected Farm and Business Properties



June 6, 2018



1. Protects farmers' ability to operate
2. Protects nearby wildlife areas
3. Protects from fire
4. Protects from criminal behavior



1. Protects farmers' ability to operate

1. Access to fields during critical planting, harvest, and other operations; Marion County area farmers projected more than \$1.1M loss and impacts to approx. 6,000 acres
2. Protection from equipment vandalism
3. Theft of gas and other farm supplies
4. Trespass
5. General liability; One farm operation was quoted \$Thousands for insurance coverage for the event



1. Protects farmers' ability to operate

1. Access to fields during critical planting, harvest, and other operations

OMG traffic impedes oversized farm equipment on narrow county farm roads



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2. Protects nearby wildlife areas

1. Ankeny National Wildlife Refuge; 2,800 acres centered around the proposed event venue traffic flow
2. Proposal for US Forest Service to protect ANWR during day only
3. Other areas of concern; Wildlife nesting and other habitat



3. Protects from fire

1. Usual summer season risks; Area farmers forced to protect their properties
2. Area farmers face possible liability for harm to event participants
3. Adjacent to other residential properties



4. Protects from criminal behavior

2018 Brownsville event resulted in approx. 163 Linn County Sheriff Calls; Additional cost approx. \$80K*

1. Sexual and other assaults
2. Public intoxication; DUII, MIP
3. Theft and vandalism near venue

***Sheriff Dept. was unable to adequately respond to all calls**



How HB 2790A Protects Farmers and Other Community Members

1. Health and safety provisions of the OMG statute will be expanded
2. Conditional Use application and findings allows for analysis of impacts to farms and other neighboring properties
3. Review by local health authority, Sheriff, and others
4. Consolidated Appeals to LUBA instead of Circuit Court



Please Vote “YES”
and support HB 2790A

Thank you so much

1. Friends of Marion County
2. Friends of Linn County
3. Marion County and Linn County Farmers



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