

Dear friends, thank you so much for your hard work on our behalf. Experiencing such an event is quite different than seeing it from the outside however so I am glad to be able to give testimony today about the experience of rebuilding which frankly has been more difficult and more traumatic than the fire itself.

Fortunately I had some insurance to cover my pit set 1400 square-foot home at Creekside however who could believe that the foundation would be incinerated and that this would require replacement... And... That it would fall to me as a citizen to replace that.

This fire was no one's fault and indeed there were brave firemen and police man who helped citizens avoid certain death. However I have been told by 4 (FOUR) firemen immediately following the fire, That they had no water and this was due to improper maintenance of the Charlotte-Ann Pumping station in Medford. I don't know whether this was delayed maintenance or improper maintenance but in any case there was "no water". Subsequent investigations have chosen to turn a blind eye to this. Our Park manager and owner (Wes Norton) had water for some reason but no proper hose and he did the best that he could with a garden hose until he finally gave up because firemen were not available. Nor a hose to connect to the 4 (FOUR) hydrants in our Park at Creekside.

I am dismayed that in order to resurrect the house, it falls to me to pay for a \$55-\$60,000 foundation and that I must get a loan to do this. I know that there are forgivable loans but why should it be necessary for me to live in the house 10 years to pay for the foundation that I certainly did not destroy?

This is a problem. Both these items are problems. Everyone has glad handed each other and clapped each other on the back praising the heroic efforts (which were many). But what about maintenance of that station? I saw nothing related to that in the investigative report paid for by the city of Phoenix. That report cost over \$40,000 and an out-of-town, North Carolina company was paid to do that.

I have seen zero Citizen oversight on these matters. Why?

And why do I even get the bill for the foundation, A permanent improvement to someone else's property. Why should I even have to seek a loan? I do not want any liens on any property that I own. I wish that you would rethink these matters and come up with some better solutions.

If I rebuild the house, the property monthly rent will go up. There is no sign of where it will stop because it is based on the Portland index which is yet another problem that I think you should address. People in Southern Oregon don't probably have the same income picture. We have been informed also that any cost experienced by the owner will be passed on to us. Already, the space rent has gone up by \$100 and we will now be paying for water ourselves. Property owners can raise space rents virtually as much as they would like. Wouldn't it be better to have some incentive plan to stop this practice?

Additionally we still have many citizens who have received nothing or virtually nothing and who are still camped out, who still are falling through the cracks and I hope that you also hear from them.

Thank you,

Sharon Schmidt

A former resident of CREEKSIDE, OR