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## Dorms: Pacific Seafoods' plan approved

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owner) is attempting now to get our city to roll over, play dead and help him increase his profits by putting one of our neighborhoods at risk of lowering home values, safety and a peaceful existence our citizens have earned and desire," wrote Loren Gramson, who formerly worked in the seafood industry. "It matters not if he didn't plan ahead for 'seasonal' workers."

Mike Balensifer, Mayor Henry Balensifer's father, spoke in support. His mother owns property near the project on Northwest Warrenton Drive that he may develop.

"I lend my support for history repeating itself," Mike Balensifer said. "It would be nice to be able to process all of our seafood here. ... I'm not here to say 'no.' I'm here to say 'yes.'"

Sixteen other residents signed a letter asking for specific limits on the project, should the amendment be approved.

Commissioners chose to make company dormitories a conditional use in the zone, allowing them to place conditions on the construction and operation. These include:

- All dorm residents must work for the industrial water-dependent company and, should the ownership change on either the lot or the seafood company, the specialized

Pacific Seafoods plans to turn a portion of its metal fabrication shop off Warrenton Drive into dorms for employees.

Peggy Yingst  
The Columbia Press



housing will cease to operate.

- The company must provide bus transportation to and from the work place for dorm residents.

- The company must develop a plan for running the dorm that includes removing terminated employees.

- The company must have a good-neighbor agreement with both the city and the neighbors.

- The conditional-use agreement will be reviewed by the commission two years after approval and, if the company shows violations, there could be additional conditions placed on it.

"The evidence is overwhelming that housing is both expensive and difficult to find," said Michael Robinson, an attorney working on behalf of Pacific Seafood. "Approving this ... is a reasonable approach to solving a problem that, if not solved, will have a direct and adverse impact on the city."

Commissioner Rick New-

ton said he'd spoken recently with an administrator at Fort Stevens State Park who told him the park would love to do something similar since housing is so hard to find, especially for lower-income seasonal workers.

"This could affect other industries, so I want to get it right," Newton said.

Many property owners in the I-2 Industrial Water-Dependent Shorelands zone have found it nearly impossible to get projects approved because of the restrictions, Commissioner Pam Ackley said.

"Making it a conditional use gives us the most protection," she said. "If this works, we have a lot of I-2 properties rendered useless that could find a solution."

## City recorder gets regional title

City Recorder Dawne Shaw has been named Region I director of the Oregon Association of Municipal Recordors.

She also recently was promoted to her current city position after serving as deputy city recorder.

She has served as acting recorder since Linda Engbretson, who previously held the position, was named city manager in October 2016.



Shaw



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