

Public input sought on Stevens Road planning

by Bend_Weekly_News_Sources

May 8 hearing will help shape master plan

BEND, Ore. - The Department of State Lands (DSL) invites public comment on a draft master plan for developing a state-owned, 640-acre parcel bordered by 27th St. and Stevens Rd. in Bend. A public hearing will take place on Tuesday, May 8, from 6-8 p.m. in The Commons at the High Desert Middle School, 61111 27th St. "The Stevens Road Master Plan will guide the use and development of this parcel for the next 20 to 30 years," said John Lilly, DSL's asset manager. "Currently the draft plan calls for a phased mixed-use development, with an emphasis on various types of residential housing," he said. Retail, commercial, solar-energy production and light-industrial use also are part of the draft plan, and there is significant open space for parks, trails and public facilities, Lilly said. "Our vision is to use sustainable development practices in all phases of the design and construction of the parcel." The Stevens Road tract is an asset of the Common School Fund (CSF), a fund established at statehood for public schools and overseen by DSL and the State Land Board. DSL's land management and other program activities provide revenue for the fund. Earnings from the CSF are distributed twice yearly to Oregon's 198 K-12 public school districts. In 2006, distributions totaled \$45.5 million; 2007 distributions are expected to total more than \$50 million. If people are unable to attend the public hearing, they may send their comments to: Oregon Department of State Lands Attn: Stevens Road Master Plan Comments 775 Summer St. NE, Suite 100 Salem OR 97301-1279 Email: stevensroad@dsl.state.or.us Comments must be received by 5 p.m., May 18. A copy of the Stevens Road Tract DRAFT Master Plan is available on the DSL Web site at: www.oregonstatelands.us or by contacting DSL's Bend office, 541-388-6112, ext. 221.

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