

**2021-09-14 Public Testimony submitted by Julia Sommer  
PA-T3-2021-00003 192 North Mountain Ave**

**Statement to Ashland Planning Commission 9/14/21 re: Beach Creek**

I am Board Secretary of the Ashland Village Homeowners' Association, located on the northern boundary of the planned KDA Beach Creek Development. We share not only a boundary, but also responsibility for conserving and maintaining Beach Creek itself.

I am speaking to you today to draw attention to the challenge of dealing with Beach Creek riparian enhancement or restoration and the need to share responsibility with KDA for repairing eroded banks and preventing further erosion.

After removing blackberries along our section of the creek, as required by the City, we discovered that there are steep banks, debris, and areas of erosion that need to be repaired so that the stream doesn't damage nearby homes that are part of our homeowners' association.

We have met with Derek Severson of the City Community Development department, Kora Mosseaux of Jackson Soil and Water Conservation District, and Dan Bish of Plant Oregon.

They are all in agreement that the narrow creek corridor that traverses the KDA portion of Beach Creek accelerates the flow of water, thus eroding the section of creek on our property, as well as bringing debris that can block the culvert at the north end of our HOA property. (This culvert runs under Village Green Road and it has in the past become blocked with debris from upstream Beach Creek, thus on occasion flooding one of the homes in our association.) They have all agreed that it would be important to open up the creek channel to slow down the flow. We have been in conversation with Mark Knox and he is aware of this concern.

We would like to make sure that KDA, as part of its permission to build the Beach Creek Development, collaborate with us (and the City) to address the restoration and safety of the creek.

