

Written testimony for
Mass Gathering 17-004
Noise Variance 17-001
Conditional Use 17-043

Bi-Mart Country Music Festival
received April 21 – May 10, 2018

(copy is posted on Planning website)

RECEIVED

APR 23 2018
April 17, 2018

MARION COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Marion County Planning Div.

cc: Tolene

CHAIR
COMMISSIONER
COMMISSIONER
ADMIN. OFFICER
COPY

5155 Silverton Rd NE

Salem, OR 97305

Re: Permit request from Bi Mart Willamette County Music Festival organizers -- Opposed

I am a resident, taxpayer and voter in Marion County and opposed to the conditional use permit for a mass crowd gathering near the Ankeny Wildlife Refuge in Marion County in an Exclusive Farm Use zone. The opposition doesn't diminish with the organizer's pull back from the original request for 5 years to asking permission for one year. The divide and conquer theory means it will become more difficult for the government to say no in the future. Let the organizers find a more fitting venue the first time around.

Inviting 60,000 people to camp out on 200 acres of farm land for four days is bound to create more problems than the value of the money they organizers think they will bring into the area. That's 300 people per acre.

In comparison the LB Day Ampitheatre at the Fairgrounds has 9000 seats and the Fairgrounds is set up for concerts with 185 acres and support services. It is difficult to imagine 6 times as many people out in the county farm land. How does the county assure safety?

It's not just the traffic jams on I-5, it's alcohol, drugs, guns, and loud music disturbances to the wildlife, and the risk of fire from campfires and firecrackers like the one that burned through the Columbia Gorge recently.

Law enforcement and fire suppression will become the burden of the county and likely the state in which I pay income and property taxes. I read that other venues are under consideration and I hope the organizers will look elsewhere where the negative impacts will not devalue life in and near the refuge.

Jane Myers
Jane Myers

Salem OR 97306

✓ Copy to the Marion County Commission

Brandon Reich - festival

From: Kathy Parlet <junkdivakp@gmail.com>
To: <breich@co.marion.or.us>
Date: 4/25/2018 10:56 AM
Subject: festival

I know that I am too late for the 4/20 meeting, I misplaced the article. So, I just want to express my opinion to this festival as a BIG NO NO. they can just stay where they are & not ruin our beautiful wet lands. I can't believe Hankin is still pursuing this & thinks her engineers are doing a good job. We don't want it & hopefully Bi Mart will come to their senses. I will boycott Bi Mart & I shop there a lot & stick up for them as being good people & home grown Oregonians - but this has to stop leave our wetlands alone. thanks you, Kathy Parlet

This message has been scanned for virus content by Symantec Anti-Virus, and is believed to be clean. Viruses are often contained in attachments - Email with specific attachment types are automatically deleted. If you need to receive one of these attachments contact Marion County IT for assistance.

October 26, 2017

To Whom It May Concern:

We are aware that the Willamette Country Music Festival is looking to move their event to Jefferson, specifically the Talbot community.

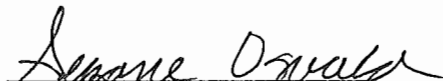
The local farmers main concerns with this event are safety & liability, traffic, wildlife habitat and the financial impact during our harvest.

An event like the Willamette Country Music Festival would significantly increase operational costs and result in economic loss for our businesses. Harvest and irrigation cannot be put on hold until this event is over. Also, our local dairies must transport milk timely and would be negatively affected financially by this event.

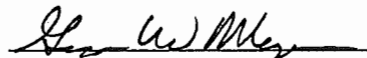
The crops that will be impacted the hardest are:

Grass seed, mint, dairy milk transport, nursery stock, vegetable crops grown for processing, straw for export, silage corn, milo, clover, specialty seed crops, and hazelnuts

The infrastructure is not adequate to accommodate the size of an event like Willamette Country Music Festival. The burden will fall upon the local farmers; heavy financial costs and losses would result. This will be detrimental to our livelihood.



Oswald Farms, LLC


Blue Lace Farms, LLC



GM Meyer Farms, LLC

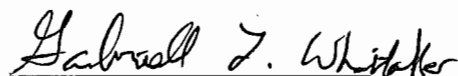

Neils Jensen Farms INC

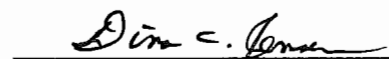

Santiam Farms INC



Santiam Farms INC


H Miller Landscape


Hilton Trenching


J2 Farms INC


J3 Farms INC


Willamette Valley Storage, LLC


Dejager Dairy Farms, LLC

Oswald Farms, LLC
2535 Talbot Rd S, Jefferson OR 97352

11/20/2017

Marion County Planning
Attn: Brandon Reich

I am writing in opposition of the move of the Bi-Mart Country Music Festival. The new proposed area is located in the Talbot community which mainly consists of farmers, dairy's, and other small businesses. If the music festival moves to this area it will put a massive strain on our livelihoods. The proposed plan is to increase the music festival to four days and have 40,000 to 60,000 attendees.

Oswald Farms has only been in operation since 2015. We are a small, young farm and everything we have is put back into our grass seed field. Our only chance to earn a paycheck comes from harvesting our grass seed crop in a timely manner. Harvest for us is July through September. The music festival falls directly in the middle of this. Any complications of irrigating or harvesting our crop would be detrimental to our business.

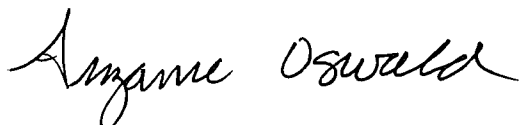
In addition to our farm, our home is located approximately 200 yards from the proposed camping area. We are very concerned about theft and vandalism. While reading through the minutes from the Linn County commissioners there was an issue with this from one the neighbors next to the brownsville site. They had to hire their own security team to protect their property from wandering music attendees. Who is liable if people come onto our property and possibly getting injured? Who would be carrying that liability?

While reading through the application it states that they will be directing the music attendees right past our house on Talbot Rd and having them cross two railroad tracks. This may be a issue causing a backup when the train is crossing very slowly. In 2012, there was a 8 car train derailment at one of these tracks sending massive logs onto the roadway.

We feel very strongly that we have the right to continue operating our business without a music "party" adding a significant cost increase to our farming practice. Our farm does not have the funds it would require for us to operate around this concert.

We thank you for your time and considering our concerns.

Oswald Farms LLC

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Armani Oswald".

1786 Talbot Road South, PO Box 299, Jefferson, OR 97352-0299

Phone: 541-327-1645 Fax: 541-327-2260

Email: njfarms@hotmail.com

November 18, 2017

Attn: Brandon Reich, Planning Division
Marion County
5155 Silverton Road NE
Salem, OR 97305

RE: Bi-Mart Willamette Country Music Festival / Jimmy Gross, Jefferson, OR

Hello Mr. Reich,

This letter is being written in regards to the proposed re-location of the Bi-Mart Willamette Country Music Festival (BWCMF) from Lebanon, Oregon to Jefferson, Oregon.

My wife and I are both third generation farmers. Our farm is located less than one mile west from Interstate 5, on Talbot Road South. We have been farming at this location, and several other area locations, for over 28 years.

We are opposed to this mass gathering/conditional use permit. How is it that EFU land is being used for this type of event?

We wish to share with you the negative financial impact this event would have on our farm, which is located across the road from the proposed parking/camping area. At the proposed event time of year, we are deep in grass seed harvest, and peppermint harvest. We recognize that it is difficult to imagine what a harvest involves if you have never been around a farm at harvest time. Would you please note the following?

It appears from the application that the intention is for the flow of traffic to exit Interstate 5 at exit #242, onto Talbot Road South --- west bound. Traffic will also flow from the City of Jefferson, down Talbot Road South East, from the east, and over the Interstate 5 overpass onto Talbot Road South -- west bound. These same Talbot Roads (both South, and South East) are used heavily at this time of the year by our farm, and other area agriculture producers operating a variety of large and wide equipment.

For our farm, and in general for most agriculture producers, there is a one-time annual opportunity to "receive a paycheck". Annually, July, August, and September are the months in which we irrigate, and then harvest, in preparation of that paycheck. (We also irrigate Harvest time is quite intense with the additional part time employees that are hired, and quite a number of large pieces of equipment

that are operating at the same time. If we are delayed or prohibited from harvesting our crops because of the proposed BWCMF event, and the crops are ruined, is BWCMF prepared to pay us for our crops? If they are prepared, would you please have BWCMF provide a copy of their insurance coverage, and what is allowed for each claim? This "Loss Payee" insurance document must have our farm name listed as loss payee, as well as other area producers.

Our operation alone would be responsible for many trips down Talbot Road and over the freeway overpass to, and through, Jefferson as follows:

32 trips- Employees arriving and departing work

25 trips- Irrigation on our Talbot Road farms, and other area farms, (several sets daily, 4 irrigators)

14 trips- Combines and auger wagon and pickup truck for flagging

16 trips- Semi hauling

08 trips- Swathing – grass seed

10 trips- Overall Manager

06 trips- Swathers – peppermint

140 trips-Peppermint hauling (crop and pummey)

08 trips- Peppermint Distillery operators and chopper operator

25 trips- The baling operation: Rake, Bale, Stack, Haul

04 trips- Large industrial mowers pulled behind a large tractor.

288 total trips

The above estimate of daily trips is probably low. We also "flag" our equipment to go over the overpass, because the overpass is only wide enough for one piece of equipment. If the cars are backed up down Talbot Road South East, there will be nowhere for the cars to back up to make room. One scenario is 5 combines, the flagger, and the fuel truck, usually go down the road at one time.

If the proposed event goes through, our employees could be sitting on Talbot Road in multiple traffic jams. This is very costly in several ways. The wages for the operators, the fuel to keep large industrial equipment idling, the loss of crop as it becomes too ripe and falls on the ground.

We are also concerned about fire and medical emergencies. Heated equipment can cause fires. Folks that are careless with burning material can cause fires also. Is BWCMF prepared to pay for fire damages, when the fire department cannot reach the fire because the roads are not accessible? I understand they are planning to have fire department personnel and equipment at the proposed event. However, they will be unable to leave the event in an emergency with the roads packed. What plan is in place to serve the residents of Talbot Road, and the City of Jefferson in a medical or fire emergency?

Your thoughtful consideration will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

Neils P. Jensen



Neils Jensen Farms Inc.

Willamette Valley Storage LLC

PO Box 299, Jefferson, OR 97352-0299

Phone: 541-327-2001

Fax: 541-327-2260

Email: njfarm@hotmail.com

November 17, 2017

Brandon Reich, Planning Division

Marion County

5155 Silverton Road NE

Salem, OR 97305

RE: Jim Gross / Willamette Country Music Festival

Brandon,

I am writing this letter in reference to the proposed event planned for the Bi-Mart Willamette Country Music Festival (BWCMF), near Jefferson, Oregon.

My storage operation is located about a quarter mile from the intersection of Interstate 5 exit #242, and Talbot Road South. This operation consists of two large warehouses storing agricultural products.

Semi trucks haul in, and out, of these warehouses daily on scheduled times. In order to enter, and exit, the driveway, the semis (with long trailers) must use both lanes of Talbot Road. That means that both sides of the road must be clear for about an 8th of a mile, or slightly less. If we were to lose these vendors because they cannot access these warehouses timely, the economic loss would be enormous. The financial loss would not be for just the four day proposed event. There would be an on-going financial cost in suppliers and vendors realizing that they do not have access to this facility at least four days out of each year. Losing one vendor would cost us considerably.

The safety of my family, our employees, the truck drivers, and the folks attending this proposed event is paramount. It is not clear to me why this event is being considered for EFU zoned land. Is there a reason why this event is not being held at The Oregon State fairgrounds, or at a facility that would be equipped to handle a crowd of this size?

If you are to approve this plan, our company must be listed as loss payee (for \$1,200,000.00) on BWCMF insurance, and we must be provided with the Loss Payee insurance copy at the time of approval.

Would you please consider the enormous negative impact this would have on our finances?

Sincerely,

Irma L. Jensen



Willamette Valley Storage LLC

J2 Farms Inc.

Gabrielle Whitaker

3905 Talbot Rd S

Jefferson, OR 97352

Phone: 503-871- 6340

Email: gabrielle_jensen@yahoo.com

November 16, 2017

Attn: Brandon Reich, Planning Division
Marion County
5155 Silverton Rd NE
Salem, OR 97305

RE: Bi-Mart Willamette Country Music Festival moving to Jefferson, Oregon

Dear Mr. Reich,

It has come to my attention that the WCMF is looking to move their festival to Jefferson Oregon, specifically Talbot Road. My farm is located on Talbot Road, directly across the road from this proposed event. I have been farming, and have lived on Talbot Road for over 20 years, and fear that this festival is going to impact my livelihood, resulting in large economic losses for my business.

I am a farmer; July and August are the only months where I can earn my paycheck for the entire year. The crops that are harvested during the time of the WCMF that I grow are, Grass Seed and Peppermint for oil.

My concerns with this event are as follows:

Talbot Road is not equipped to handle this many people, as the road is very narrow. All of our semis must utilize both sides of the road when turning into a driveway. Most of our tractors, combines, swathers, and equipment are very wide, taking up a lane and a half. Cars must stop and get half-way off the road to let us pass. If this event were to occur, we know we would have to be moving equipment down the road. Once this happens, the cars coming to the event would have to stop, which directly starts to back-up the Interstate 5 North and South corridors. **We are concerned for the safety of our families, our employees, and also the people coming to this event.**

Compaction- the land proposed for this event is EFU zoned land. How can event of this size take place on EFU land? The compaction alone from this event would ruin the farm ground. It would not be able to produce high yielding crops like it has in the past. Land value would also be decreased because of the inability to produce quality crops.

Grass Seed is harvested for the seed, as well as for the straw that is exported to countries like China and Japan. If the windrow is left in a field too long, the seed and straw quality starts to degrade. It is subject to mold if it rains, bleaching of color that is

undesired by export markets due to prolonged sun exposure, and the next years crop can start to die if it is left covered for too long.

After the seed is harvested, we bale what is left of the plant. We must haul the straw out of the field quickly because if it rains on our straw, the buyers will discount our pay, or even reject the bales entirely; leaving us with a huge loss and no way to make it up.

Peppermint is a very time-sensitive crop to harvest. Once it starts to bloom, you have a very short window of time to cut the peppermint, because the plant starts to release a chemical that is unacceptable to our oil buyers. Once cut, if it is left in the field too long the peppermint gets very dry and crispy and starts to burn-off the oil content in the leaves. When peppermint harvest is in full-swing, we run 5 semi-trucks with trailers, 16-18 hours a day on the road. Each truck travels up and down Talbot Road at least ten times per day. If these trucks are slowed down, our distillery is then slowed down. The cost to run the distillery per hour is over \$1,000.00. If the distillery cannot stay full, it would create a huge economic loss for us.

Since we farm on well-drained soil, our crops must be irrigated in order to produce a crop next year. If they are not irrigated in a timely manner, it cuts next years crop in half. This would result in a huge economic loss. Peppermint can especially be harmed if it goes with out water in dry conditions. Along with peppermint, our hazelnuts, grass seed, and clover must be irrigated. We have our irrigation scheduled to be changed 3 to 4 times per day. This requires 3 to 4 people using at least 2 vehicles.

We are unable to "put-off" our harvest until this event passes. We must continue to operate, **at our expense**. This event would most certainly increase our costs, requiring extra money we do not have.

I hope that you can see the negative impact this event would have on my family, my business, and my livelihood. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gabrielle Whitaker". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Gabrielle Whitaker

Blue Lace Farms

11/20/17

Marion County Planning
To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing you this letter today to oppose the mass gathering permit and the conditional use permit submitted by Willamette County Music Festival.

As a local farmer with property next to the proposed camping site, I am extremely concerned with the extra liability and costs this is going to impose on my small farming operation.

My husband and I farm 204 acres. The crops we farm are turf type tall fescue, straw for export, and Hazelnuts. We don't have the extra money in our farming operation to have any mistakes.

Bringing the WCMF and the 60,000 attendees to the Talbot community is going to be detrimental to our harvest. WCMF is proposing to double almost triple their 25,000 current attendance. This event is going to require my small farm to increase our farm liability, possibly harvest our crops early, fight music goers to stay off our property, and deal with traffic daily. I am extremely worried about my irrigation pump site. August is typically our hottest month of the year. How are we going to keep these people out of the waterway without hiring someone to watch over the pump site?

While reading the Linn County commissioner meeting minutes that regarded the WCMF, one farmer had to hire their own security guard to keep the music attendees off their property. This farmer experienced high theft and damage to their property during the Willamette county music festival.

Talbot road is a subpar road for even two full sized pickups passing in their proper lanes. Our farm has nearly smacked mirrors with another semi truck while passing on Talbot road headed to the freeway. Talbot road is our primary road we use to move all of our farming equipment.

July and August are our busiest months for our harvest. We first start off harvest by windrowing our grass fields into rows. Next, we have to wait for the windrows to dry out in order to combine for the grass seed. Once the combine leaves the field, the balers enter to bale all the grass straw left behind. It is raked, baled and stacked waiting for semi trucks to come pick it up and either deliver to a barn for storage or straight to the press for export. The tractors enter the field once again to flail the remaining grass stubble.

I am asking you to oppose this event. This event should take place in a bigger city that can accommodate 60,000 people. Autzen stadium in Eugene, Oregon would be a better fit for this size of an event.

Thank you for your time,

Audrey Davis Blue Lace Farms

Santiam Farms Inc
3642 Wintel Rd S
Jefferson, Or 97352

To: Marion County Planning Department
Marion County Commissioners
Kevin Cameron
Janet Carlson
Sam Brentano

I am writing this letter to express my opposition to the conditional use permit for an outdoor music festival located on Jimmy and Kristine Gross's property located on and around Jorgensen Rd., Wintel Rd. and Gilmour Rd. for the dates of August 16, 17, 18, and 19 2018.

I farm EFU zoned properties on Talbot Rd. and Buena Vista Rd. with additional locations on River Rd, and Riverside Dr. just east of the city of Independence. As part of my farm corporation we do custom straw baling for our own farm as well as custom baling for other farms. Our harvest usually starts around July 4 but doesn't end until mid October. Unlike the said property for this conditional use permit we grow and harvest seed and vegetable crops for 4 months. Many of these crops are very sensitive to the weather and a timely harvest is of the greatest importance. Any delay of harvest, even by 1 day increases the risk of economic loss due to a weather event. Rain, wind or both can cause significant damage. It is not an exaggeration to say that a total loss for a specific field due to weather is at risk. This could be upwards of 200,000.00 dollars. Vegetable seed crops like hybrid spinach and hybrid radish seed are subject to very high quality standards.

The very large increase in traffic to Buena Vista Rd, Talbot Rd, and Wintel Rd may significantly prevent my farm equipment from traveling the county roads in a timely manner. 90% of modern farm equipment is over sized and up to 20 ft wide. The county roads just are not equipped to handle long lines of cars traveling in one direction while large farm equipment is traveling in the opposite direction. The increased chance for accident or injury between music festival guests and large farm equipment is above an acceptable level and frankly a risk we cant afford. We move harvest and tillage equipment from field to field or from farm location to farm location every day during these months. The schedule is largely due to mother nature, we just cant plan around this weekend.

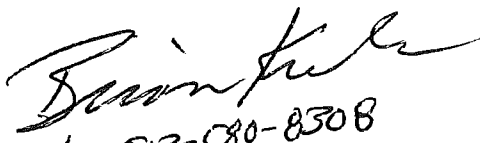
A plan to mitigate the potential for economic loss would be above and beyond a reasonable economic threshold. To hire or purchase or rent extra harvest and

storage equipment would cost upwards of 100,000.00 dollars, if not more. This added cost is just unaffordable and unreasonable. Jimmy and Kristine Gross's economic gain would be at the expense of Santiam Farms Inc. and our loss. We are not a corporate farm, this is a small business that not only my family relies on for our lively hoods but so do my employees. I have a responsibility to them as well.

My family has farmed in this community for 4 generations. There is typically an unwritten rule in farming communities like ours that all normal farming practices are accepted by your neighbor. An example would be the use of animal waste as fertilizer, the smell can be rather repulsive. Or the use of a very loud propane cannon to scare birds from farm fields. Or dust from summer tillage. These are all things we put up with as normal farm practices that have NO effect economically on our neighbors. Jimmy and Kristine are proposing a music festival and is outside the normal intended and zoned use of farm property. Its economic effect on my farm is real, not just an annoyance.

I urge the Marion County Planning Department and the Marion County Commisioners to deny this mass gathering and conditional use permit for a music festival to be located on Jimmy and Kristine Gross's property. Please don't burden my farm and my community.

Sincerely


ph. 503-580-8308

Brian Krebs, President

November 18, 2017

To Whom It May Concern,

We are writing to express our concerns regarding the music festival being proposed in the Jefferson-Talbot area. Our family dairy farm is located in close proximity to the venue location and will be directly impacted by the closed roads and high traffic volume. This will greatly affect our dairy operations and we have several concerns.

1. Traffic Volume/Road Closures

As a dairy farm that milks over 500 cows, we have multiple semi-trucks entering and leaving our property every day. There are only three roads that lead to our farm wide enough for large trucks to travel. The proposed traffic routing will tie up all three of these roads. Our livelihood depends on the ability of our milk tanker, feed trucks, and multiple other farm equipment and machinery being able to access our farm at any given time of the day or night. We produce a product that is perishable and must be picked up daily in a timely matter. Any disruption to our day to day operations will greatly impact our business, family members and employees.

2. Emergency Response Time

We are especially concerned about the emergency response time for medical, fire, and law enforcement because of the aforementioned road closures and rerouting. Since there are only a limited number of routes entering our property, we believe one road should remain clear for the safety of our families, neighbors and property.

3. Irrigation Concerns

Our farm plants hundreds of acres of crops over the summer. Our dairy depends on these crops all throughout the year. During August, the hottest and driest part of the year, our irrigation system is crucial for a successful harvest. This entails moving equipment down the road and being able to access all of our fields multiple times a day. Our farmland is not contiguous and some fields can only be accessed by driving down the road.

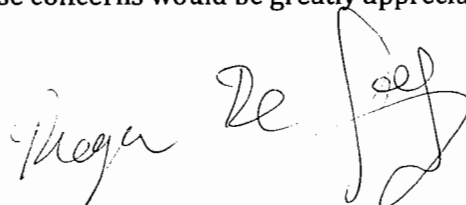
4. Biosecurity Safety and Liability

The proposed overflow campsites will border our farm property. This means the public will be approximately 200 feet from our dairy barns (where cattle are housed) and our waste management systems, including storage ponds, are located. The current border fence is designed to contain livestock, not people. Liability is a great concern for us, as people who accidentally or intentionally, wander onto our property risk injury or cross-contamination with our livestock and their waste. This would require our farm to construct a barrier suitable to protect everyone involved.

Your consideration of these concerns would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

DeJager Dairy Farms

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Megan DeJager". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name "DeJager Dairy Farms".



HAROLD M. MILLER

LANDSCAPE NURSERY

P.O. Box 888
Jefferson, OR 97352-0988

License #10189

(503) 399-1599
Fax (503) 364-7562

NOV 20 2017
Marion County
Planning
Nov 20, 2017

To whom this may concern

Our Property at 838 Antony Hill Rd Jefferson Or. is zoned ECU Farming. Our nursery borders Vintal Rd for 1/10 of a mile with no security. Our customers need their orders picked up and shipped on timely pickups. Vintal Rd is our only access to the loading area. If we can't load on timely pickups we could lose sales from \$40,000 upward to 100,000⁰⁰ also our customers as they will need to go to other nurseries.

We have so much trouble with theft already and with 40,000 to 50,000 thousand people will a big burden and strain on us.

Will have to build 1/10 mile of security fences along Vintal also we have 2 large Irrigation Ponds that will need to be fenced. Also will have to have security company to patrol our nursery.

- ① Fencing 65,000⁰⁰
- ② Security 35,000⁰⁰ conservatively
- ③ Cost of Business 50,000⁰⁰ conservatively
- ④ Vandalism + Theft unknown
- ⑤ Stress and Mental Strain of Liability unknown
- ⑥ added Insurance Liability unknown
- ⑦ Loss of Property Values. unknown
- ⑧ Plus we need support of Marion County Courts to uphold the law.

Very concerned
Harold M. Miller
Cell Phone 503-209-7054
Home Phone 503-876-7955
Office 503-399-1599

Email Hmillerlandscape@aol.com

RECEIVED

NOV 20 2017

G.M. Farms

13274 Marlatt Rd. S Jefferson, OR 97352 541-327-2840

Marion County
Planning

Marion County Planning

Attn: Brandon Reich

RE: Willamette County Music Festival Proposed Event

I have reviewed the application submitted by WCMF and feel this event will have a significant impact on our farming operation. Our family farms approximately 2,000 acres in Talbot, Jefferson & Albany. We grow grass seed, straw, green beans, clover & hazelnuts. The main farm headquarters are located at 2535 Talbot Rd S. We have been farming in this location since 1976.

The conditional use mass gathering application requests an event to be between 40,000 to 60,000, that is too vague. After attending the community informational event at the Jefferson Fire Station, I learned WCMF has been at a 25,000 occupant cap in Linn County. One attendee stated it took his wife four hours waiting in traffic to park the RV last year. The WCMF has proposed a traffic design, using every county road west of I-5 and even closing some roads in the Talbot area. As I stated our main operation is approximately 1 1/2 miles west of I-5 on Talbot Rd S.

In order to farm 2000 acres it is necessary to use a fleet of equipment. Large John Deer tractors, combines, semi-trucks just to name a few. All farming begins and ends at the main headquarters, employees report to duty, and are assigned jobs. WCMF application states the event will occur during August 16 - 19, a critical time in farm harvest of grass seed, green beans and straw. I can't imagine sharing our narrow county road with the estimated 60,000 visitors.

Harvesting green beans for National Cannery in Albany consists of a fleet of bean pickers and a caravan of trucks taking the product to the cannery. The harvest lasts approximately 24 - 48 hrs and is arranged and directed by the cannery. Combining grass seed comprises of our three combines and two semi truck working in the field from approximately 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. (weather depending). The grass seed is collected in the combine and transferred to the truck for delivery to the seed cleaner located in North Albany. The average round trip delivery takes two hours. If there is a delay with the trucks returning the combines would be sitting idle in the field with their seed bins full. Any down time effects our bottom line.

Immediately following the combines is straw harvest, collecting and baling the remaining stubble. The baling crew, rakes the field into windrows, followed by the baler pressings 1100lb bales and the stacker putting them in stacked piles. A hay squeeze grabs the bales and puts them a 80' flat bed semi truck, they are then delivered to straw barn at our main headquarters. This straw truck may make ten trips a day from field to barn using Talbot Rd. The final act to finish grass harvest is flailing a large 30' mower attachment to a JD 8760 tractor. At the end of each day all machinery is brought back to the main headquarters for safe keeping.

In addition to the harvesting of crops August is a crucial time for irrigation. Our farm uses multiple irrigation systems. Several employees will travel to each location setting and monitoring the irrigation system numerous times each day. It is very important to maintain even coverage of water to guarantee crop quality.

Each of the above farm/harvest practices uses the county and state roads. I'm very concerned after reviewing Linn County's aerial photos the traffic impact will be massive! As the WCMF has proposed 40,000 - 60,000 people to attend the event. The roads and infrastructure in our community were never designed for this use.

To insure our farming livelihood I have researched rates of obtaining additional equipment in the event our roads were impassable or other unforeseen situations. Bids on adding additional equipment and employees to split our operation to east and west of I-5. We would need to have 3 trucks, 2 combines, 1 service truck, and additional employees. I was shocked that the estimated cost was approximately \$160,000.00. The only way to guarantee use of a combine during harvest season is sign a contract. Needless to say our farm budget does not have that amount of money available.

The EFU ZONE - CONDITIONAL USE COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY INCONJUNCTION WITH FARM USE

17.136.060 CONDITIONAL USE REVIEW CRITERIA:

1. *The use will not force a significant change in, or significantly increase the cost of, accepted farm or forest practices on surrounding lands devoted to farm or forest use. Land devoted to farm or forest use does not include farm or forest use on lots or parcels upon which a non-farm or non-forest dwelling has been approved and established, in exception areas approved under ORS 197.732, or in an acknowledged urban growth boundary.*

Road closures and the likelihood of traffic delays is insurmountable, anytime equipment is not in production or employees are not able to complete tasks it costs hundreds of dollars. The possibility of adding additional equipment and employees to better serve harvest was thousands of dollars. It is difficult to even estimate how much this may cost given our headquarters and hundreds of acres of farmland are located within the Talbot area.

Presently if I wanted to move equipment from our main headquarters to our Wintercreek Rd farm east of I-5. I would go east on Talbot Rd S, turn left on Jorgensen Rd, right on Wintel Rd, over Ankeny Hill overpass, turn right on Jefferson HY 99E, left on Wintercreek Rd. That is the shorts way to travel approximately 4 miles total. With the closure of Jorgensen and Winter roads I would have no choice but to go east on Talbot Rd S, crossing Talbot Rd overpass, follow Talbot Rd SE to Jefferson approximately 5 miles, turn left on Jefferson HY 99E and go north approximately 5 miles, turn right on Wintercreek Rd. This is a much longer route to take approximately 10 miles total. That extra 12 mile round trip x 3 trips a day adds to an additional 36 miles, costing time and money.

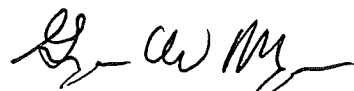
Another concern; the weight restrictions to Buena Vista Rd by Marion County Public Works and the WCMF proposed closure of Wintel Rd leaves only Talbot Rd S. available to all farm and commercial trucks. Therefore bring more truck traffic to Talbot Rd S.

In closing, how is hosting a four day concert, in anyway an activity in conjunction with farming? I don't see how this application by WCMF can possibly be approved. It states in the Conditional Use Criteria "The use will not force a significant change in, or significantly increase the cost of, accepted farm or forest practices on surrounding lands devoted to farm." The cost if approved is far beyond significant for the farmers. It's not like Hilton Ag Trenching who has a Conditional Use farm business in Talbot installing farm drainage systems.

The Talbot area is a great place to farm and raise a family. If you wish to see a concert, I suggest the Moda Center in Portland.

Thank you taking the time to review my opinion.

GM Farms


George Meyer

11/20/17

Ph 503-871-3998

Road use on Talbot Rd S

Trips/ Per Day In August

6 Employees clock in - clock out

12

General equipment

1 Parts chaser

Min 4

Grass seed - Harvest Equipment

3 Combines

6

2 Semi trucks

10

1 Water truck

2

1 Supervisor vehicle

4

1 Portable toilet/wash station

2

1 Dinner delivery

4 to all crew

Straw - Harvest Equipment

1 Rake

2

1 Baler

2

1 Stacker

2

1 Squeeze

10 loads & unloads bails

2 Semi trucks

10

1 Supervisor vehicle

4

1 JD 8760 tractor with 30' flail

2

Green beans - Harvest Equipment

3 - 4 Bean harvesters

4 in 24 hrs

4 Trucks

15

1 Service truck

1

1 Supervisor vehicle

2

Irrigation:

2 Pickups

10

* All equipment would be moving in the area proposed by WCMF traffic design

October 17, 2017

Dear Mr. Reich,

My name is Reed Anderson. We have hosted the Willamette Country Music Festival for the past 9 years on our farm in Brownsville.

The music people have been fantastic to work with. They go out of their way to work with us so we can continue our everyday farming practices.

We raise annual ryegrass on our farm. For that crop, we till up the soil every fall to replant, so soil compaction is not a problem for us.

Please call me with any questions or concerns, 541-954-8145

Thank you



Reed Anderson

36866 Hwy 228

Brownsville, OR 97327

541-954-8145

November 17, 2017

Brandon Reich
Senior Planner
Marion County Public Works/Planning
5155 Silverton Rd NE
Salem, Oregon 97305

Mr. Reich

I am writing this letter in support of the Conditional Use Application submitted by Jimmy and Kristine Gross for the purpose of allowing the Mass Gathering for the Bi-Mart Willamette Country Music Festival. As a neighboring farmer to the Anderson Ranch site that has hosted the festival for the last eight years, I feel qualified to comment upon the conditional use of agricultural land as a venue for the festival and the impact on neighboring farms.

My agricultural crops are rotated from year to year in the fields adjoining the Anderson Ranch with crops being seed crops. It has been my experience that the attendees of the festival have little or no direct impact upon neighboring farming activities. The attendees of the festival go to and gather on the designated venue property or properties and do not as a rule encroach upon other properties. The festival works closely with law enforcement and security companies to ensure this.

In terms of day to day farming operations, the neighboring farms, including myself, have learned that while there are times where there is increased traffic on the roads to the venue, operations can continue by simply adjusting travel times to the periods of the day when there is little or no increased traffic and planning ahead to have our equipment moved prior to the festival as much as possible.

So, over all I would say that the festival has not impeded my ability to pursue my agricultural activities or caused harm to my agricultural land. And when the festival is over the Anderson Ranch and the neighboring farms continue their agricultural activity as they have in the past. In return for the four days of having the festival on an adjacent property the local community has benefitted greatly from the increased economic impact.

Respectfully,

Austin Sayer
Brownsville, Oregon

Brandon Reich - Music Festival Talbot Oregon Area

From: The Gilmours <gilmours1989@gmail.com>
To: <breich@co.marion.or.us>
Date: 11/21/2017 9:04 PM
Subject: Music Festival Talbot Oregon Area
Cc: <jimmygross25@gmail.com>

Greetings Brandon,

My name is Dan Gilmour, I was born and raised in the Jefferson/Talbot area and have lived here for most of my 62 years. My family has farmed in the area for over 100 years.

The town of Jefferson has been dying on the vine for years. Not much has come along and been successful over time. I feel this event would have a positive impact on the local economy. I do realize that those that live in the area will be impacted the most so the population of the city of Jefferson shouldn't be so concerned. We are looking at maybe a week or so of activity which could affect traffic but the benefits will outweigh the negative impact to this community.

If we look around the valley most all small towns host some type of event. Mt. Angel's Oktoberfest. Sublimity/ Stayton, harvest fest, 4th of July parade. Independence is an awesome town and they are light years ahead of Jefferson sad to say. This is just to name a few. I feel this this event will be well run, I did attend the community meeting and seems they have a handle on organizing this type of event and managing the numbers that attend.

Thank you for allowing my input.

Sincerely,

Dan Gilmour (owner)
Dan Gilmour Construction
503-851-3396

This message has been scanned for virus content by Symantec Anti-Virus, and is believed to be clean. Viruses are often contained in attachments - Email with specific attachment types are automatically deleted. If you need to receive one of these attachments contact Marion County IT for assistance.

From: Wendy Sampels <wmziki@gmail.com>
To: <breich@co.marion.or.us>
Date: 11/22/2017 12:36 PM
Subject: Bi-Mart music festival

My husband Michael and I live in Jefferson. Due to the financial gain the Bi-Mart Music Festival will bring to our town and its non-profits, we support the festival fully!

Sincerely,
Wendy Sampels
1261 Hazel St
Jefferson OR 97352

This message has been scanned for virus content by Symantec Anti-Virus, and is believed to be clean. Viruses are often contained in attachments - Email with specific attachment types are automatically deleted.

If you need to receive one of these attachments contact Marion County IT for assistance.

From: <gmfarms@croisan.com>
To: <planning@co.marion.or.us>
CC: <gmfarms@croisan.com>
Date: 11/3/2017 4:23 PM
Subject: Willamette Country Music Festival - mass gathering application

I would like to be added to the notification list for the above application.

GM Farms
13274 Marlatt Rd S
Jefferson OR. 97352

Blue Lace Farms
3084 Yellow Stone PL NE
Albany OR. 97321

Thank you

Sent from my iPad

This message has been scanned for virus content by Symantec Anti-Virus, and is believed to be clean. Viruses are often contained in attachments - Email with specific attachment types are automatically deleted.

If you need to receive one of these attachments contact Marion County IT for assistance.

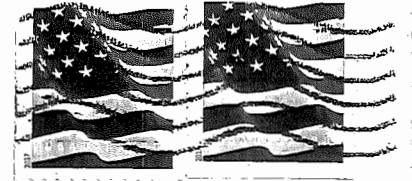
OK
OK

11/21/17

13384 Jorgensen Rd S
Jefferson OR 97352

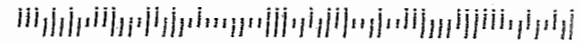
PORTLAND OR 970

04 MAY 2018 PM 6 L



Marian County Planning Division
c/o Brandon Reich
5155 Silverton Rd NE
Salem OR 97305

97305-389999



503.588.0181
800.688.0181
mapsco.com

Chemeketa
Hines Street
McNary
Monmouth
South Salem
West Salem
Woodburn
WU Bearcat
Campus Card
Education Branches

Brandon,
Please add these
Petitions regarding
the BI-Mart Country
Music festival with
the others that have
already been submitted
Thank you

RECK MAD 07 2018



PETITION

RECEIVED

MAY 08 2018

Marion County
Planning

I am in SUPPORT of the Bi-Mart Country Music Festival moving to
Jefferson on Jimmy and Kristine Gross' property.

Terry Duke 901 Cleveland St Lebanon OR 97355 541-954-4224

~~James Clark~~

James Clark

831-905-4776

~~James Clark~~
Amber Hale

Albany 541-974-6345

Don Wallace

Scio, OR

Grace Moller

Albany, OR

Samantha Tucker 2608 Oak St SE Albany 541 409 3406

Jim Meyer OR

Brian Hammett

Jefferson, OR 541-619-5753

Debra Peterson

Jefferson, OR

Ann Mervis

Albany, OR

John M. Flanigan

Jeff. 471 541 6261

Deanna Garcia - Deanna Garcia Salem, OR 97305 503-779-657

PETITION

I am in SUPPORT of the Bi-Mart Country Music Festival moving to Jefferson on Jimmy and Kristine Gross' property.

Ray Pacheco

Kimberly Sols Kimberly Sols
Sherri L Bolton - Sherri L Bolton

Rick Mangrum

Sharon Hise

Zach

[Signature]

Lee Cayla

Auto Mulcares

Jennifer Belle

Ther Berentson

[Signature]

[Signature]

Diana De La Grange

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]

Kyle

Jeff Page

PETITION

I am in SUPPORT of the Bi-Mart Country Music Festival moving to Jefferson on Jimmy and Kristine Gross' property.

~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~
~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~

One bit
Amy Waller
Janet Curtis
JACOB FRANCOIS

Nel Schuend
Dan Bricker
Phillip Luhn
James [unclear]

Jim King
Beverly

William Gardner
Terri Daniel
Clay Atkinson
Linda Anderson

Carroll

Hy Kalin
George Fox
John

~~DA~~
James Hise
Charles Deemer

Wanda Zambrana

Walter Soto
Vernon
Jose [unclear]

Melvin A. Deemer Sr.

PETITION

I am in SUPPORT of the Bi-Mart Country Music Festival moving to Jefferson on Jimmy and Kristine Gross' property.

Cystal McLaughlin
Cheryl Joynes
Mae Miller
Lyette Johnson
Maude
Mike Jones

Bi-Mart
Burt Green

Dwain & Kim Haselina

Arthur Hitt
Jim

[Signature]

John
[Signature]

Maurina Millages

Jim Sayers

James Shaver
Brenda McDaniel

Mike Labang

[Signature]

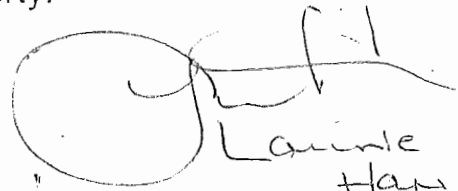
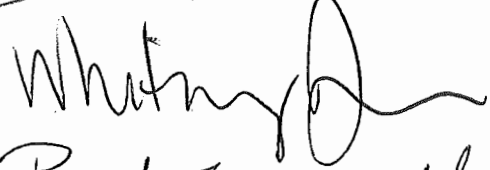

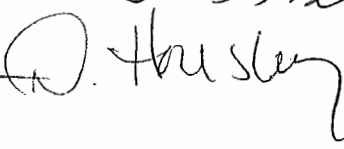
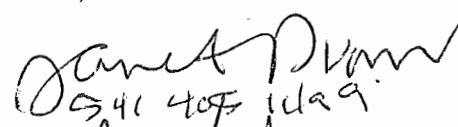
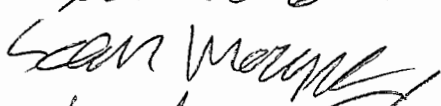
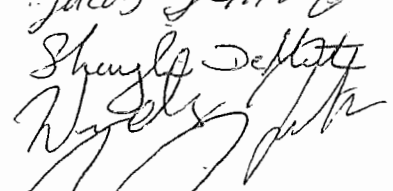
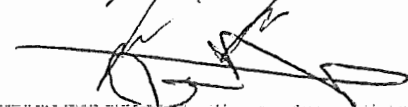
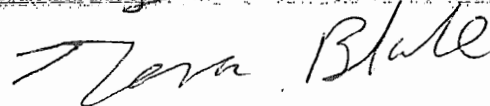
John
Ann-Marie Eaton

[Signature]

Jim Sayer

PETITION

I am in SUPPORT of the Bi-Mart Country Music Festival moving to Jefferson on Jimmy and Kristine Gross' property.

#↓	Name ↓	
		 Laurie Hansson
J. Mull's	Jesse G.	
	Sheana Reid	Mike Laetzsch
		
	Paul J. Miller	Bonnie Hall
		
	 Janet P. Vonn 541 405 1129	
	Robert E. Hobbs	Andee
		
	Jandju E.	Marcie Howard
	Clay Atchison	David Schliebe
	Jacob Demont	Williamoff Jeff
	Shayla Jeffery	
		
		
	Neva Blake	
		

PETITION

I am in SUPPORT of the Bi-Mart Country Music Festival moving to Jefferson on Jimmy and Kristine Gross' property.

Wanda Kehl
Jeff Robin
Stacy Robin



Fred Neuenchwander

John [unclear]

John [unclear]

John Barlow

James Barlow

James Barlow

Wilson Barlow

Kelly Scott

Kimberley Solis

Kimberley Solis
Eric Paul Eastus

Christina Van Cleave

Joseph

[unclear signature]

[unclear signature]


Barbara Whuest

Clair Whuest

Dennis Ellington

PETITION

I am in SUPPORT of the Bi-Mart Country Music Festival moving to Jefferson on Jimmy and Kristine Gross' property.


Dan Cox