

A statement from the Downtown Neighborhoods:

Downtown Lake Oswego is admired as both a successful small town and a growing new urban hub in metro Portland-with good shopping and restaurants, public gathering places, civic anchors and a choice of housing options. Key to that success is the cluster of civic buildings in downtown which is consistent with the City's long range planning goals and values. In fact, city government is our major downtown employer and directly contributes to downtown's ability to be a destination business and shopping district.

As such, we ask City Council to look carefully at the unintended consequences that can occur when you dismantle the key elements that make our downtown viable.

We strongly advise against relocating city hall and the library to the WEB. The Library, City Hall, Post Office, LOACC and Millennium Park all contribute to the vitality of our downtown community-the heart of Lake Oswego and central gathering place.

Moving City Hall to the WEB further isolates city staff and services. This point of view does not exclude the village character that Lake Grove is trying to attain. In fact, a branch library in Lake Grove would contribute to the viability and development potential of this commercial district.

Over the next decade several pivotal projects are planned for downtown Lake Oswego including the Streetcar and Foothills redevelopment. Without a robust downtown, these projects are unlikely to succeed. We fully concur with the City Council's stated vision for 2025: *"Our redeveloped downtown is truly the center of our City, offering convenient shopping and cultural opportunities..... "* (Vision of Lake Oswego in 2025 revised 1/8/05)

Let's keep the "citizens in the City" by retaining City Hall downtown. Our community is a complex, dynamic center in the Portland region. Its future success requires a full visioning process, not just a piecemeal look one building at a time.

Signed,

FANJ Forest Hills Board

Evergreen Neighborhood Association Board

Lakewood Bay Neighborhood Association Board

Old Town

Foothills