



February 5, 2025

Board of County Commissioners (BoCC), Klickitat County  
205 S Columbus, Room 103  
Goldendale, WA 98620

Submitted via email to: [BoCC@klickitatcounty.org](mailto:BoCC@klickitatcounty.org)

Re: Request for Legal Determination on Guler County Park Deed

Dear Commissioners:

As you may already know, Trout Lake Care (TLC) has an interest in improving and expanding senior services in our community. While currently in preliminary stages, there has been movement by TLC to rapidly secure the use of two acres of Guler Park for future use as a senior center and for housing. At the January 7, 2025 Community Council meeting it was agreed to submit a letter requesting for a legal determination on the scope of permitted uses for Guler Park.

The following are elements of Trout Lake's Community Council position on the matter. These elements also generally reflect what Council members have heard from community members.

- We agree that additional senior services in Trout Lake are desirable. More exploration is necessary to know what services are desired and will be used by the community.
- We generally feel that a senior center could be beneficial.
- We do not have consensus about the location of a senior center.
- We do not have consensus about the need for dedicated senior housing.
- We agree that Guler Park has, over many years, served important functions for the community, including businesses, and for visitors.
- We agree that Guler Park continues to be an important and valued resource for the Community.
- We request that the County's attorney evaluate the original documents associated with the donation of the land to the county and determine what is permitted in terms of future use and disposition of Guler Park and whether the deed allows for other interpretations to park usage to minor acreage changes within the park. The advice of a land use attorney may be necessary in this evaluation.
- We request that the County not make plans or take action affecting the future of Guler Park until the community has had time, and opportunity, to decide how the park fits into a 20-year vision for Trout Lake.

- Possible location of a senior center at Guler Park could be on the table in the community planning process.
- Consideration of a senior center and/or senior housing in a planning process needs to include financial feasibility, funding, and facility ownership.

Respectfully,



DAINA L. BAMBE  
Chair, Trout Lake Community Council

Cc: Dennis Hartley (via email) to share with TLC Board of Directors