

[Email received 6/23/20 from Nicole Chaisson, nchaisson@gmail.com]

“The Columbia River Gorge Commission has proposed amendments to the National Scenic Area Management Plan which may impact the value and use of your property and future development in your community,” which include “changes to land use regulations for private properties . . . that may restrict future uses.”

This is written on a postcard sent out to property owners in the Columbia Gorge National Scenic Area. How can this be OK? People that have private property that they have spent years paying taxes and developing.

The Fifth Amendment of the US Constitution protects the right to private property in two ways. First, it states that a person may not be deprived of property by the government without “due process of law,” or fair procedures.

I hardly think that the way The Gorge Commission is going about it is a fair procedure.

If you would like to lockdown the use of the property and devalue the property then The Gorge Commission needs to reimburse the property owner the cost of future use and value. This is clearly proof of unconstitutional takings.

I hope that you will review Oregon's Measure 37 ORS 195.305 which allows property owners whose property value is reduced by environmental or other land use regulations to claim compensation from state or local government. If the government fails to compensate a claimant within two years of the claim, the law allows the claimant to use the property under only the regulations in place at the time he/she purchased the property.

Will these people be compensated for future value and use of their property once the amendments are passed? I would think not so this will be a unconstitutional taking on the state and federal level.

Please Vote NO on Gorge 2020

Nicole Chaisson

The Dalles, OR