

## **Freight Rail Dependent Use (FRDU - NO!)**

Coalition of:

Coalition For Sustainable Land Management / Friends of Clark County / Friends of Central Vancouver

In December 2022, the County and the PVJR executed a new lease. We believe that PVJR's actions over the past 8 months are material breaches of that lease, prove that PVJR is very bad for our community and support that the lease should be terminated. However, despite PVJR's unpermitted environmental destruction of our community, members of the current Railroad Advisory Board (RRAB) want to expand the industrial overlay to include up to one mile on each side of the rail line. PVJR is also advocating that all the land along the entire rail line be zoned as Railroad Industrial and/or Heavy Industrial. Councilor Medvigy indicated support for those zoning changes. PVJR says those zone changes need minimal, if any, public involvement—meaning PVJR does not care about anyone along the railroad line having a voice and believes the County can rezone all your land without even telling you, much less getting your input.

So, what does all this mean for you and your property?

If these changes are approved, the PVJR asserts it can bring in heavy industry along the entire rail line right next to our neighborhood(s), and our schools. PVJR has also told the County that it can take any property it needs along the rail line by eminent domain to help those heavy industries.

PVJR says it can build spur lines from the current rail line to any heavy industrial use site even if the site is 1 mile from the railroad line and, if it needs your land, and you do not want to sell, PVJR says it can just take it via eminent domain. PVJR also has repeatedly stated in written emails to Clark County officials that PVJR is exempt from all state and local regulations.

PVJR will continue to ignore state and local laws, including environmental laws, unless we collectively organize and are heard. **Now is the time** for all of us to respond to the dangerous and specific desires by Mr. Temple and the County to designate our property as heavy industrial. The threat to our homes, our property values, our health, the quality of our water shed and eco system is immediate and real. We must stop the County from capitulating to the PVJR's desire to change the zoning of our residential lands, small businesses properties, agricultural lands, and environmentally sensitive lands. We must work especially hard to stop our lands from being zoned heavy industrial. Clark County and its citizens own this railroad, and we should have the strongest voice in how Clark County operates it. The county gave away our rights by shoving through this current lease with no public input. We can do better than polluting, dangerous heavy industrial uses in our neighborhoods with thousands of rail cars hauling gravel to new asphalt batch plants to be in Brush Prairie and a rogue operator refusing to comply with our environmental laws.

**Now is the time** to let your voice be heard to protect our properties, our homes, our environment, and our way of life.

**Now is time** to voice our opposition to this madness of turning the heart of our county into a heavy industrial wasteland.

**Now is the time** to speak out at council meetings, write our elected officials and agencies, send our letters to the editor submit Op-Eds to all the newspapers calling out PVJR's bullying tactics, environmental destruction and lies.

We support attracting quality companies that share our values, have a sincere desire to work with us to protect our quality of life, our safety and our good health. We appreciate ethical companies that sincerely desire to improve our community, but PVJR is neither ethical or sincere and just wants to tell us what we want to hear and then do the opposite. **Now is the time** to get engaged, join our coalition and work together to save our homes, our health, and our quality of life. We need all of us if we want to succeed.

For additional info contact Jeff Cox at [Sustainablelandcc@gmail.com](mailto:Sustainablelandcc@gmail.com) or Jan Kelly at [Friendsocentralvancouver@gmail.com](mailto:Friendsocentralvancouver@gmail.com)

## State Legislative and Clark County Council Contacts

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**17th District:** Generally East of 152 Ave NE and south to Columbia River and North to Mt St Helens

[Sen. Lynda Wilson \(R\)](#), ☎ (360) 786-7632, ✉ [lynda.wilson@leg.wa.gov](mailto:lynda.wilson@leg.wa.gov)

[Rep. Kevin Waters \(R\)](#), ☎ (360) 786-7994, ✉ [kevin.waters@leg.wa.gov](mailto:kevin.waters@leg.wa.gov)

[Rep. Paul Harris \(R\)](#), ☎ (360) 786-7976, ✉ [paul.harris@leg.wa.gov](mailto:paul.harris@leg.wa.gov)

**18th District:** Generally West of NE 152nd Ave to I-5, Felida, North to Daybreak, South to WA 503

[Sen. Ann Rivers \(R\)](#), ☎ (360) 786-7634 ✉ [ann.rivers@leg.wa.gov](mailto:ann.rivers@leg.wa.gov)

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**20th District:** Generally West of Chelatchie, Yacolt, North to Grand Mound South to Daybreak

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**49th District:** Generally, Columbia River East to I-5, North to WA 503

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Submit public comments for the record to:

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Detailed Boundaries see: [Washington State](#), [Clark Country](#) or [Search Address Clark County Officials](#)

### **Eminent Domain**

In Washington, Eminent Domain gives the government the power to take your property, even if you don't want to sell. But under the Fifth Amendment, Eminent Domain must be for a "public use," which traditionally meant projects like roads or bridges. Meanwhile, the government must pay the owners "just compensation" for their property.