

1                                   BEFORE THE LAND USE BOARD OF APPEALS  
2                                                           OF THE STATE OF OREGON

3  
4                                   JEFF HESS, STEVEN J. KUNERT,  
5                                   KEVIN MARLEY, JOHN MORRIS,  
6                                   JUNE SATAK, and CAROLYN SIMMONS,  
7                                                           *Petitioners,*

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9                                                           vs.

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11                                   CITY OF CORVALLIS,  
12                                                           *Respondent,*

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14                                                           and

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16                                   CAMPUS CREST COMMUNITIES,  
17                                                           *Intervenor-Respondent.*

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19                                                           LUBA No. 2014-040

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21                                   PAUL GOODMONSON,  
22                                                           *Petitioner,*

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24                                                           vs.

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26                                   CITY OF CORVALLIS,  
27                                                           *Respondent,*

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29                                                           and

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31                                   CAMPUS CREST COMMUNITIES,  
32                                                           *Intervenor-Respondent.*

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34                                                           LUBA No. 2014-042

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36                                                           FINAL OPINION  
37                                                           AND ORDER

38  
39                                   Appeal from City of Corvallis.

1  
2 Wallace W. Lien, Salem, filed a petition for review and argued on behalf  
3 of petitioners Hess et al. With him on the brief was Wallace W. Lien PC.  
4

5 Alan M. Sorem, Salem, filed a petition for review and argued on behalf  
6 of petitioner Goodmonson. With him on the brief were Mark D. Shipman and  
7 Saalfeld Griggs PC.  
8

9 James K. Brewer and David E. Coulombe, Corvallis, filed response  
10 briefs and argued on behalf of respondent. With them on the brief was Fewel,  
11 Brewer & Coulombe.  
12

13 Michael C. Robinson, Portland, filed a response brief and argued on  
14 behalf of intervenor-respondent. With him on the brief were Seth J. King and  
15 Perkins Coie LLP.  
16

17 RYAN, Board Chair; BASSHAM, Board Member; HOLSTUN, Board  
18 Member, participated in the decision.  
19

20 REMANDED 10/28/2014  
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22 You are entitled to judicial review of this Order. Judicial review is  
23 governed by the provisions of ORS 197.850.

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**NATURE OF THE DECISION**

Petitioners Hess *et al.* and Goodmonson appeal a city council decision approving (1) a comprehensive plan map amendment, (2) a zoning map amendment, (3) a conceptual development plan, (4) a detailed development plan, and (5) a subdivision.

**MOTION TO DISMISS**

Intervenor moves to dismiss petitioner Robert J. Simmons from LUBA No. 2014-040, arguing that he failed to appear during the proceedings before the city as required by ORS 197.830(2) and (9). There is no response to the motion. Petitioner Robert J. Simmons is dismissed as a petitioner in LUBA No. 2014-040.

**REPLY BRIEF**

Petitioner Goodmonson moves for permission to file a reply brief to respond to alleged “new matters” raised in the response briefs.<sup>1</sup> Section 1 of the reply brief contains arguments to support Goodmonson’s Motion to Take Judicial Notice filed on August 26, 2014.<sup>2</sup> Section 2 of Goodmonson’s reply brief responds to the city’s and intervenor’s responses to his first assignment of error that challenge the city’s incorporation of a large number of documents as findings in support of the city’s decision that the proposed comprehensive plan

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<sup>1</sup> OAR 661-010-0039 allows a petitioner to file a reply brief that is confined to “new matters raised in the [respondents’] brief[s].”

<sup>2</sup> As we describe in more detail later in this opinion, Goodmonson asks LUBA to take official notice of a biological assessment prepared by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the state of Oregon.

1 and zoning map amendments satisfy the Transportation Planning Rule at OAR  
2 660-012-0060.

3 The city and intervenor object to the reply brief, arguing that it is not  
4 confined to responding to “new matters” within the meaning of OAR 661-010-  
5 0039. First, the city and intervenor point out that Section 1 of the reply brief  
6 merely contains additional arguments in support of Goodmonson’s Motion to  
7 Take Official Notice, which we discuss below in our resolution of  
8 Goodmonson’s third assignment of error. Second, the city and intervenor argue  
9 that Section 2 of the reply brief attempts to raise a new assignment of error that  
10 Goodmonson did not raise in his petition for review that challenges the city’s  
11 incorporation of documents in the record as findings.

12 We agree with the city and intervenor that Goodmonson has not  
13 established that the entire reply brief is confined to “new matters” raised in the  
14 response briefs. Section 1 of the reply brief contains additional arguments in  
15 support of Goodmonson’s Motion to Take Official Notice. That is not a “new  
16 matter[.]” raised in the response briefs under OAR 661-010-0039.

17 However, Section 2 of the reply brief responds to the city’s and  
18 intervenor’s position in their response briefs that the city incorporated various  
19 documents as findings in support of its transportation planning rule analysis,  
20 and disputes that the city did incorporate those findings. That is a “new  
21 matter” that justifies a reply brief.

22 The motion to file a reply brief is granted as to Section 2 of the reply  
23 brief and denied as to Section 1 of the reply brief.

24 **FACTS**

25 The subject property is a 94.6 acre parcel located north of NW Harrison  
26 Boulevard, east of SW 53<sup>rd</sup> Street, and south of NW Circle Boulevard in the

1 City of Corvallis. In order to develop a 296-unit apartment building on 24.6  
2 acres of the property and preserve the remaining 70 acres as open space,  
3 intervenor sought a comprehensive plan map amendment to redesignate 57.7  
4 acres of Low Density Residential and 36.9 acres of Open Space-Conservation  
5 to 24.6 acres of Medium-High Density Residential and 70 acres of Open Space-  
6 Conservation, as well as conforming zone map amendments for the same  
7 acreages. Intervenor also submitted a Conceptual Development Plan (CDP)  
8 and a Detailed Development Plan (DDP), and further submitted a subdivision  
9 application to create three parcels, private streets, open space, stormwater  
10 drainage tracts and public streets.

11 The planning commission voted to recommend denial of the  
12 applications. Intervenor appealed the planning commission’s decision to the  
13 city council. The city council voted to approve the applications with  
14 conditions. These appeals followed.

15 **FIRST ASSIGNMENT OF ERROR (HESS PETITIONERS)**

16 Adequate findings are required to support quasi-judicial land use  
17 decisions. *Sunnyside Neighborhood v. Clackamas Co. Comm.*, 280 Or 3, 20-  
18 21, 569 P2d 1063 (1977). Generally, findings must: (1) identify the relevant  
19 approval standards, (2) set out the facts which are believed and relied upon, and  
20 (3) explain how those facts lead to the decision on compliance with the  
21 approval standards. *Heiller v. Josephine County*, 23 Or LUBA 551, 556 (1992).

22 The city council adopted 121 single-spaced pages of findings in support  
23 of their decision. Record 67-187. In addition, the city council’s decision  
24 adopts a number of staff reports and similar documents, including “any  
25 attachments or exhibits” to those documents, all of which the decision refers to  
26 as “Incorporated Findings:”

1            “[T]he Applicant’s narrative for the PAPA application and the  
2            Zone Change Application dated December 22, 2011 and revised  
3            June 17, 2013 \* \* \*; the Applicant’s narrative for the CDP/DDP  
4            and Subdivision Applications dated February 19, 2013, and  
5            resubmitted June 17, 2013 \* \* \*; the Staff Report to the planning  
6            commission dated August 23, 2013 \* \* \*; the Staff Report to the  
7            City Council dated November 22, 2013 (Exhibit I); supplemental  
8            information submitted by the applicant (Exhibit III); and  
9            supplemental information provided by City staff (Exhibit II).”  
10           Record 78.

11           Record 78-187 sets out what are labeled as “Supplemental Findings” that  
12           “elaborate upon and clarify the Incorporated Findings, and primarily address  
13           issues raised in opposition to the Applications.” Record 78. The city  
14           council’s decision includes a sentence that states “[i]n the event of a conflict  
15           between the Incorporated Findings and the Supplemental Findings, the  
16           Supplemental Findings shall control.” Record 78. We refer to this sentence as  
17           the conflict resolution sentence.

18           If all “attachments or exhibits” to the identified narratives, staff reports  
19           and supplemental information are included, the documents that the city  
20           incorporated as the Incorporated Findings number several hundred documents  
21           and more than a thousand pages. In their first assignment of error, Hess argues  
22           that due to the incorporation of a large number of documents and over a  
23           thousand pages of materials, the findings in support of the decision are  
24           inadequate as a matter of law. Hess also argues that the findings are inadequate  
25           because some of the Incorporated Findings contain inconsistencies with some  
26           of the other Incorporated Findings, and those inconsistencies are not resolved  
27           by the conflict resolution sentence described above. In particular, Hess argues  
28           that the city council incorporated the testimony of an opponent, Marley, as an  
29           exhibit to a staff report, and that testimony is inconsistent with other

1 incorporated findings that support approval of the applications. Petition for  
2 Review 15-16.

3 The city does not dispute that the city council’s final decision in fact  
4 incorporates hundreds of documents and thousands of pages, but argues that a  
5 large incorporation in itself does not mean that the city’s findings are  
6 inadequate as a matter of law. The city also responds that the Supplemental  
7 Findings specifically address all of the criteria that Marley argued were not met  
8 and conclude that the criteria are met, so that even if Marley’s testimony is  
9 incorporated as part of the Incorporated Findings and is inconsistent with other  
10 Incorporated Findings, the Supplemental Findings control. Response Brief of  
11 City 9.

12 We have faced similar challenges to incorporated findings in previous  
13 decisions involving the City of Corvallis. *See Soares v. City of Corvallis*, 56  
14 Or LUBA 551 (2008); *Staus v. City of Corvallis*, 48 Or LUBA 254 (2004). In  
15 *Soares* and *Staus*, like in the present appeal, the city adopted specific findings,  
16 and also incorporated several other documents totaling hundreds of pages as  
17 findings. In both appeals, we concluded that, at least in the abstract, a city’s  
18 decision to adopt specific findings and to incorporate a large number of  
19 additional documents as findings does not necessarily render the city’s findings  
20 inadequate as a matter of law. In *Staus*, we held:

21 “It is not uncommon for local decision makers to rely on staff  
22 reports for findings, and staff reports frequently include findings  
23 of fact and proposed conclusions of law. The other documents  
24 that the city purported to adopt as findings may be inadequately  
25 identified. If so, the attempted incorporation fails and the city may  
26 not rely on any ‘findings’ that may be included in those  
27 documents. *Gonzalez v. Lane County*, 24 Or LUBA 251, 258-59  
28 (1992)[.] However, we do not see that an ineffective attempt to  
29 adopt additional findings by incorporation is necessarily a basis

1 for reversal or remand, at least where the findings that the city  
2 clearly did adopt are adequate. It may be that the documents that  
3 the city adequately identifies and therefore incorporates into its  
4 decision as findings may constitute testimony rather than findings  
5 of fact or findings that explain how the relevant criteria are  
6 satisfied. But, even such an ineffective attempt to adopt *testimony*  
7 as *findings* may be harmless error if the findings that the city did  
8 adopt are otherwise adequate.” 48 Or LUBA at 260-61 (emphasis  
9 in original; footnote omitted).

10 Thus, if the city’s decision fails to adequately identify documents incorporated  
11 as findings, or attempts to incorporate documents that do not include findings,  
12 such a failure is not automatically a basis for reversal or remand. Rather, the  
13 purported incorporation of those other documents and materials fails, and the  
14 city may not rely on those documents to defend against a specific inadequate  
15 findings challenge. *Gonzalez*, 24 Or LUBA at 258-59. In addition, if the city  
16 attempts to incorporate documents that are not fairly described as findings,  
17 those documents may not be relied upon as findings to support the decision.

18 In the present appeal, we conclude that the city adequately described at  
19 Record 78 several documents that it incorporated as findings, and that function  
20 as findings, specifically: (1) the applicant’s narratives in support of the  
21 applications that are dated December 22, 2011, June 17, 2013, February 19,  
22 2013, and June 17, 2013; and (2) an August 23, 2013 staff report to the  
23 planning commission and a November 22, 2013 staff report to the city council.  
24 But the city’s attempted incorporation of “any attachments or exhibits” to those  
25 incorporated documents is far more problematic. The decision does not  
26 adequately describe those attachments or exhibits, and essentially attempts to  
27 sweep into the decision a number of documents that do not function as  
28 findings. For that reason the attempted incorporation is overbroad and it fails.



1 Accordingly, we will not consider “attachments or exhibits” to the incorporated  
2 documents as findings in resolving petitioners’ inadequate findings challenges.

3 Moreover, the city’s attempted incorporation of documents described in  
4 the decision as “supplemental information submitted by the applicant (Exhibit  
5 III)” and “supplemental information provided by City staff (Exhibit II)” fails,  
6 because those documents are not adequately described by date, title, or subject  
7 in either the description included at Record 78, or in the record.<sup>3</sup> Accordingly,  
8 we will not consider those documents as findings adopted by the city in  
9 resolving an inadequate findings challenge.

10 In their second, third and fourth assignments of error, Hess challenges  
11 specific findings that Hess argues are inadequate for review. We address Hess’  
12 specific challenges to the city’s findings below. However, we do not agree  
13 with Hess that the city’s attempted overbroad incorporation of record  
14 documents as findings, in and of itself, is a basis for reversal or remand.

15 The first assignment of error is denied.

16 **SECOND ASSIGNMENT OF ERROR (HESS PETITIONERS)**

17 Corvallis Land Development Code 2.1.30.06.a provides that  
18 “[c]omprehensive Plan Amendments shall be reviewed to ensure consistency  
19 with the policies of the Comprehensive Plan, and any other applicable policies  
20 and standards adopted by the City Council.” The city council adopted findings  
21 that concluded that the city is not required to review the comprehensive plan  
22 amendment application for consistency with certain Corvallis Comprehensive

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<sup>3</sup> There is no document in the record that was submitted by the applicant that is clearly labeled “Exhibit III,” and there is no document in the record provided by city staff that is clearly labeled “Exhibit II.” The record table of contents also does not identify any documents in that manner.

1 Plan (CCP) policies, but that even if consistency review is required, the  
2 comprehensive plan amendments are consistent with those policies. Hess  
3 challenges the city’s findings regarding several comprehensive plan policies,  
4 arguing that the city council’s decision improperly construes the applicable  
5 law, that the findings are inadequate, and that they are not supported by  
6 substantial evidence in the record. ORS 197.835(9)(a)(A),(C),(D).<sup>4</sup>

7 **A. CCP Policy 9.3.2**

8 CCP Policy 9.3.2 is one of the policies contained in the CCP section  
9 entitled “Residential Land Development and Land Use.” CCP 9.3.2 provides:

10 “Where a variety of dwelling types are permitted by the  
11 development district, innovative site development techniques and  
12 a mix of dwelling types should be encouraged to meet the range of  
13 demand for housing.”

14 The city council adopted findings that explain the city council’s interpretation  
15 of CCP Policy 9.3.2 as not applying to the comprehensive plan amendment  
16 application before it:

17 “[CCP 9.3.2] is not an applicable approval criterion applicable to  
18 individual quasi-judicial land use applications. Further, this

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<sup>4</sup> As relevant here, ORS 197.835(9)(a) provides that LUBA shall reverse or remand a land use decision if the local government:

“(A) Exceeded its jurisdiction;

“ \* \* \* \* \*

“(C) Made a decision not supported by substantial evidence in the whole record; [or]

“(D) Improperly construed the applicable law[.]”

1 provision does not mandate that each development provide a mix  
2 of housing types. Instead, the City Council finds that this policy  
3 provides a general direction to the City Council to adopt LDC  
4 provisions that encourage innovative development techniques and  
5 a mix of dwelling types and thus implement the policy. Further,  
6 the City Council finds that it has adopted these LDC provisions as  
7 clear and objective requirements (LDC Section 4.9.80), which are  
8 met by this proposal. \* \* \*” Record 106-07.

9 The city council also adopted alternative findings that the project complies with  
10 CCP 9.3.2, if it applies:

11 “Alternatively, the City Council finds that this plan policy is  
12 applicable, and the Applications are consistent with this Policy.  
13 The Project incorporates innovative site development techniques  
14 by preserving significant natural features and clustering  
15 development on the remainder of the Property. Additionally, the  
16 Project incorporates a mix of dwelling types by including both  
17 townhome and non-townhome dwelling types.” Record 107.

18 In the first sub-assignment of error, Hess argues that the city council’s  
19 interpretation of CCP Policy 9.3.2 as not requiring a consistency determination  
20 for the application for a comprehensive plan amendment improperly construes  
21 the policy. First, according to Hess, the city’s planning staff and the planning  
22 commission identified CCP Policy 9.3.2 as a policy that required a consistency  
23 determination for the comprehensive plan amendment, and the city council’s  
24 conclusion in its decision that no consistency determination was in fact  
25 required improperly construes the provision in light of the city planning staff  
26 and planning commission’s previous determinations. Second, Hess argues that  
27 the city council’s interpretation of CCP Policy 9.3.2 as not applying is  
28 inconsistent with the express language of the policy.

29 LUBA applies a highly deferential standard of review to a local  
30 governing body's interpretation of local land use legislation. LUBA is required

1 to affirm that interpretation unless that interpretation is “implausible,” *i.e.*,  
2 inconsistent with the express language, purpose or policy underlying the  
3 legislation. ORS 197.829(1)(a)-(c); *Siporen v. City of Medford*, 349 Or 247,  
4 243 P3d 776 (2010). Hess does not point to any language in CCP 9.3.2 or any  
5 other provision of the CCP, or to any purpose or policy underlying CCP Policy  
6 9.3.2 that the city council’s interpretation is inconsistent with. Accordingly, we  
7 affirm the city council’s interpretation of CCP Policy 9.3.2 as not requiring  
8 consistency review for individual quasi-judicial land use applications.

9 Finally, we also understand Hess to argue that the city council’s  
10 alternative finding that if CCP Policy 9.3.2 applies the comprehensive plan  
11 amendment is consistent with it improperly construes CCP 9.3.2 and is not  
12 supported by substantial evidence in the record. Hess Petition for Review 24.  
13 Hess’ challenges to the city council’s alternative finding do not provide a basis  
14 for reversal or remand. First, nothing in the LDC, the CCP or anything else  
15 cited to us prohibits the city council from adopting alternative findings to  
16 support a land use decision. Second, given our affirmation of the city council’s  
17 interpretation of the policy as not applying, any error or inadequacy in the  
18 city’s alternative findings is at most harmless error.

19 **B. CCP Policy 9.4.6**

20 CCP Policy 9.4.6 is one of the policies contained in the CCP Section  
21 entitled “Housing Needs.” CCP Policy 9.4.6 provides:

22 “The City shall maintain minimum standards for multi-family units  
23 that encourage the development of units designed for long-term  
24 family living. Factors which need to be considered include  
25 privacy, child and adult recreation areas, variety of building  
26 design, play space / open space, and landscaping.”

1 The city council concluded that review of the comprehensive plan  
2 amendment for consistency with CCP 9.4.6 was not required because the policy  
3 directs the city to enact standards to implement the policy, and the city has  
4 enacted those standards in various provisions of the LDC. The city also  
5 adopted alternative findings that if the city is required to review the  
6 comprehensive plan amendment for consistency with CCP 9.4.6, the  
7 amendment is consistent with CCP 9.4.6.<sup>5</sup> Hess' challenges to the city  
8 council's conclusions regarding the applicability of CCP 9.4.6 are identical to  
9 their challenges to the city council's conclusions regarding CCP 9.3.2. We  
10 reject them here as well. First, Hess does not point to any language in CCP  
11 9.4.6 or any other provision of the CCP, or to any purpose or policy underlying

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<sup>5</sup> The city found:

“• The Project will encourage long-term family living because it will include many amenities such as a swimming pool and workout facilities. *See* September 30, 2013 letter from Applicant to Planning Commission. Further, the City Council finds that the record does not reflect any limits on the duration of tenancies.

“• The Project is not limited to students, and Applicant has stated it will market the Project to all classes of persons without discrimination. *Id.*

“• Even if an individual student rents a unit, that student constitutes a ‘family.’ *See* LDC 1.6.30 (‘Family, defined as ‘Individual or two or more persons related by blood, adoption, or marriage, or a group of not more than five adults unrelated by blood or marriage, living together in a dwelling unit.’) (Emphasis supplied.)

“• Additionally, the extensive design elements and landscaping associated with the Project are also consistent with this policy.” Record 109 (italics and underlining in original).

1 CCP 9.4.6, that the city council’s interpretation is inconsistent with.  
2 Accordingly, we affirm the city council’s interpretation of CCP Policy 9.4.6 as  
3 not requiring consistency review for individual quasi-judicial land use  
4 applications. For the same reasons described above, Hess’ challenges to the  
5 city council’s alternative finding that, if CCP Policy 9.4.6 applies, the  
6 comprehensive plan amendment application is consistent with CCP Policy  
7 9.4.6 also do not provide a basis for reversal or remand.

8 **C. CCP Policy 9.4.7**

9 CCP Policy 9.4.7 is another policy contained in the section of the CCP  
10 entitled “Housing Needs.” CCP Policy 9.4.7 provides:

11 “The City shall encourage development of specialized housing for  
12 the area’s elderly, disabled, students, and other groups with special  
13 housing needs.”

14 The City Council determined that the comprehensive plan amendment is  
15 consistent with CCP Policy 9.4.7:

16 “Opponents contend that the Applications violate the intent of this  
17 provision because the Project will not serve elderly persons or  
18 those in need of affordable housing. The City Council denies this  
19 contention because the Applicant stated on the record that it would  
20 not discriminate against any class of persons in its marketing and  
21 leasing at the Project. Further, Applicant stated that it intends to  
22 primarily market the Project to students, which are identified in  
23 this policy. For these reasons, the City Council finds that the  
24 Applications are consistent with this policy.” Record 110.

25 Hess first argues that the city’s findings regarding CCP Policy 9.4.7 are  
26 inconsistent with its alternative findings regarding CCP Policy 9.3.2 and Policy  
27 9.4.6 (that rely on the apartments’ potential to provide housing for a variety of  
28 under-served groups), and that the city’s failure to explain the inconsistency  
29 requires reversal or remand. Hess Petition for Review 28. Hess also argues

1 that the city council's conclusion that the application is consistent with CCP  
2 9.4.7 is not supported by substantial evidence in the record.

3 The city and intervenor (respondents) respond that all three CCP policies  
4 attempt to address different and often competing needs of the city in the  
5 residential land use and housing contexts and all address a particular subject  
6 within those larger contexts. Accordingly, they argue, the policies and the  
7 city's findings regarding each policy are not inconsistent with each other when  
8 each policy addresses a different need and requires slightly different  
9 considerations regarding whether the policy is met.

10 We agree with respondents that the city council's conclusion that the  
11 comprehensive plan amendment application is consistent with CCP Policy  
12 9.4.7 does not conflict with the alternative findings regarding CCP Policy 9.3.2  
13 and CCP Policy 9.4.6, or that any tension between those sets of findings is a  
14 basis for remand. We have affirmed above the city council's interpretation that  
15 CCP Policy 9.3.2 and CCP Policy 9.4.6 do not apply. Even if those policies  
16 apply, the city council is entitled to some latitude in reconciling competing plan  
17 policies that address different but related city needs regarding residential land  
18 use and housing, and the city's findings are not inconsistent merely because  
19 they recognize some tension between the policies. Finally, we agree with  
20 respondents that substantial evidence in the record supports the city's  
21 conclusion that the application is consistent with CCP Policy 9.4.7, where the  
22 evidence shows that the apartments will be primarily student housing but not  
23 limited to students.

24 Hess' second assignment of error is denied.

1 **THIRD ASSIGNMENT OF ERROR (HESS PETITIONERS)**

2 CCP Policy 1.2.3 is contained in a section of the CCP entitled  
3 “Comprehensive Plan Amendments” and provides:

4 “Amendments to the Comprehensive Plan can only be approved  
5 where the following findings are made:

6 “A. There is a demonstrated public need for the change.

7 “B. The advantages to the community resulting from the change  
8 shall outweigh the disadvantages.

9 “C. The change proposed is a desirable means of meeting the  
10 public need.”

11 In their third assignment of error, Hess asserts that the city council’s findings  
12 that the comprehensive plan amendment satisfies CCP Policy 1.2.3 are  
13 inadequate in various ways. We address each challenge below.

14 **A. Demonstrated Public Need**

15 **1. Medium-High Density Residential**

16 The city council adopted almost three single spaced pages of  
17 supplemental findings explaining its conclusion that there is a demonstrated  
18 public need for the change to medium-high density residential. Record 86-88.  
19 The city council relied in part on the city’s Buildable Lands Inventory (BLI)  
20 that was adopted as part of the CCP in 1998. The BLI projects a deficit of 64  
21 acres of medium-high density residential land at the end of the planning period  
22 (2020), and provides that the shortfall could be met by redesignating lower  
23 density residential lands to a higher density designation.

24 The city also relied in part on testimony and evidence from economists  
25 who testified that there is a need for additional student housing because growth  
26 in university attendance has outpaced the increase in student housing units in



1 the last decade, and that increasing the supply of student housing will ease the  
2 housing shortage caused by students living in areas where they compete for  
3 housing with traditional families. Additionally, the city relied on provisions of  
4 the CCP that establish the need for student housing.

5 Hess argues that the city’s findings are inadequate to explain why “there  
6 is a demonstrated public need for the change” and that the city’s findings are  
7 not supported by substantial evidence in the record. Hess quotes one sentence  
8 in the nearly three single-spaced pages of findings, and argues that the sentence  
9 is inadequate to explain the city’s decision.<sup>6</sup> However, a single sentence that  
10 expresses a very broad view of the words “public need” in CCP Policy 1.2.3,  
11 alone, does not provide a basis for reversal or remand. Hess’ challenge to one  
12 sentence in almost three single spaced pages of findings is not a sufficiently  
13 developed challenge to the entirety of the findings to provide a basis for  
14 reversal or remand.

15 Hess also challenges the city council’s reliance on the city’s adopted  
16 BLI, pointing out that the BLI identifies a need for 64 more acres of land and  
17 the comprehensive plan amendment will only fulfill 24 acres of that need.  
18 Hess additionally argues that evidence provided by economists of a need for  
19 more student housing does not necessarily equate to evidence of a need for  
20 more medium-high density residential land, as opposed to lands in other  
21 designations that could also provide additional student housing. Finally, Hess

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<sup>6</sup> The city council’s findings include the following sentence:

“[T]he City Council finds ‘a demonstrated public need’ exists for purposes of this policy when the record shows by reasoning that there is a lack of something desired by the community at large.”  
Record 86.

1 challenges a sentence in the decision that concludes that “[t]he City Council  
2 finds that the opponents did not present substantial evidence that undermines  
3 [the economists’] testimony” and argues that the city impermissibly shifted the  
4 burden of proof to petitioners to provide substantial evidence to support a  
5 denial of the applications. Record 88.

6 The city and intervenor respond, and we agree, that substantial evidence  
7 in the record supports the city’s decision. The city reasonably relied on its BLI  
8 and testimony from economists that more multi-family units are needed to  
9 support its conclusion that there is a need for land designated in a manner that  
10 will allow development of multi-family housing. We disagree with Hess that  
11 the city impermissibly shifted the burden of proof to project opponents. The  
12 sentence at Record 88 that Hess challenges can be read to say, simply, that the  
13 city chose to rely on intervenor’s evidence rather than opponents’ conflicting  
14 evidence. A city’s choice between believable conflicting evidence is not the  
15 same thing as impermissibly shifting the burden of proof.

16 **2. Open Space**

17 The city adopted findings explaining why it concluded there is a  
18 demonstrated public need for more open space land. Record 88. First, the city  
19 relied on its BLI that identifies a deficit in park land. Second, the city found a  
20 need for the change in order to protect natural features on the property such as  
21 stands of Oregon White Oak, wetlands, wildlife habitat, and a portion of  
22 Witham Hill.

23 Hess argues that the city’s findings are inadequate for several reasons.  
24 Hess argues that the city failed to explain how an unmet need for park land is  
25 satisfied by designating private land as open space. In other words, we  
26 understand Hess to argue that open space is not necessarily park land. Hess

1 also argues that the city’s findings that the change is needed to protect natural  
2 features on the entire property is not supported by substantial evidence, where  
3 other evidence in the record suggests the entire 94 acres will be graded.

4 The city responds that the open space designation allows “park-like”  
5 community recreation uses, such as trails and viewing areas and picnic areas,  
6 and that the city council properly relied on the BLI’s identification of a need  
7 for more park land to support its conclusion that a need for more land  
8 designated open space had been demonstrated. The city also responds that  
9 increasing the area of the property designated Open Space-Conservation from  
10 36.9 acres to 70 acres will protect more of the natural features in the open space  
11 because the 70 acres of open space will not be graded.

12 While it is a closer question whether the BLI’s identification of a need  
13 for more park land supports a conclusion that a re-designation of private land  
14 to open space is needed, at least in the absence of any showing that the open  
15 space land will be developed and used in a way that will meet the identified  
16 need for more park land, we have no trouble concluding that the city council’s  
17 findings that additional open space will protect more of the natural features of  
18 the property are adequate to explain why there is a demonstrated public need  
19 for the change to open space.

20 **B. Advantages Outweigh the Disadvantages**

21 CCP Policy 1.2.3.B requires the city to engage in a balancing process to  
22 determine whether “[t]he advantages to the community resulting from the  
23 change shall outweigh the disadvantages.” The city identified eight advantages  
24 of approving the change to medium-high density residential and five

1 disadvantages of approving the change.<sup>7</sup> The city council concluded that the  
2 advantages outweighed the disadvantages both quantitatively and qualitatively

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<sup>7</sup> For brevity, the advantages are summarized as follows:

- Change will nearly double the portion of the property protected from development;
- Change will allow a planned collector street to be located in a location that will preserve more wetlands;
- On-site stormwater detention may reduce the risk of downstream flooding;
- Change will reduce the footprint of the development and a more concentrated development pattern will support higher transit usage;
- Change will facilitate the development of additional multi-family housing and address an identified shortfall of housing in the city;
- Change will facilitate the development of additional multi-family housing closer to the main OSU campus and encourage alternative modes of transportation;
- Change will relieve redevelopment pressure on existing neighborhoods nearer to the main campus;
- Change will achieve off-site transportation improvements.

The disadvantages are summarized as follows:

- Change could result in higher long-term maintenance costs to the city if the open space land is acquired by the city;
- Change will reduce the supply of low density residential land available;
- Change may impact pastoral views of the hillside from a distance;

1 and that the disadvantages could be mitigated through appropriate conditions.  
2 Record 89-91.

3 Hess argues that the advantages of the plan amendment that the city  
4 identified are not really advantages because at least some of them, such as on-  
5 site stormwater detention, will be required in order to develop the property  
6 anyway. Hess additionally argues that city has failed to adequately explain  
7 why some of the advantages that the city identified are in fact advantages.  
8 Finally, Hess argues that the some of the advantages that the city identified are  
9 not supported by substantial evidence in the record. Regarding the  
10 disadvantages that the city identified, Hess argues that the disadvantages that  
11 the city identified are overstated in quantity and impact.

12 The city and intervenor respond that the balancing process that is  
13 required by CCP Policy 1.2.3.B is not a mechanical process and that a great  
14 deal of deference is due the city in identifying the advantages and  
15 disadvantages of the comprehensive plan amendment. Moreover, we  
16 understand the city and intervenor to suggest that whether identified impacts of  
17 the change qualify as advantages or disadvantages is somewhat subjective.

18 In the absence of anything that constrains the city in identifying and  
19 balancing advantages and disadvantages, we agree the city has wide latitude to  
20 interpret CCP Policy 1.2.3.B in making the required identifications and  
21 conducting the required balancing. We have previously recognized that a

- 
- Change will facilitate development of the property.
  - Change will increase demand for public services.

Record 89-90.

1 similar balancing process is inherently subjective. *McInnis v. City of Portland*,  
2 25 Or LUBA 376, 384 (1993). When faced with such an inherently subjective  
3 criterion, the city is entitled to appropriate deference in selecting the  
4 advantages and disadvantages it chooses to consider and how it balances those  
5 advantages and disadvantages. Hess challenges the advantages and the  
6 disadvantages identified by the city and the city's conclusion that the  
7 advantages to the community outweigh the disadvantages. But Hess'  
8 arguments reduce to a disagreement with the city over how the city identified  
9 and balanced the advantages and disadvantages. When faced with a highly  
10 subjective criterion that requires the city to identify and balance the advantages  
11 and disadvantages of a comprehensive plan amendment, a petitioner must do  
12 more than point to disagreement with the outcome of that balancing.  
13 Accordingly, Hess' arguments in the portion of the petition for review  
14 challenging the city's conclusion that CCP Policy 1.2.3.B is met provide no  
15 basis for reversal or remand.

16 **C. Desirable Means of Meeting the Public Need**

17 CCP Policy 1.2.3.C requires the city to find that "[t]he change proposed  
18 is a desirable means of meeting the public need." The city council adopted  
19 three single-spaced pages of findings that concluded that the comprehensive  
20 plan amendment is desirable. Record 91-94. First, the city considered whether  
21 annexing additional land into the city and designating it medium-high density  
22 residential is a desirable means for meeting the public need. The city  
23 concluded based on the cost and uncertainty of annexation, the unavailability  
24 of appropriate land in the UGB, and the discontinuity of many of the properties  
25 from the city limits, that annexation is not desirable. Next the city considered  
26 whether re-designating other lands within the city is desirable, and concluded it

1 is not, due to limits on existing infrastructure. Third, the city considered  
2 increasing the density on properties already designated medium-density  
3 residential and concluded that that is not a desirable means of meeting the  
4 public need. Ultimately, the city concluded that the comprehensive plan  
5 amendment is a desirable means of meeting the public need because the  
6 proposed development will provide trails identified in the city's Trails Master  
7 Plan, and because it will increase the supply of multi-family housing available  
8 in the city by allowing students to relocate from other multi-family housing and  
9 making that housing available to families.

10 Hess argues that the city's findings are inadequate to explain why the  
11 comprehensive plan amendment is a desirable means of meeting the public  
12 need, and that alternative methods of meeting the public need are more  
13 desirable. The city and intervenor respond that CCP Policy 1.2.3.C does not  
14 require a finding that the proposed comprehensive plan amendment is the most  
15 desirable means of meeting the identified need, only that it is "a" desirable  
16 means, and that the city's findings are adequate to explain why the city  
17 concluded that the plan amendment is a desirable means.

18 We agree with the city and intervenor that the city's findings are  
19 adequate to explain why the plan amendment is a desirable means of meeting  
20 the identified need. Even if there are other desirable means of meeting the  
21 need, that would not provide a basis for reversal or remand of the decision  
22 where the city is not required to choose the most desirable means of meeting  
23 the need.

24 Hess' third assignment of error is denied.

1 **FIRST ASSIGNMENT OF ERROR (GOODMONSON)**

2 In several subassignments of error under Goodmonson’s first assignment  
3 of error, Goodmonson challenges the city’s conclusion that the comprehensive  
4 plan amendment and zone change will not significantly affect transportation  
5 facilities within the meaning of OAR 660-012-0060, part of the Transportation  
6 Planning Rule (TPR). As relevant here, OAR 660-012-0060 requires local  
7 governments to determine whether proposed plan amendments and zone  
8 changes will “significantly affect” a transportation facility in one of the ways  
9 described in the rule.<sup>8</sup> Where the amendment changes the plan or zoning

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<sup>8</sup> OAR 660-012-0060(1) provides, in relevant part:

“If an amendment to a functional plan, an acknowledged comprehensive plan, or a land use regulation (including a zoning map) would significantly affect an existing or planned transportation facility, then the local government must put in place measures as provided in section (2) of this rule \* \* \*. A plan or land use regulation amendment significantly affects a transportation facility if it would:

“(a) Change the functional classification of an existing or planned transportation facility (exclusive of correction of map errors in an adopted plan);

“(b) Change standards implementing a functional classification system; or

“(c) Result in any of the effects listed in paragraphs (A) through (C) of this subsection based on projected conditions measured at the end of the planning period identified in the adopted TSP. \* \* \*

“(A) Types or levels of travel or access that are inconsistent with the functional classification of an existing or planned transportation facility;



1 designation, an initial question in addressing OAR 660-012-0060(1)(c) is  
2 whether the amendment allows uses with greater traffic-generation capacity  
3 compared to the previous plan or zone designations. If not, there may be no  
4 need for further inquiry under the TPR. If there is an increase in traffic-  
5 generation capacity, then further analysis is required. *Barnes v. City of*  
6 *Hillsboro*, 61 Or LUBA 375, 399, *aff'd* 239 Or App 73, 243 P3d 139 (2010);  
7 *Mason v. City of Corvallis*, 49 Or LUBA 199, 222 (2005).

8         The city concluded that the plan and zone designation changes will not  
9 significantly affect any existing or planned transportation facilities because  
10 although the property will generate more *daily* trips compared to the former  
11 plan and zoning, the proposed designations will generate fewer trips during the  
12 AM and PM peak hours, the critical time periods for purpose of evaluating the  
13 performance standards that apply to a transportation facility. For that reason,  
14 the city concluded the plan and zone changes will not “significantly affect” a  
15 transportation facility within the meaning of OAR 660-012-0060(1). Record  
16 84. The city relied on intervenor’s traffic engineer’s analysis that compared the  
17 trip generation capacity of the property under the existing plan and zone  
18 designations with the trip generation capacity of the property under the new  
19 plan and zone designations. In analyzing the trip generation capacity of the

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“(B) Degrade the performance of an existing or planned transportation facility such that it would not meet the performance standards identified in the TSP or comprehensive plan; or

“(C) Degrade the performance of an existing or planned transportation facility that is otherwise projected to not meet the performance standards identified in the TSP or comprehensive plan.”

1 property under the new plan and zone designations, intervenor’s traffic  
2 engineer used the Institute of Transportation Engineers Trip Generation  
3 Manual (ITE Manual) category of “Land Use Code 220-Apartments” to  
4 calculate the trip generation potential under the new zoning.

5 **A. First Subassignment of Error**

6 In his first subassignment of error, Goodmonson argues that the city’s  
7 decision improperly construes the applicable law because the city failed to  
8 require intervenor’s traffic engineer to conduct a local traffic study that  
9 examines similar developed uses in the vicinity and to base his trip generation  
10 estimates on the local study rather than a category set out in the ITE Manual.  
11 According to Goodmonson, the ITE Manual specifies some circumstances in  
12 which a local trip generation study should be used to validate the ITE Land Use  
13 Code trip generation rates instead of resorting to an ITE Manual category.  
14 Goodmonson Petition for Review 14-16. Goodmonson contends that, because  
15 the proposed apartments’ intended use is student housing, the use requires a  
16 local traffic study of trip rates and use of a “per bedroom” assumption  
17 regarding the number of persons occupying the building, rather than an  
18 assumption based on the number of apartment units.

19 The city and intervenor respond, and we agree, that Goodmonson has not  
20 cited to any provision of the LDC or the CCP or any other law that requires the  
21 city to base its decision on data provided by a local traffic study, and  
22 accordingly Goodmonson’s argument provides no basis for reversal or remand  
23 of the decision. The ITE Manual itself describes the circumstances in which a  
24 local traffic study may be needed to validate the ITE trip generation rates in  
25 hortatory, rather than mandatory terms (the analyst “should” collect local data  
26 and establish a local rate”). Accordingly, the city did not improperly construe

1 the applicable law in failing to require a local traffic study to validate the trip  
2 generation estimates in the ITE Manual.

3 Also in his first subassignment of error, Goodmonson argues that the city  
4 erred in deferring a determination of compliance with the TPR to a later review  
5 stage by imposing Conditions 45 and 47. Condition 45 requires intervenor to  
6 conduct a traffic analysis after the apartment building is occupied to determine  
7 whether additional traffic control devices are needed that would require  
8 additional right of way. Condition 47 similarly requires intervenor to install  
9 traffic calming devices if they are warranted.

10 The city and intervenor respond, and we agree, that the city made a  
11 current determination in its decision that the proposed plan and zone changes  
12 will not significantly affect a transportation facility, and that conditions 45 and  
13 47 merely reflect the voluntary agreement by intervenor to assess actual traffic  
14 and assist in improving affected facilities if the actual traffic warrants the  
15 improvements.

16 **B. Second Subassignment of Error**

17 In his second subassignment of error, Goodmonson argues that the city's  
18 findings are inadequate to explain why the city chose to rely on intervenor's  
19 traffic engineer's trip generation assumptions and methodology, instead of  
20 relying on information submitted by a traffic engineer retained by opponents,  
21 Birkby, that called that methodology into question. As explained above, the  
22 opponent's traffic engineer's testimony questioned the use of the ITE Land Use  
23 Code-220 trip generation estimates due to the presumed use of the apartments  
24 for student housing, and cited to a Florida Department of Transportation Study  
25 that concluded that student housing (presumably in Florida) generates more  
26 trips than typical multi-family apartments generate. Goodmonson argues that

1 the city’s supplemental and incorporated findings do not address the issue  
2 raised by Birkby.

3 In the supplemental findings, the city found:

4 “The City Council finds that the Project will not significantly  
5 affect any existing or planned transportation facilities. In support  
6 of this conclusion, the City Council relies upon the ‘worst case  
7 scenario’ analysis prepared by Applicant's transportation  
8 consultant, DKS Associates (DKS) dated February 5, 2013. In that  
9 analysis, DKS compared the reasonable worst-case trip generation  
10 scenario of the Property under the existing comprehensive plan  
11 map designations (PD(RS-6) and AG-OS) with the reasonable  
12 worst case trip generation scenario under the proposed zoning  
13 designation (PD(RS-12) and C-OS). See DKS Memorandum dated  
14 February 5, 2013 (Exhibit III). This comparison indicated that the  
15 Property would generate more daily trips under the proposed  
16 zoning designation but fewer trips during the AM and PM peak  
17 hours. *Id.*

18 “Based upon these results, DKS concluded that the Applications  
19 would not significantly affect any existing or planned  
20 transportation facilities for purposes of the TPR. The City Council  
21 finds that City Engineering staff and ODOT staff have reviewed  
22 and concurred with DKS’ conclusions. *See* pages 32 and 52 of the  
23 Staff Report (Exhibit 1). No substantial evidence was presented  
24 that undermined this testimony.” Record 84-85.

25 The city and intervenor first respond that a document or documents that  
26 the city purported to incorporate as findings - “supplemental information  
27 provided by City staff (Exhibit II)” - responds to the issues raised in Birkby’s  
28 testimony. Intervenor’s Response Brief 18; Brief of Respondent City 17-19;  
29 Record 4063-64. The city and intervenor also respond that other findings in  
30 the decision at Record 97 that address the comprehensive plan amendment’s  
31 compliance with a CCP provision regarding traffic impacts from the plan

1 amendment are sufficient to respond to the issues raised by Birkby regarding  
2 the TPR.

3 We have previously concluded that the city's attempted incorporation at  
4 Record 78 of "supplemental information provided by City staff (Exhibit II)"  
5 fails because the incorporated "information" is not adequately described by  
6 date, title, or subject in either the description included at Record 78 or in the  
7 record, such that a reasonable person could locate the document and recognize  
8 it as part of the city's decision. *Gonzalez v. Lane County*, 24 Or LUBA 251,  
9 258-59 (1992). Accordingly, assuming that the document that the city and  
10 intervenor cite to is the document that the city intended to incorporate, that  
11 incorporation fails, and the city may not rely on that document as findings in  
12 responding to Goodmonson's inadequate findings challenge. We also reject  
13 the city's attempt to rely on findings adopted in support of a CCP provision  
14 regarding traffic impacts to support a finding that the proposal will not  
15 "significantly affect" a transportation facility within the meaning of the TPR,  
16 where it is not clear that the CCP provision and the TPR require the same  
17 analyses.

18 Nothing in the above-quoted findings regarding the TPR responds to  
19 Birkby's testimony, and the city and intervenor do not point to any other  
20 properly incorporated findings that address the issues that Birkby raised. That  
21 issue appears to be a legitimate issue regarding compliance with the TPR that  
22 requires some response. The city and intervenor offer no basis for LUBA to  
23 affirm the city's determination of compliance with the TPR in the absence of  
24 findings addressing that issue. Accordingly, we agree with Goodmonson that  
25 remand is warranted for the city to adopt findings addressing the TPR issue  
26 raised by Birkby.

1 The second subassignment of error is sustained.

2 **C. Third Subassignment of Error**

3 In his third subassignment of error, Goodmonson argues that the decision  
4 is not supported by substantial evidence in the record. Goodmonson’s third  
5 subassignment of error is derivative of his first subassignment of error.  
6 Because we deny the first subassignment of error, the third subassignment of  
7 error provides no basis for reversal or remand of the decision.

8 Goodmonson’s first assignment of error is sustained, in part.

9 **SECOND ASSIGNMENT OF ERROR (GOODMONSON)**

10 LDC 2.1.30.03(b)(2), LDC 2.2.40.02(a)(2) LDC 2.4.30.01(b)(2), and  
11 LDC 2.5.40.01(b)(2) require “signed consent” of the property owner to  
12 accompany the various respective applications described above. In the second  
13 assignment of error, Goodmonson argues that the city’s findings are inadequate  
14 to explain why those LDC provisions are met. The city and intervenor respond  
15 that the LDC provisions that Goodmonson cites are application requirements,  
16 not approval standards. Accordingly, they argue, even if the application  
17 requirements have not been satisfied, Goodmonson’s argument provides no  
18 basis for reversal or remand of the decision where Goodmonson does not argue  
19 that the alleged failure to comply with the owner consent provisions has  
20 resulted in noncompliance with any approval standards. We agree. *Citizens*  
21 *for Responsible Development v. City of The Dalles*, 59 Or LUBA 369, 378  
22 (2009).

23 Goodmonson’s second assignment of error is denied.

24 **THIRD ASSIGNMENT OF ERROR (GOODMONSON)**

25 In Goodmonson’s third assignment of error, we understand him to argue  
26 that the city improperly failed to consider whether the proposal will result in a

1 violation of the Endangered Species Act (ESA), 16 USC § 1531 *et seq. as*  
2 *amended*, and whether the proposal complies with Statewide Planning Goal 6  
3 (Air, Water and Land Resources Quality).<sup>9</sup>

4 **A. Motion to Take Official Notice**

5 Goodmonson moves that LUBA take official notice under Oregon  
6 Evidence Code 202(2) of a Program Level Biological Assessment prepared by  
7 the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).<sup>10</sup> The city and  
8 intervenor object to the motion. We agree with Goodmonson that LUBA may  
9 take official notice of the Biological Assessment as an “\* \* \* official act[] of”  
10 FEMA, for appropriate purposes under OEC 202(2).

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<sup>9</sup> Goal 6 is in relevant part:

“To maintain and improve the quality of the air, water and land resources of the state. All waste and process discharges from future development, when combined with such discharges from existing developments shall not threaten to violate, or violate applicable state or federal environmental quality statutes, rules and standards. With respect to the air, water and land resources of the applicable air sheds and river basins described or included in state environmental quality statutes, rules, standards and implementation plans, such discharges shall not (1) exceed the carrying capacity of such resources, considering long range needs; (2) degrade such resources; or (3) threaten the availability of such resources.” OAR 660-015-0000(6).

<sup>10</sup> ORS 40.090, Oregon Evidence Code 202(2), provides that law judicially noticed includes:

“Public and private official acts of the legislative, executive and judicial departments of this state, the United States, any federally recognized American Indian tribal government and any other state, territory or other jurisdiction of the United States.”

1           **B.     Endangered Species Act**

2           Goodmonson’s argument that the city was required to consider whether  
3 the proposal violates the ESA is difficult to understand. According to  
4 Goodmonson, in February, 2013, FEMA issued a Program Level Biological  
5 Assessment that proposes changes to the National Flood Insurance Program  
6 (NFIP) in Oregon.<sup>11</sup> Biological Assessment 276. The Biological Assessment  
7 notes that the assumed timeframe for implementation in Oregon is four years.  
8 However, the biological assessment adopts an interim program that requires  
9 that local governments that participate in the NFIP follow FEMA’s regulation  
10 at 44 CFR §60.3(a)(2), which requires local governments that participate in the  
11 NFIP to ensure that all necessary federal permits are obtained prior to issuance  
12 of a floodplain development permit. Biological Assessment 281. However,  
13 how that leads to the conclusion that the city is required to consider whether  
14 the plan and zoning amendments at issue in the present case violate the ESA is  
15 not clear.

16           The city and intervenor respond initially that no party raised an issue  
17 below that the city was required to evaluate the proposal for compliance with  
18 the ESA and therefore the issue raised in the third assignment of error is  
19 waived. ORS 197.835(3) provides that “[i]ssues shall be limited to those raised  
20 by any participant before the local hearings body as provided by ORS 197.195  
21 or 197.763, whichever is applicable.” ORS 197.763 provides that an issue

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<sup>11</sup> The Program Level Biological Assessment was the result of a settlement in 2010 of a complaint filed in the U.S. District Court for the District of Oregon against the FEMA that required FEMA to consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) to determine the effects of FEMA’s implementation of the NFIP on threatened or endangered salmon.



1 “shall be raised not later than the close of the record at or following the final  
2 evidentiary hearing on the proposal before the local government.” ORS  
3 197.763 additionally requires that “issues shall be raised and accompanied by  
4 statements or evidence sufficient to afford the governing body \* \* \* and the  
5 parties an adequate opportunity to respond to each issue.”

6 Goodmanson responds that the issue raised in his third assignment of  
7 error was raised by several participants in the proceedings below.  
8 Goodmanson first points to written testimony submitted to the city that  
9 includes expressions of concern regarding the proposed storm water detention  
10 system and potential impacts to Chinook salmon habitat and possible ESA  
11 violations. Record 2448. Goodmanson also points to the City of Corvallis  
12 Salmon Response Plan at Record 2480-2489, which discusses impacts to  
13 salmon habitat from development. Goodmanson also cites a letter to the city  
14 from another participant who explained that she had significant concerns  
15 regarding the proposed development and its impact to natural resources  
16 including threatened and endangered species (referred to as “T and E Species”  
17 within that testimony); with the lack of buffer between the development and  
18 wetlands; and that no fish study was submitted on salmonids or trout species.  
19 Record 1508, 1510, 3639.<sup>12</sup>

20 Finally, Goodmanson points to a Technical Memorandum prepared by  
21 intervenor’s environmental consultant, Dalton. The technical memorandum  
22 responds to testimony regarding the presence of threatened or endangered  
23 species or habitat on the property by confirming that whether surveys of

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<sup>12</sup> Record 3639 includes testimony that argues that no fish study was submitted and that argues that the “[s]ite may be supporting *state* listed salmonid/trout species \* \* \*.” (Emphasis added)

1 endangered species or habitat on the property are needed will be reviewed and  
2 determined during the joint permit application process to the Oregon  
3 Department of State Lands (ODSL) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
4 (ACOE), which will be reviewed by other agencies, including the Oregon  
5 Department of Fish and Wildlife. Record 3003. The city adopted Condition 37,  
6 which requires intervenor to obtain applicable state and federal permits from  
7 the ODSL, ACOE and the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality prior  
8 to development. Record 62.

9         The purpose of ORS 197.763 is to ensure that the local government is  
10 put on notice of a particular issue during local proceedings, so it can respond to  
11 the issue. *Boldt v. Clackamas County*, 107 Or App 619, 623, 813 P2d 1078  
12 (1991). A petitioner adequately raises an issue under ORS 197.763(1) and  
13 197.835(3) by citing the relevant legal standard, presenting argument that  
14 includes the operative terms of the legal standard, or taking other actions to  
15 raise the issue such that the city knows or should know that the issue is one that  
16 needs to be addressed in its decision. *Reagan v. City of Oregon City*, 39 Or  
17 LUBA 672, 690 (2001).

18         We have reviewed the pages cited by Goodmonson, and we agree with  
19 the city and intervenor that the issue raised in Goodmonson's third assignment  
20 of error was not raised during the proceedings below by any participant, and  
21 thus Goodmonson is precluded from raising them for the first time at LUBA.  
22 The issue presented in Goodmonson's third assignment of error is that the  
23 biological assessment and 44 CFR §60.3(a)(2) require the city to determine

1 whether the development will result in a “take” as defined in the ESA.<sup>13</sup> The  
2 testimony from the record pages Goodmonson cites in support of his position  
3 that the issue raised in his third assignment of error was raised below is simply  
4 not sufficient to raise the issue that Goodmonson raises in his third assignment  
5 of error. At best, the arguments on the cited record pages raise generalized  
6 concerns about the effects of the proposed development on threatened or  
7 endangered species, without arguing that any federal, state or local law or  
8 federal, state or local regulation make the ESA directly applicable to the  
9 applications, or that any federal, state or local law requires the city to directly  
10 determine whether the applications will result in a “take” under the ESA.

11 However, even if the issue was not waived, we reject Goodmonson’s  
12 argument that the biological assessment or 44 CFR §60.3(a)(2) require the city  
13 to consider whether the proposal complies with the ESA. First, Goodmonson  
14 has not established that the biological assessment imposes mandatory  
15 obligations on the city to do anything. At best, the biological assessment  
16 proposes changes that may take effect in the future that may require local  
17 governments to update their existing ordinances. Biological Assessment 282.

18 Second, Goodmonson has not established that 44 CFR §60.3(a)(2)  
19 applies to the applications, where no floodplain development permit is sought.  
20 44 CFR §60.3 is a FEMA rule entitled “[f]lood plain management for flood-  
21 prone areas” and is found within the subchapter “Insurance and Hazard

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<sup>13</sup> Section 9(a)(1)(B) and (C) of the ESA prohibits actions that result in the “take” of threatened or endangered species. 16 USC §1538(a). Conduct that causes a “take” is defined as an action to “harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct.” 16 USC § 1532(19).

1 Mitigation.” According to the biological assessment, the intent of the rule is to  
2 ensure that all necessary federal permits are obtained before issuance of a  
3 floodplain development permit. Biological Assessment 281. The city takes the  
4 position that the property is not located in a floodplain, and as far as we are  
5 informed, none of the applications seek or are required to seek a floodplain  
6 development permit. Goodmonson does not even assert that a floodplain  
7 permit will be required when the property is developed. Accordingly,  
8 Goodmonson fails to demonstrate that 44 CFR §60.3 applies to the applications  
9 or requires the city to determine whether the applications will result in a “take.”

10 **B. Goal 6**

11 Also in his third assignment of error, we understand Goodmonson to  
12 argue that Goal 6 requires the city to determine whether the applications are  
13 consistent with the ESA. As we explained in *Friends of the Applegate*  
14 *Watershed v. Josephine County*, 44 Or LUBA 786, 802 (2003):

15 “The function served by Goal 6 is not to anticipate and precisely  
16 duplicate state and federal environmental permitting requirements.  
17 The function of Goal 6 is much more modest. Goal 6 requires that  
18 the local government establish that there is a reasonable  
19 expectation that the use that is seeking land use approval will also  
20 be able to comply with the state and federal environmental quality  
21 standards that it must satisfy to be built.”

22 Nothing in Goodmonson’s arguments persuades us that Goal 6 requires a  
23 determination at this stage that the applications satisfy the ESA, or that it is  
24 unreasonable to expect that intervenor will be able to comply with state and  
25 federal permitting requirements, particularly in light of Condition 37’s mandate  
26 that it do so prior to development.

27 Goodmonson’s third assignment of error is denied.

1 **FOURTH ASSIGNMENT OF ERROR (GOODMONSON)**

2 Statewide Planning Goal 10 (Housing) is “to provide for the housing  
3 needs of citizens of the state.”<sup>14</sup> Goal 10 requires the city to inventory  
4 buildable lands, and Goal 2 requires the inventory to be a part of the  
5 comprehensive plan. In his fourth assignment of error, Goodmonson argues  
6 that the city’s decision improperly construes the applicable law and is “not in  
7 compliance with [Goal 10].”<sup>15</sup>

8 As we explain above, in 1998 the city adopted its BLI and the BLI  
9 projected a shortage at the end of the planning period, 2020, in the amount of  
10 medium-high density residential land. Relying on the shortage identified in the  
11 BLI, the city concluded that the comprehensive plan map amendment is  
12 consistent with Goal 10 because it decreases the shortage.<sup>16</sup> Goodmonson

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<sup>14</sup> ORS 197.175(2)(a) requires the city amend its comprehensive plan “in compliance with [the statewide planning goals].”

<sup>15</sup> ORS 197.835(6) provides that LUBA “shall reverse or remand an amendment to a comprehensive plan if the amendment is not in compliance with the goals.”

<sup>16</sup> The city found:

“The City Council finds that the Applications will reduce the developable area of the Property from 57.7 acres of Low Density Residential land to 24.6 acres of Medium-High Density Residential land. The City Council finds that the City's acknowledged Buildable Lands Inventory ("BLI") anticipates a surplus of 341 acres of Low Density Residential land in 2020, but a shortfall of 64 acres of Medium-High Density Residential land. During that same planning period. Based upon the acknowledged BLI, the City Council finds that the proposed Medium High Density Residential designation fulfills an identified need for

1 argues that the city improperly concluded that a shortage in medium-high  
2 density residential land exists because the city failed to consider annexations  
3 have occurred since the city’s BLI was adopted that have annexed more than  
4 430 acres of land into the city. According to Goodmonson, the city erred in  
5 considering only the city’s adopted BLI without considering the amount of  
6 lands now “designated for multi-family uses” in the comprehensive plan.  
7 Goodmonson Petition for Review 48.

8 The city and intervenor respond that the city is entitled to, and in fact is  
9 required to, rely on its acknowledged BLI under Statewide Planning Goal 2  
10 (Land Use Planning) and *1000 Friends of Oregon v. City of Dundee*, 203 Or  
11 App 207, 216, 124 P3d 1249, 1254 (2005) to conclude that a shortage exists.  
12 In *Dundee*, the Court rejected the city’s attempt to rely on a buildable lands  
13 inventory that had not, at the time of the city’s decision approving a  
14 comprehensive plan amendment, been incorporated into the city’s  
15 comprehensive plan. However, as we understand Goodmonson’s argument, it  
16 is not that the city erred in relying on its acknowledged BLI, but that the city  
17 erred in failing to *also* consider its acknowledged comprehensive plan map  
18 designations, which include lands annexed after adoption of the BLI.

19 We do not understand Goodmonson to argue that the approximately 430  
20 acres of land that has been annexed since the BLI was adopted has been  
21 *designated* in the city’s comprehensive plan as *medium-high density residential*  
22 *land*, or some other designation that allows *medium-high density residential*

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increasing acreage for multi-family housing while not generating a  
shortfall of acreage for single-family housing.

“The City Council finds that the Applications are consistent with  
Goal 10.” Record 83.

1 uses, or even that any of the land that was annexed was vacant land and thus  
2 available for development with *medium-high density residential* uses to meet  
3 the projected shortage.<sup>17</sup> Rather, Goodmonson argues that the annexed land is  
4 designated in the city’s comprehensive plan “for multi-family uses.” That  
5 argument falls short of establishing that the city erred in failing to consider its  
6 comprehensive plan map designations and instead relying on its adopted BLI  
7 that projects a shortage of medium-high density residential lands.

8 Finally, Goodmonson does not develop any argument that explains how  
9 the city’s reliance on its BLI “is not in compliance with Goal 10.”  
10 Goodmonson Petition for Review 48. Goal 10 requires the city to inventory  
11 buildable lands, and the city has done that. Even if Goodmonson is correct  
12 that, due to recent annexations and rezoning of annexed lands there is no longer  
13 a shortage of lands designated medium-high density, Goodmonson fails to

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<sup>17</sup> The evidence in the record Goodmonson cites provides in relevant part:

“I have \* \* \* found that since 1998, in the fourteen years to 2011 (the last year for which figures were available) there were annexations in eight (1998, 99, 2000, 01 , 03, 04, 05 and 08) and that in that period, four hundred and thirty-five point seven (435.7) acres of land were added to the city through annexations. Not all of that land is available for multi-family development, but much of it is, which is reflected in a consistent pattern of multi-family housing construction through the period from 1998 to 2011. During that period, the city housing department reports, 1916 units of new multi-family housing (including duplexes) were opened (the number is larger by 499 than the one I used in my August 30th testimony because it includes duplexes). Some of that development took place on land annexed between 1998 and 2011, but much of it took place on sites in the city which had previously been occupied by single-family units.” Record 2580.

- 1 explain why rezoning additional lands to create a surplus of medium-high
- 2 density residential land is inconsistent with Goal 10.
- 3 Goodmonson's fourth assignment of error is denied.
- 4 The city's decision is remanded.