



FW: Trout Lane, Gannett Ranch and Accountability in Bellevue's Planning Proces

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From: Pamela Ridgway [mailto:pamelaridg@gmail.com]

Sent: Wednesday, October 07, 2026 11:00 AM

To: Rob Foulkes <rob@software21.com>

Subject: Trout Lane, Gannett Ranch and Accountability in Bellevue's Planning Process

Mayor Giordani, Members of the Bellevue City Council and Planning & Zoning Commission,

Following the October 5 Planning & Zoning meeting, I believe we need to address something larger than an incorrectly posted date.

I attended the large public meeting concerning the Trout Lane project earlier this year. At that meeting, I personally heard Community Development Director Brian Parker acknowledge responsibility for what had occurred.

I am unaware of any public corrective or disciplinary action that followed. More importantly, as a resident, I do not know what administrative safeguards were put in place afterward to prevent another significant breakdown in the City's planning and public-participation process.

Now, only a few months later, we have another incident involving a major development proposal.

For the October 5 meeting concerning Gannett Ranch, the City's electronic meeting index contained the wrong date and wrong year. Members of the public attempting to participate remotely were initially unable to access the Teams meeting. Approximately 30 residents came to City Hall expecting an opportunity to participate in the discussion of Gannett Ranch, only to have that matter continued and the residents sent home without being heard.

This concerns me because Gannett Ranch is only at the beginning of what will be a complicated and extremely consequential process for Bellevue.

Mistakes happen. But when significant problems occur more than once within the same department, I believe residents are entitled to ask what was learned from the first incident and what changed as a result.

Therefore, I respectfully ask the Mayor and Council:

Following Trout Lane, what specific procedural or administrative safeguards were implemented within

the Community Development Department?

Who is responsible for independently verifying meeting dates, agendas, electronic notices, Teams access and other public-participation information before it is published?

Following the October 5 Gannett Ranch incident, what additional safeguards will now be put in place?

And finally, who will provide oversight of the Gannett Ranch process going forward to ensure that the public can have confidence that notices, hearings, documents and opportunities for participation are handled accurately?

I am not raising these questions to make this personal. I am raising them because Gannett Ranch is simply too important for Bellevue to proceed without a reliable, transparent and accountable public process.

Many residents are investing considerable time attending both Planning & Zoning and City Council meetings because we care deeply about the future of Bellevue and the surrounding community. We should be able to expect the same level of care from the City in administering that process.

I would appreciate these questions being addressed publicly before substantive action on Gannett Ranch moves forward.

Thank you,

Rob Foulkes