



d o y l e
e n t e r p r i s e s

CASCO HEIGHTS

April 2014

Dear Members,

On October 18, 2004 the Portland City Council approved the Contract Zone Agreement to Graves Hill, LLC, which allowed the 18 acre vacant property, overlooking Casco Bay, located at 802 Ocean Avenue to be rezoned from R-3 to 8 acres of R-OS and 10 acres of R-5A. Working with Portland Trails, the open space was to be developed into a trail system that would connect with the Ocean Avenue Recreation Area. (At that time it was The Ocean Avenue Landfill.) The R-5A portion would allow two 100 foot buildings containing a total of 98 units. The 2004 project was called Graves Hill and was designed as large luxury condominiums. The Contract Zone Agreement specified that there would be two parking spaces per unit along with 28 visitor spaces and that each building would contain a community room, an office, a fitness and special events room and a cross country ski room.

The project got bogged down in stormwater issues and the final planning board approval was not received until 2006. Then 2007 came along and due to the instability of the economy, the project was not built. I own the property and was the developer for the Graves Hill project. I have entered into an agreement to sell the property to Ridge Development, LLC. They have hired me to advise them and present the new plan.

The new project will be called Casco Ridge and the buildings are an improvement over the approved 2006 project. The approved 100 foot height limit was controversial, Casco Heights will be no taller than 75 feet. Graves Hill was entirely large luxury units. Casco Heights is a mix of one, two and three bedroom, market rate condominiums along with top floor penthouses.

Although the Graves Hill buildings may have been controversial, the preservation of open space and the careful consideration of the land to be developed, was always supported by the boards and neighbors. That concept has not changed. Eight Acres will still be rezoned as R-OS and Portland Trails will participate in the development of a trail system that will run from Ocean Avenue through the R5-A zone to the R-OS and then connect to the Ocean Avenue Recreation Area.

We are asking that the Planning Board recommend to the Portland City Council the following changes to the 2004 approved Conditional Rezoning Amendment:

1. The name shall be changed from Graves Hill Land Company, LLC to Ridge Development, LLC
2. The maximum number of total allowed units shall be reduced from 98 to 94
3. The R-5A zone shall be changed from 10.17 acres to 10.4 acres and the R-OS shall be changed from 8.15 acres to 7.92 acres
4. The requirement for each building to contain a community room, office, fitness room, special events room and cross country ski center shall be removed
5. The amount of required parking shall be changed from two spaces per unit to two spaces for multi bedroom units and one space per single bedroom unit. The 28 visitor spaces remain unchanged.

Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to working with you on the new project.

Sincerely,

Diane Doyle