



*Mission Statement: Bend Area Habitat for Humanity, with God's guidance, works in partnership with deserving families and the community to build quality, affordable homes.*

January 13, 2006

Kyle Frick  
202 NE Olney Blvd  
Bend, OR 97701

Dear Kyle,

Bend Area Habitat for Humanity is eager to learn and share more about the Bend 2030 Vision for our community. Your involvement on the Task Force shows us that you are attentive to the issues most important to our community's well being. Our organization's commitment to insuring available affordable housing for Bend's citizens should be part of any vision for a healthy, well balanced community.

Misconceptions about affordable housing may abound, but one solid definition helps us to define who Bend Area Habitat for Humanity serves in Bend. According to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), affordable housing costs 30% of ones' income. A Bend family of four earning the county's median income of \$57,800 would need to purchase a home for \$140,000 to be considered affordable under the HUD definition. Income continues to remain flat in Bend, while home sale prices increase, yet in the past twelve months only seventeen homes have been available at or below \$ 140,000 (excluding Bend Area Habitat Homes). Also worth noting is Bend's median home price in 2005 was \$279,900. When you combine that information with the above figures, it becomes clear as to just how limiting homeownership can be for many individuals and families.

The supply of affordable land to build these homes is the biggest limiting factor in home construction for Bend Area Habitat for Humanity. While home prices themselves have increased, the price of land on which they are built has risen more than 40% in the past five years. To this end, we have begun a capitol funding campaign to purchase a ten acre parcel of land that would allow us to build for seven years. Having this land in one piece gives us more energy to put towards home building and less to purchasing small land parcels. Land being set aside for future affordable housing is needed as Bend's housing needs increase.

Your concern over issues such as the availability of affordable housing has led you to your involvement on the Bend 2030 Vision Task Force. Our commitment to affordable housing leads many hardworking families to our organization so that they may earn homeownership. Your efforts are much appreciated as you address many issues for a better Bend and the people that live, work and play in our community. Please contact us with any questions, concerns, or ideas to share.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alison Hamm".

Alison Hamm  
Board President

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Jensen".

Mike Jensen  
Executive Director

1860 NE 4th Street Bend, OR 97701 (541) 385-5387



OCCB# 83516

