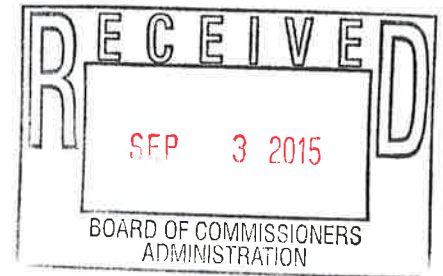




MAINTAINING SUNRIVER AS A PREMIER RESIDENTIAL AND RESORT COMMUNITY PROTECTING AND ENHANCING ITS QUALITY OF LIFE,
NATURAL ENVIRONMENT AND PROPERTY VALUES.

Alan Unger, Deschutes County Commissioner
1300 NW Wall St
STE 200
Bend OR 97707

August 31, 2015



Dear Commissioner Unger:

At the Safe Sidewalks Award ceremony, you asked me to provide information to you on the Sunriver Owners Association's experience with usage of Sunriver's pathways since the opening of the Sun-Lava pathway connecting the Lava Lands Visitors Center to Sunriver's pathway system at the north end of Sunriver.

As you know, Sunriver has 33 miles of paved pathways that wind throughout Sunriver. Our pathways have long been considered by SROA's owners to be Sunriver's #1 amenity. They are heavily used year-round by both pedestrians and cyclists and they are used by both owners and visitors. During the summer months, an estimated 10,000 owners and visitors spend time in Sunriver each day. Many of them walk, run or cycle on our pathways.

At the time the U.S. Forest Service was developing plans to build what is now called the Sun-Lava pathway, some of SROA's owners expressed concerns about potential adverse impacts of that pathway on use of Sunriver's pathways. Owners expressed concerns that the Sun-Lava pathway would attract road cyclists and other outsiders to come to Sunriver and ride on our pathways; that Sunriver's pathways were already overcrowded and that the Sun-Lava pathway would lead to more congestion on our pathways; that the cyclists coming to Sunriver from the Lava Lands Visitors Center would be high-speed bikers; and that the cyclists entering Sunriver's pathway system would ride their bicycles on Sunriver's roads rather than on the pathways.

Because owners and visitors can enter onto or exit from our pathways at many points along the 33 miles of pathway, SROA does not have any means of accurately counting the number of people who ride or walk on our pathways on any given day. Thus, it is difficult to say with certainty whether the Sun-Lava pathway has increased congestion on Sunriver's pathways. However, Sunriver has not experienced an increase of pathway complaints or police reports for the period of time since the Sun-Lava pathway has opened.

SROA's General Manager, Hugh Palcic, has consulted with Chief Mills of the Sunriver Police Department and Chief Hatch of Sunriver Fire & Rescue to find out whether their departments had observed adverse impacts from the opening of the Sun-Lava pathway. The Sunriver Police reported no negligible call activity or area impact attributable to this new pathway connection. The Sunriver Fire Department reported responding to three calls on this new pathway all relating to minor bicycle accidents.

In addition, the SROA Public Works Department placed a trail counter at the pathway intersection nearest Sunriver to record pathway usage. The counter has been in use for the past 240 days and has recorded an average 377 users per day. Our Public Works staff concludes that almost all usage recorded originates from - and returns to - Sunriver property. More simply, the new pathway has aided in "exporting" some of Sunriver's current pathway volume from Sunriver's 33 mile system.

In closing, it would appear that, to date, Sunriver has not observed any of the concerns originally raised by individuals prior to the installation of the pathway. At present, the Sun-Lava pathway links Sunriver to a singular destination (Lava Lands Visitor Center) which offers an extended amenity to those living and staying in Sunriver.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Patricia A. Hensley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping "P" and "H".

Patricia Hensley
SROA President