

For background on this issue, see <http://swtrails.org/right-of-way-on-sw-coronado/>

The web site link above contains the 17 month journey SWTrails has taken to get an encroachment removed from the Coronado Right of Way. Note that the last letter specifies that if we cannot justify a built trail in the right of way, the City of Portland will issue an encroachment permit to the landowner. There is no appeal process that we have been informed of to follow and there is no process to follow to grant what in effect is a de fact street vacation. The adjacent property owner does not even have to pay taxes on the additional property included in his fence.

The public should be able to use the rights of ways at any time without be obstructed.

If the property owner on the other side of the right of way chooses to follow the same course, the entire right of way will be fenced and there will no longer be public access to this right of way.

A similar situation exists along many other rights of way throughout the city where vegetation becomes the fence.

We need some way to maintain a walkable pathway along those rights of way that we choose to walk without having to fight the adjacent property owners vegetation.

Thanks for listening to this important issue. Please insert policy into the Comp Plan to prevent either of these situations from occurring.

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