

1 EXPEDITE
2 No Hearing Set
3 Hearing is set
4 Date:
5 Time:
6 Judge:

7 Calendar:

8 **IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON**
9 **IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF THURSTON**

10 SAVE THE DAVIS-MEEKER GARRY OAK,

11 Plaintiff,

12 vs.

13 DEBBIE SULLIVAN, in her capacity of Mayor of
14 Tumwater

15 Respondent.

16 Case No. 24-2-01895-34

17 DECLARATION OF STEWART
18 HARTMAN

19 I, STEWART HARTMAN, make the following declaration:

20 1. I have knowledge of the facts stated herein and am competent to testify.
21 2. I am a member of the group Save the Davis-Meeker Garry Oak. My occupation
22 for about 50 years was contract logging and forester. I have been a lifelong resident here in
23 Tumwater and the Olympia-area for 73 years. Also, my father Kenneth Howard Hartman's
24 mother, Etta Parsons, served terms as secretary of the Nisqually Indian Tribe. After she died, my
25 dad's sister, Eleanor Kover, became secretary of the tribe.

3. I have identified and cut down many danger trees in my life.

4. The loss of the Old Oak tree at Olympia Airport to me personally would be like
losing an old friend that I have known all my life. It is a landmark that has a lot of history that my
father's family were raised with over the years. Over the years, my family and I had meetings

DECLARATION OF STEWART HARTMAN - 1

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1 over many issues under the old Oak tree. It was a nice shady place to park and have conversations.
2 Land use issues were a big topic of our conversations there. I've worked on legislation for 45
3 years, including bills calling for the use of empirical science on land use issues. I worked on many
4 Tumwater land use issues as well.

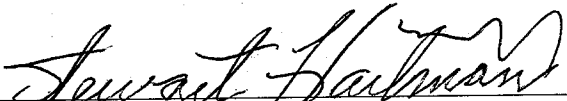
5 5. I remember my father and grandfather taking me to the tree when I was a boy--
6 they told me how it was used as a hanging tree. That's where the Oregon Trial came through that
7 ended by the brewery. We need to save the tree to teach younger people about history in our State
8 and City of Tumwater. We cannot lose more landmarks due to political reasons.

9 6. Also, based on my 50 years of experience evaluating danger trees, it is my opinion
10 that the Davis Meeker Oak is not a danger tree and does not need to be removed. It is still very
11 healthy. I recommend that decision-makers look to proof of a model that works. I suggest the
12 historic trees at the State capitol grounds that have braces. These trees will provide that model on
13 how to brace a danger tree if it needs to be braced.
14

15 7. As an aside, I'd like to give a little of my family history and connection to this
16 area. My father's grandfather was George Parsons, Sr. He owned the property known as
17 McAllister Springs in the Nisqually Valley. He donated the Springs to the City of Olympia in
18 1941 for its water supply. My sister has the original land donation deed. The political family, the
19 McAllisters, asked George Parsons to donate the property to Olympia in 1941.
20

21 I declare under the penalty of perjury of the laws of the State of Washington that the
22 foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.
23

24 EXECUTED this 27th day of May, 2024, at Tumwater, Washington.

25 
STEWART HARTMAN