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This letter is regarding the proposed classification and sale of Parcel No. 173-040-14. I received notification that this parcel is being considered for "Rural" classification and that the property is going to be sold. My residence is 64264 Mineral Drive which is located within a half mile of the property.

I oppose classifying the property as "Rural." The "Rural" classification is defined as "lands located in a remote area. This classification will have no restrictions." This area is not remote. There are at least two subdivisions surrounding this property. There is a state maintained road "Diamond Ridge" located beside the property. Diamond Ridge Road is an important transportation artery into and out of Homer.

I have lived here for almost twenty years and have observed the increased importance of Diamond Ridge Road especially during periods of disaster. For example, during tsunami warnings, there have been times when portions of the Sterling Highway were not accessible. Consequently, people traveled up to Diamond Ridge Road to vacate the lower areas around Homer. Also, Kachemak Emergency Services Area (KESA) has a station located on Diamond Ridge Road. Many of the volunteers live close to Homer and must have access to the station and its equipment in order to respond to disasters. Also, should the Sterling Highway be damaged, supplies coming into Homer via the road system will be impacted. The Diamond Ridge Road corridor is critical to keeping the flow of supplies available during these times.

This particular 2.05 acre parcel is located within the Diamond Creek Watershed. The terrain is steep and vulnerable to erosion. Should this property be developed, there is the likelihood of increased erosion and the potential for Diamond Ridge Road to be damaged and inaccessible. The integrity of Diamond Ridge Road must be maintained for the reasons mentioned above.

I support the classification of "Preservation" as this parcel is integral to the Diamond Creek Watershed and Diamond Ridge Road. Thoughtful preservation of this parcel will help to stabilize the road and maintain the natural surroundings of the area. This parcel is already at increased risk of erosion and further compromise will only make the situation more dangerous.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Patricia Cue