



City of Stevenson

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Letter from the Mayor:

While the recent incident at Granny's Gedunk was scary for those involved or who witnessed it and outrageous to those who didn't; the misinformation and outright vitriol posted on Facebook were equally incendiary. After meetings with Sheriff Dave Brown, the owners and managers of Granny's Gedunk, Prosecutor Adam Kick and Director of Skamania County Community Health Kirby Richards, I now have a better grasp of the facts of the incident. This was, without question, a case of a local business dealing with a troubled individual and bad neighbor. As a result of these discussions, measures are being pursued to remedy the situation to prevent future incidents. Yes, the implication of racially motivated components is not only abhorrent and disconcerting - it is unacceptable in our community. The City of Stevenson supports SCCH and the Sheriff's Department in all their front-line actions with our most vulnerable neighbors, making sure *everyone* receives their due process. Just as importantly, a conversation has started about how we deal with mental health crises in our community which can only lead to improved responses and handling of future encounters.

Many of us want to believe Stevenson is unaffected by current events taking place in cities around America, however this incident has proven we are. Let this be a call to each of us to be the best neighbors we can be, to support our local businesses and to always be a welcoming ambassador for Stevenson and Skamania County to all who come.

Scott Anderson

Mayor, City of Stevenson