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Ms. Krebs, I regret that I cannot be available on June 3 to comment at the hearing for the Shire. I hope this email finds you and can help in the decision-making process.

My name is Larry Stebbins, a retired teacher and public school administrator. After retirement, in 2008, I founded and ran Pikes Peak Urban Gardens, (PPUG), (2008-2019). This organization built community gardens in parks, schools and places of worship. In addition, we taught gardening classes to over 8,000. I mention this because PPUG no longer is operational. There is a void in the community, and it is amplified by Venetucci (the pumpkin farm) now operating with a limited venue.

The Shire is planning to step up to the plate and fill that void, by offering a farm-centered, destination for the young and old. Families can come and experience, first-hand, vegetable, herb and flower gardens. Classes will be offered so the visitors can take that knowledge and grow their own garden at home.

This outdoor experience is much needed in our area. The Phelan family is well known and respected in Colorado Springs. They have operated a successful garden nursery for decades and is well equipped to make the Shire equally as successful as their business.

It is without hesitation that I support this project. If I can be of any further assistance or if you have any questions. please feel free to call me