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214 East Fourth Street • La Center, WA 98629

February 25, 2014

Clark Board of County Commissioners
P.O. Box 9810,
1300 Franklin Street,
Vancouver, WA 98660-9810

Re: Comprehensive Plan – County-wide Employment Forecast

Dear Commissioners:

On behalf of the City of La Center, our staff and consultant have reviewed the County's employment forecast scenarios and we understand that staff recommends an "aggressive job growth rate scenario."

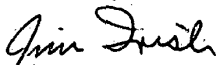
We have not had an opportunity to present the County's recent job growth scenarios to the Planning Commission or City Council in a public meeting. However, La Center has never wavered from its goal of creating a robust employment base in our downtown core and at the I-5 interchange.

With approximately 1.5% of the vacant and buildable commercial land and 1.4% of the vacant and buildable industrial land in Clark County, the City must take an aggressive posture to meet the employment goals established in the La Center Comprehensive Plan. Currently, our 48 net developable acres of commercial land can produce 952 jobs and our 49 net developable acres of industrial lands can produce 440 new jobs. We must do better. Consequently, La Center generally favors a more robust employment scenario.

At this preliminary stage, the City is willing to accept a higher employment forecast if there is a realistic opportunity for the City to slightly expand its UGA to accommodate the County's robust employment forecast.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,


Jim Irish, Mayor
City of La Center