



O'Donnell, Mary Beth

From: Carol Levanen <cnldental@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, July 19, 2014 3:03 PM
To: Mielke, Tom; Madore, David; Barnes, Ed; Carol Levanen; Susan Rasmussen; Leah Higgins; Rick Dunning; Rita Dietrich; Jerry Olson; Fred Pickering; Jim Malinowski; Frank White; Benjamin Moss; Lonnie Moss; Melinda Zamora; Nick Redinger; Curt Massie; Marcus Becker; Clark County Citizens United Inc.
Subject: BOCC Work Session - July 16, 2014

Dear Commissioners,

Clark County Citizens United, Inc. has reviewed information provided by staff and discussed during the Commissioner work session on July 16, 2014. This information is consistent with years of past staff activity that presents the commissioners with what staff believes should happen and justifies it with all sorts of supporting documents. Clark County's struggling economy is a result of past county policies that don't work. Why would the commissioners want to repeat those policies, or make very few changes to them, in the new updated Comprehensive Plan? The 2016 planning assumptions ignore reality while continuing to prevent the necessary growth that will provide the economic stimulus that allows our community to grow and prosper. What this county had before 1994 worked, and a robust economy was the result. The massive 1994 downzoning brought the economic viability, growth and expansion of the rural lands to a halt. The massive resource land designations brought the economic viability, growth and expansion of the resource lands to a halt, too. The GMA mandates that counties enhance the economy of the rural lands. That would indicate a major change needs to happen in the rural areas of Clark County. If this county is to become economically stable again, these inappropriate actions and consequences must be corrected and changed.

CCCU, Inc. is seeing the same old mantra, in this report to the commissioners. After all of the thousands of testimony documents, numerous court actions, real life experiences and cold hard facts and numbers, the staff is still coming up with the same recommendations, with very little change. The county's own documents clearly show the historic populations ratios between rural and urban to be consistently a 80/20 split, and yet the 90/10 split number remains. This would require stacking more people into apartments in the cities. That would stress existing infrastructure which would then require retrofitting or construction of new infrastructure, which the cities cannot afford. The population projections were reduced from 2004 in a cyclic recessionary time, despite testimony from the cities to do otherwise. The new population growth number of 136,000 is not consistent with the growing population of the county. Families grow exponentially. With eleven school districts graduating approximately 300 to 400 students a year, that growth number will easily be exceeded in less than ten years. Where will the newcomers go? Families are growing and this county is looking at two and one half people per household, which is a husband, wife and one half of a child. Is that realistic? Is it true that this county is only planning for 91,000 new jobs in the next 20 years? That's only 4,500 new jobs a year. Where are all of those graduates going to find work? Do the commissioners really believe that each household will only have one wage earner per household in the county, when the price of gas, land, homes, food, transportation and education are so expensive these days?

The commissioners are being brainwashed by smoke and mirrors information from staff and all the former years of a no growth agenda. Clark County Citizens United, Inc. cannot subscribe to any of the staff recommendations. We did not go to court to see the same old thing coming from staff and

the county, year after year. It's time for real change by the commissioners, if they are serious about having a sustainable and robust economy in Clark County, once again.

Sincerely,

Carol Levanen, Ex. Secretary
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