

O'Donnell, Mary Beth

CP16#0447

From: LaRocque, Linnea on behalf of Barnes, Ed
Sent: Monday, November 17, 2014 8:10 AM
To: Orjiako, Oliver
Cc: Tilton, Rebecca; O'Donnell, Mary Beth
Subject: "Defining Rural Character & Planning for Rural Lands" (For the record)

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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From: susan rasmussen [mailto:sprazz@outlook.com]
Sent: Friday, November 14, 2014 1:09 PM
To: Madore, David; Mielke, Tom; Barnes, Ed; Silliman, Peter; 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; Zachary McIsaac; cndental@yahoo.com; Clark County Citizens United Inc.
Subject: "Defining Rural Character & Planning for Rural Lands" (For the record)

1994, State of Washington, Dept. of Community, Trade and Economic Development, Growth Management Services; "A Rural Element Guide", "Defining Rural Character and Planning for Rural Lands."

believe that the Clark County planners could benefit from reading this document. Despite its age, some basic elements for guidance remain relevant today; importance of rural citizen participation in balancing rural needs and planning their future, and recognizing the existing rural conditions and trends in land use patterns and existing densities: "Fundamental to a successful outcome."

Pg. 5, "Initiate Community Visioning and Ongoing Citizen Participation. The importance of this step to overall program success cannot be underestimated. Citizen participation is necessary if the rural element is to address real community needs. The best source of information about rural community needs is the citizens who live and work in rural communities."

Pg.6, "Your Community's rural planning will also be more effective and focused when developed around a clear vision of the future. In other words, the citizens of your community need to define what they want and the purposes to be served by your community's rural areas. They also need to reach consensus about what qualities are most important to preserve and which should change."

"Inventory Existing Conditions, Trends and Resources. As with any planning effort, knowledge about existing conditions, trends, problems and opportunities is fundamental to a successful outcome. This information is in fact, the foundation on which future decisions will be made. Much of the information collected as a part of your land use inventory, capital facilities inventory and critical/resource lands inventories will be important in assessing alternatives for rural area land uses, patterns and services. Land use patterns, existing densities, the availability of various facilities, environmental constraints or hazards, wildlife habitats, vegetative cover, natural features, resources, roads and other infrastructure will affect the choices you make for the future of your rural areas. Information about soils and their ability to support resource uses will be important information in rural area planning."

Pg. 7, "Prime soils should perhaps be set aside for agricultural operations whether large operations or smaller intensive specialty farming."

Pg. 8, "Citizens can express values and goals at public meetings, through attitude surveys and by other means, these expressions need to be captured into a set of clear statements which are specific enough to provide guidance."

Pg. 9, "The Optimal Patterns for Rural Development" section describes a number of different development patterns you may wish to incorporate into your alternatives."

Pg. 9, "Select the Preferred Alternative. After public review and comment of the alternatives, refine the preferred rural area policy and strategy. Again, it should include an implementation strategy which incorporates and addresses comments and concerns expressed at public meetings."

Pg. 42, "Inventory local character. Because of this diversity, the first step in defining rural character for a given community is to inventory features of that local character. Typical land use patterns, building architectural features and distinctive natural features should be inventoried."

"Define what the community values. A more difficult task is to define specifically which elements of the community's rural character are most valued by the community."

Pg. 46, "Use more flexible performance-based regulatory techniques to match rural needs. Hardin County, Kentucky, has received national recognition for its innovative program for guiding development. Their planning commission set out to "devise a set of land use controls appropriate for a rural community, where the development pace is relatively modest, the developers are mostly from the community, and values and goals are distinctly different from those in urban areas." The resulting system is more palatable for rural residents than a more rigid zoning system. Because it is well matched to the community's needs, it has helped to build a supportive constituency for planning."

Pg. 50, "Recommendations for Setting Rural Densities:"

"Choose densities which can be supported by a rural level of services. "

"Perhaps the best yardstick for appropriate densities for these types of rural development is to consider the traditional densities within small towns within your county."

Sent from Windows Mail

From: cnldental@yahoo.com

Sent: Friday, November 14, 2014 10:54 AM

To: david.madore@clark.wa.gov, tom.mielke@clark.wa.gov, ed.barnes@clark.wa.gov, [Silliman Peter](#), [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](#), [Zachary McIsaac](#), cnldental@yahoo.com, [Clark County Citizens United Inc.](#)

Dear Commissioners,

As CCCU researches rural economics and planning, we have come upon interesting publications. Board member, Frank White, passed on a book written by Columnist, investigative journalist and novelist, Elizabeth Nickson. She has been a national columnist for Canada's *Globe and Mail* and *National Post*. She was European bureau chief of *Life Magazine* and a reporter for *Time magazine*, and has written for many international publications, including the *Sunday Times Magazine* (London), the *Gaurdian*, *Tatler*, *Vogue*, and *Harper's magazine*. She lives on Salt Spring Island in Washington state, in the Pacific Northwest.

The documentary book regarding the environmental movement and rural economies is called, *Eco-Fascists*, and should be read by every local government head. She apologizes for the brash name, but she wanted the reader to understand the impact of what she is reporting. She particularly discusses her attempt at using Transfer of Development Rights, on her 28 acres in Washington state. The information is an eye opener and clearly demonstrates why this development concept doesn't work.

She discusses the U.S. and International organizations involved in the environmental lock up of rural lands and rural economies, as she travels across the nation and locally. She goes to the communities to see first hand, the economic devastation that has occurred in rural communities, in the name of environmental protection. I have highlighted important passages and would be happy (and Frank) to share this book, to educate you over the destruction of the rural lands via environmental and over regulation on the local level.

My thoughts go to the international trend. What better way to destroy a nation and get control of it, but to highly restrict the economic viability of that nation. In one chapter she discusses in her research, that when many rural communities go down, meth takes over in that community. What better way to destroy some of our best fighting and patriotic young men, than to impoverish them and then addict them to a drug that destroys them forever. When you destroy the economy, it's people, control the land, and impoverish communities, it's just a few steps more and a whole country can be taken over, with nary a shot fired.

What is done locally, has a major effect, nationally. For the love of a free nation, we all have a responsibility to prevent the loss of our country, at all costs.

Sincerely,

Carol Levanen, Ex. Secretary
Clark County Citizens United, Inc.
P.O. Box 2188
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