



CP16#0679

March 26, 2015

Present: Councilor Jeanne E. Stewart, Gretchen Starke, Stacey Righter, Sydney Reisbick, Bianca Benson Anne Lawrence, Warren Neth, Richard Dyrland, Heather Tishbein, Val Alexander

**Introductions:**

- Heather Tischbein, Former Yacolt / North County resident, Clark Farm Forestry Association: Heather referred to the group as an ad-hock coalition of groups in Clark County with concerns and interest in growth management and interest in Alternate 4 in its current form. Range of concerns include tax implications of Alt 4; water availability – access – recharge; GMA process being adhered to correctly and the new charter separation of power stipulations being appropriately being adhered to, whose voice is being considered for speaking, concern of quality of life, and what the true facts are.
- Bianca Benson, Executive Director of Friends of Clark County / La Center resident: She spoke about the makeup of Friends of Clark County.
- Val Alexander, Board member of Friends of Clark County, farm owner in La Center, stated she was fine with anyone in the room speaking on her behalf. Councilor Stewart stated for the record Val Alexander would be submitting written documents as well.
- Anne Lawrence, a Board member of the Clark-Cowlitz Farm Bureau, Owner of Storytree Farms and a Founding member of the Food Systems Council said she was concerned about how the proposed Alternative 4 of the Comprehensive Grown Management Plan update may take valuable farm land out of production and referenced a document they produced while serving on the Agriculture Preservation Advisory Council.
- Stacey Righter, North County Farm person, Secretary of the Clark-Cowlitz Farm Bureau, Second Vice President for the Washington State Young Farmers and Ranchers Board, associated with Dobbins farms.
- Richard Dyrland, Semi- retired, hydrologist, Board of Directors for Friends of the East Fork Lewis River, Fish First, and Friends of Clark County.
- Warren Neth, Slow Food SWWA Chapter Chair, Clark County Food Systems, 5<sup>th</sup> Generation farm resident in Ridgefield speaking on rural character.
- Gretchen Starke, Conservation Chair, Vancouver Audubon, Board member of Friends of Clark County, Clark County resident for 40 years speaking on habitat and endangered species.
- Sydney Reisbick, President of Friends of Clark County, resident 1974, speaking on financial issues on Alterative 4.

Dyrland spoke about surface and ground water and spoke about water concerns in relation to the recharge rate. Reisbick also joined the discussion stating her concerns of loss of water. Alexander stated she has already lost one well due to development. Righter also spoke about water issues.

Reisbick stated that water from Clark Public Utilities has chlorine and other things in it not beneficial / friendly to plants. Tischbein inquired about these issues at the open house and county staff responded the issues were not being looked at regarding alternative 4 but suggested the Department of Ecology should monitor it. Further discussion ensued about water impacts regarding Alternative 4.

Starke spoke about surface and ground water in relation to endangered species.

Tischbein spoke about her concerns with the Councilors in them acting for the common good for the taxpayers in representing all citizens.

Lawrence spoke about her concerns with her interactions with Councilor Madore. She states she feels like he isn't really listening. She also spoke about the Agriculture Preservation Advisory Council. She stated the group's preference is Alternative 1.

Neth stated he feels Alternative 4 is bucking the trend of the planning they have been doing over 20 years.

Stewart spoke about notes she took at the Alternative 4 work session. She spoke about the cities deadlines.

Starke spoke about the capital facilities plans.

Stewart thanked the group for coming and participating. She inquired about suggestions / preference of the current alternatives.

Tischbein stated Alternative 1 allows for more conversations on the bigger picture.

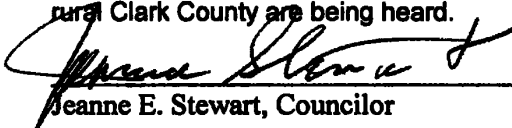
Benson spoke about the forest and AG parcels in relation to tax breaks.

Stewart stated she thinks Alternative 1 is just a way to stop the process. She stated she would like to find a responsible balance and not sure she has seen that alternative yet. She said she would be responsible but fair.

Starke spoke about the balance. She spoke about the members of Clark County Citizens United. She spoke about the Critical Areas Ordinance. She stated compromise is great as long as we keep the values of Clark County.

Neth spoke further about the members of Clark County Citizens United and spoke about his concerns with Alternative 4 in regards to AG lands.

Righter spoke further about the members of Clark County Citizens United. She also stated her concerns with alternative 4 in regards to AG lands. She stated she didn't think the true voices of rural Clark County are being heard.

  
Jeanne E. Stewart, Councilor

3-26-15  
Date