

Letter: Rural owners respect value of land

Published: April 26, 2015, 6:00 AM

0



CP16#0724

I have lived in rural Clark County for more than 50 years, and am chair of our neighborhood association. I am pleased that The Columbian editors finally addressed the impending disaster with the Comprehensive Growth Management Plan update in their April 19 editorial, "[A myopic view of land rules: Alternative 4 would open floodgates to unhealthy suburban sprawl](http://www.columbian.com/news/2015/apr/19/a-myopic-view-of-land-rules/) (<http://www.columbian.com/news/2015/apr/19/a-myopic-view-of-land-rules/>)."



As a founding board member of Friends of Clark County, I have been involved in protecting rural lands since the 1980s as I saw properties surrounding me being split into 5-acre lots. One of my wells dried up as houses were built nearby.

I take issue with one part of the editorial in referring to Alternative 4 and stating that, "Madore is not alone in his support for the proposal. Clark County Citizens United, which represents rural landowners, has long fought the Growth Management Act as a matter of intrusion upon people's right to manage their land as they wish." Most rural landowners have never heard of that group, although they claim to represent 6,000 rural residents. Along with other stretches of the truth, this group only represents a handful of residents who want to divide their properties, mostly for financial gain.

Friends of Clark County works with farmers, local food advocates and rural people who prize quality of life over using property as income.

Valerie Alexander

La Center



[Community guidelines \(/guidelines/\)](#)

