

Schroader, Kathy

From: Tilton, Rebecca
Sent: Monday, June 29, 2015 11:38 AM
To: Silliman, Peter; Orjiako, Oliver; Schroader, Kathy
Subject: June 23 Comp Plan Comments (Carol Levanen)
Attachments: 062315 Levanen Letter.pdf

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Hello,

The attached comments were read into the record during the public comment portion of the June 23 BOCC hearing. Copies were provided to the Board then.

Thanks!

Rebecca



C'd - Bacc; Silliman
Orliako
~~Orliako~~
Kathy Schroader

Ceboc
6-23-15

Clark County Board of Councilors
P.O. Box 5000
Vancouver, Washington 98666

June 23, 2015

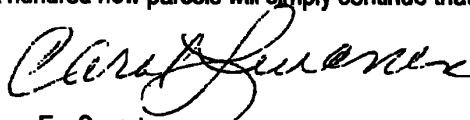
Re: Infrastructure, in the rural areas according to Battle Ground, In and Around

Ridgefield Manager, Steve Stewart bemoans the addition of 600 new lots created by Alternative 4, because he claims it will force the city to pay the cost of providing new infrastructure to those parcels. Many of the cities are making the same claim. It is most likely the lots will be developed over time, and not all at once, which is happening today. But, it is more likely that, under the current development system, it will be the landowners, and not the cities that will be providing the infrastructures and services, just as it has always been.

The historical pictorial book, *Battle Ground, In and Around*, by *Louise K. Allworth*, who comes from one historical family, gives an accounting as to who it was that installed infrastructure, in the first place, and it wasn't the cities. When the county was developed, it was landowners who pooled their resources, labor, time and money to provide the buildings, businesses, roads and service, rail lines and service, telephone lines and service, and electrical lines and service in the communities, that resulted in jobs. It says very little regarding cities providing these services to the communities. And the same is true today. In the past, when they needed rail service, the neighbors gathered together and volunteered to dig the passages, make the supports, forge the rails and install the system. The same is true for the road systems. When telephone service stopped in Vancouver, the rural people, cut trees, installed lines and provided the service throughout the rest of the county, to provide communication with their neighbors and the outside world. The same is true for the electrical systems. Those systems remain on the grids today. These people received no compensation from the cities, for all of their hard work and financial resources, who were most certainly beneficiaries to their existence. Perhaps it is time the cities pay these people back.

As one reads the book, the historical names pop up over and over again. Grandfathers, grandmothers, fathers, mothers and children are the same family names today. They took care of one another and provided all of the services they needed to live and survive. They didn't ask government to do it for them. They did it themselves. Clark County owes a debt of gratitude to these hard working men and women, who literally carved out economic prosperity for Clark County. Six hundred new parcels will simply continue that trend.

Sincerely,



Carol Levanen, Ex. Secretary
Clark County Citizens United, Inc.
P.O. Box 2188
Battle Ground, Washington 98604