

Schroader, Kathy



From: Orjiako, Oliver
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2015 9:19 AM
To: Euler, Gordon; Alvarez, Jose, Anderson, Colete
Cc: Schroader, Kathy
Subject: FW: Please print this testimony for me my printer won't print again I just had it fixed and it worked fine . but not now Thanks!

FYI and for the record please Thanks

From: Carol Levanen [<mailto:cnldental@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Monday, October 19, 2015 11:54 PM
To: Stewart, Jeanne; Mielke, Tom; Madore, David; Orjiako, Oliver
Subject: Please print this testimony for me.....my printer won't print again.....I just had it fixed and it worked fine.....but not now. Thanks!

Housing shortage for homeowners in Clark County - For the public record and the Comprehensive Plan 2016 update

Dear Councilors,

CCCU is waiting for a report from Bill Hesler, a farrier, who shoes horses. He discussed with CCCU the difficulty he had in finding affordable housing. He works in the rural areas where there are horses, but the only affordable home he could buy is on a 5,000 square foot lot, in the city of Vancouver, far from his workplace. He said he will compose information for testimony. His complaint was that living in that house was like living in an apartment. His lot is very small, the house is close to the road and close to the house across the street. He has no privacy. The lot is too small for car parking, so he has to park his truck and farrier trailer on the narrow street. There is no place for his children to play in the yard, so they are compelled to play in the streets. He said he can appreciate that it is a cul-de-sac street, so there is no through traffic, but he still worries about the safety of the children. He complained he can reach out and touch the neighboring home and the back yard is so small, he is lucky to have a patio. He said the home was not cheap, but he hates living there. He has to drive long distances to serve his clients. He wants to live on a lot with some space and in an area where he works. That would mean the rural area, but there was nothing available that he could afford. He hopes that changes will be made to the Comprehensive Plan to allow for people like him to find housing in places they want to live and work.

Clark County is not adequately meeting the sustainability of lots necessary to meet the housing needs of the rural and resource population who are born there. The result is a forced migration of those people, into urban areas where they do not want to live. Agenda 21 is an implementation action plan of the United Nations with regard to sustainable development. It is a product of the Earth Summit of 1992. It is a 700 page document divided into four chapters that have been grouped into four sections: Sec I - Social Economic Dimensions, Sec II - Conservation and Management of Resources for development, Sec III - Strengthening the role of major groups, Sec IV - Means of Implementation. Local Agenda 21 is the application of the document on a local level, and can be found in Chapter 28 of the document. Portland, Oregon and Seattle, Washington have adopted Agenda 21 policies. Clark County, Washington has not. In this document, the human is being replaced by the environment. This is touted as sustainable planning. The United States Constitution does not allow for such planning, nor does the Growth Management Act. The act states the rural areas are to have a variety of housing and affordable housing, neither of which is being provided for in the rural and resource areas of Clark County, in the existing Comprehensive Plan. This lack of sustainable affordable, available housing in these areas is causing a personal and financial hardship for the citizens of the whole county. To meet the GMA mandates, the councilors would be wise to assure that such housing choices are available in the rural and resource areas of the county, in the 2016 Comprehensive Plan update. Perhaps then Mr. Hesler will be able to provide his services in an efficient and economical way, that benefits everyone.

Sincerely,

Carol Levanen, Ex Secretary
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