

Schroader, Kathy



From: Orjiako, Oliver
Sent: Monday, November 09, 2015 10 22 AM
To: Euler, Gordon, Alvarez, Jose, Anderson, Colete, Albrecht, Gary, Hermen, Matt, Kamp, Jacqueline; Lebowsky, Laurie; Lumbantobing, Sharon
Cc: Schroader, Kathy
Subject: FW Ensure a Balance of Opportunities

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

FYI and for the record Thanks

From: susan rasmussen [mailto:sprazz@outlook.com]
Sent: Friday, November 06, 2015 2:34 PM
To: Stewart, Jeanne; Mielke, Tom; Madore, David
Cc: Orjiako, Oliver
Subject: Ensure a Balance of Opportunities

For the public record of the 2016 Comprehensive Plan Update

Dear Councilors,

The process Clark County has historically used, stemming from the 1994 Comp. Plan to the present update, demands breathtaking leaps of faith and complete trust. The BOCC is investing all trust with the planners, the technicians, to make correct and logical 20-year projections. The technicians also must undertake intricate calculations for populations, jobs, household sizes, development densities, urban/rural ratios, assumptions, development market behavior, etc.

The Clark County technicians are highly capable, influential, and powerful. There is a science to the process that must be used for proper guidance towards accurate projections. The guidance is written in the GMA. This guidance ensures a ***balance of opportunities exists to be equally allocated amongst the jurisdictions, including the rural communities.***

The cities have been continually regarded as the county's sole partner in any collaborative process. This was very evident during the public hearing before the Planning Commission last month. Not only did Gordy Euler refer to the cities as, "our partner," the meeting was void a spokesperson to address rural concerns. The rural communities weren't allowed an advocate like each city enjoyed. The rural communities were denied equal standing at this hearing....we were denied standing.

The rural citizens were segregated and went unrecognized....once again.

Employing no responsible oversight further exacerbates a mounting problem for the rural areas. Is it any wonder the county Comp. Plans continually advance the agendas of the cities? This cozy partnership, now over 20 years old, has locked up and secured economic and social vitality for the cities. It shouldn't be this way. The trust placed in the technicians has proven to be unwarranted.

Without rural advocacy, the future designs of the rural lands and the citizens, are improperly influenced and reliant on whatever show of mercy the cities deem necessary. This is unjust. ***The***

result is a completely senseless plan that has altered the course of the county's unique rural character and rural culture for 20 years.

This is a functional issue that has wide-reaching and problematic consequences for all rural citizens, and legacy generations. This flawed process has the ability to concentrate wealth and social opportunities in the urban areas. This chokes off economic and social opportunities for the rural communities ...all quality of life issues. ***This is not what GMA intends for rural citizens. Like our forefathers, it is time to throw tea in the Columbia River.***

Thank you for considering my message,
Susan Rasmussen for
Clark County Citizens United, Inc.