

Rec'd 11/10/15
cc'd - BOCC
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November 10, 2015



Clark County board of Councilors
Clark County Planning
Fellow Taxpayers,

Twice a year, for the last 50 years since I moved to rural Clark County, I have to save and pull together just about every available dollar in my budget to pay my property taxes. Sometimes I've had to thin some timber on my property to accomplish this, never clear cutting.

I have managed to do that, unlike councilor Mielke, who has failed to pay his property taxes on-time twice that I know of and his income is more than twice what I make.

There are three Republicans on county council, several in county offices like Environmental Services and the tax assessor. I thought Republicans were supposed to be worried about our taxes and keep our public expenditures at a minimum. I see none of that in the present council and other offices run by people who claim to be conservatives.

Yesterday, in the work session regarding Chairman Madore's changes to the comp plan and population estimates, some people referred to the poor, rural residents who cannot subdivide their property and sell it off at a huge profit. Clark County Citizens United continually claims to represent 6000 rural residents. That is an outright lie, as are many of their statements that have been entered into the record and convinced Mr. Madore to side with them. We property owners will be paying for this huge boondoggle that will run the county budget into the ground as well as the county employees who are valiantly trying to keep up with his continually changing plans.

I want you to know that I have lived here before any of the current regulations were put in place, and watched as all of the property around me was subdivided into 5 acre lots. My well at the north end went dry, and now, almost every well around me has problems and this last summer went dry.

I don't know of anyone around me who wants to subdivide their property. I know a great many landowners, and am the chair of our neighborhood assn. Most are opposed to any more subdividing, and object to our tax dollars being squandered for the benefit of a few greedy landowners. Most have never heard of Clark County Citizens United. Already the poor staff in the planning department have asked for \$300,000 more in the budget, and I know there will be much more to pay for, in the millions, for the legal defense for the unlawful plan that has been developed and the associated costs that will go with it, not to mention the degradation of habitat, ground water supplies and quality, infrastructure, schools, emergency services and a rural lifestyle that most of us cherish and pay dearly for.

The GMA addresses property rights:

RCW 36.70A.020(6)

“Private property shall not be taken for public use without just compensation having been made.

The property rights of landowners shall be protected from arbitrary and discriminatory actions.”

During the adoption of the comp. plan for the county, no property has been taken from any landowners. They can still sell their property, but not at the inflated rates by subdividing. Nothing in that act or the US Constitution guarantees that landowners can make a profit off of their property.

As a taxpayer of Clark County, I ask you to protect my rights by avoiding unnecessary expenditures by taking these foolish actions. As a rural resident, I object to being included in a group that simply wants to subdivide parcels for profit.

Schroader, Kathy

From: Tilton, Rebecca
Sent: Wednesday, November 18, 2015 11:17 AM
To: Orjiako, Oliver, Schroader, Kathy
Subject: Comp Plan Comments
Attachments: Cornelsen_JoLyn_11-10-15 Comp Plan Comments pdf, Alexander_Valerie_11-10-15 Comp Plan Comments pdf, Levanen_Carol_11-17-15 Comp Plan Comments pdf

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Flag Status: Flagged

Hello,

Attached here for your records are comments re the Comp Plan Update, received at the board's hearings of 11-10 & 11-17 during the public comment portion of the agenda.

Thank you!

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