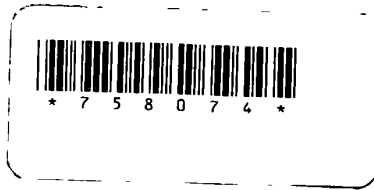


susan rasmussen  
to sprazz@outlook.com



Tue, Jan 26 9:15 AM

Fw: testimony 1/26/2016

At the heart of the contention on this comp plan standoff is the clash between strict regulations over private property rights, a general disrespect of rural culture and economy, and the assumed powers of Clark County staff.

I truly lament the fact that we have to be here week after week to shed light on the rural perspective. But, it has taken extraordinary measures to get a rural alternative plan realized. Over 2 years ago, CCCU began having work sessions with the planners to ensure that rural issues would get recognized during this update. After all, they should be our partners, encouraging innovation, a vital rural economy, and it's been 2 decades now. Not so, we are continually met with disdain and unresponsiveness.

After spending over \$260,000 in prevailing court actions; CCCU's membership has still not seen justice from the county. Dr. Orjiako, and Chris Cook's endorsement of compliance to our court action is misleading and appalling. Dr. Orjiako told Carol Levanen to hold off our compliance issues during the last update because the county wasn't going to address rural at that time. In good faith, we waited. We now realize, that request was a ploy with no basis in fact. It was intentional to run out the clock on the remaining outstanding compliance issues. The Compliance court report states there are outstanding issues remaining. Judge Poyfair, last October, stated that he is puzzled why our case never returned to his court to insure compliance to his orders. Rural landowners still haven't seen justice.

CCCU's membership rightfully feels that our rights were violated by the local government entity that is supposed to uphold individual and property rights. Is it any wonder that CCCU is repeatedly appealing directly to this Board to set things right, to work towards a good balanced plan inclusive of all citizens?

Since 1994, counties across the state have moved towards friendlier land use provisions, private property rights, diversity and a respect for cultural differences. Three counties have forest 10 zones, including our neighbor, Skamania. 21 years have passed. The state Dept. of Revenue now recognizes 5 acres of trees and a management plan to enable citizens to make use of the forest current use taxation program. Clark County agriculture is dominated by small to very small 2.5 and 5 acres. We are first in the state in the horse populations. Many changes have occurred to county rural and resource lands the past 21 years. Those changes are well documented in the 1950, 2012 USDA Ag. Census, BERK Study 2012, Globalwise Report, and the Rural Lands Task Force Recommendations, 2008. They all support the basis in the rural Alternative 4 plan.

The preferred alternative is a great example of an inclusive plan. Here is your chance, as the policy makers, to enact assumptions and new policies that would affect positive change for your rural constituents. The planners have demonstrated to disadvantage rural concerns at every opportunity. Do not allow staff to direct your policy choices and undercut the preferred

*alternative plan.*

027115

## Schroader, Kathy

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**From:** Tilton, Rebecca  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 27, 2016 11:43 AM  
**To:** Orjiako, Oliver, Schroader, Kathy  
**Subject:** Comp Plan Comments from 01/05/16 (Levanen & Rasmussen)  
**Attachments:** Rasmussen\_Susan\_012616CompPlanComments.pdf, Levanen\_Carol\_012616CompPlanComments.pdf

Hello,

For your records, please see the attached written testimony from Carol Levanen and Susan Rasmussen (received during public comment on Jan 26, 2016).

Thank you,  
Rebecca

Rebecca Tilton, Clerk of the Council  
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