

**Schroader, Kathy**

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**From:** susan rasmussen <sprazz@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 11, 2016 6:40 PM  
**To:** Cnty 2016 Comp Plan  
**Subject:** FW: Testimony 3/22/2016

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**From:** susan rasmussen  
**Sent:** Monday, March 21, 2016 11:23 PM  
**To:** susan rasmussen  
**Subject:** Testimony 3/22/2016

The GMA has 14 goals all listed in the law. They are supposed to be all weighed equally in the county's comprehensive plan. Clark County has an entire chapter on the environment. The Goals for private property rights, and affordable housing get a mere glance. Inclusivity in the county's public process isn't mentioned.

As the lawfully elected Board of Councilors, you are tasked with balancing the 14 goals along with spelling out local policies. You are entrusted with handling the overall approach to the growth plan. Local jurisdictions are granted much leeway in how they pursue all the goals and policy provisions for all economic development and housing, both urban and rural. You are entrusted with enhancing all economic prosperity, and quality of life issues as defined by local residents and historical circumstances, both for urban and rural communities. How will Clark County provide more jobs and accommodate an appropriate ratio of population growth for both segments? Is the intention that people will live and work only within the confines of the UGA? Is that realistic? Does that accurately reflect the desires of the citizens?

Affordable housing is another goal barely given a mention in the county's plan. The GMA actually says to encourage availability of affordable housing to all economic sectors of the population. The law also says to promote a variety of residential densities and housing types. This includes the ability to live a rural lifestyle. The Draft SEIS is void of comments on basic affordability, and available land that citizens can afford. This is already impacting the housing market for homebuyers in all incomes. Housing affordability should be an official concern and needs to be met square on. How does enabling a no-growth agenda advance good public policy here and the affordable housing goal of the GMA Law?

Public Participation is another goal. Input from the communities that are most impacted by your planning policies should grab your attention and have a bearing on your policy directions. Inclusionary practices incorporating the desires of the rural land owners should be required, if nothing else, to be GMA compliant and to appear politically correct. There is general lethargy and no demonstration of respect regarding rural cultural practices in Clark County's development of land use policies. The cities shouldn't be considered the only partners here.

Rural Centers help to protect rural lifestyles, support rural economies, and provide services. Clark County has restricted these areas to what they were decades ago. They haven't been allowed to grow. They are supposed to contain a good deal of variety of densities. Is advancing a no-growth agenda the best public policy way to go? I ask you to examine the difficulties that Daybreak Youth Services experienced in citing their 40-bed facility at Brush Prairie. I also ask you to examine the Summary of Planning Assumptions as defined in Draft SEIS August 2015, Jobs to household ratio is 1 new job for every 1 new dwelling unit. This new facility is proposed to have 60 employees. Where will they live? The GMA says to provide opportunities to both live and work in the rural areas. Without housing for the 60 employees, how is the citing of this much-needed facility GMA compliant?

Without doubt, property rights have been under fire. Nothing in the GMA suggests that concerns for the greater good (environmental) should override property rights. In fact, state law says just the opposite. Property rights must be given the same protections and considerations as the environment. I ask that you incorporate intentional language that states, "Property rights are an important issue in Clark County. People need opportunities to use their land as they wish as long as it doesn't conflict with the rights of others."

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