



From: susan rasmussen
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2016 9:32 AM
To: susan rasmussen
Subject: Testimony 6/21/16 FOR THE PUBLIC RECORD OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

On July 15, 2015, the Board of Councilors rejected adoption of the Growing Healthier, Aging Readiness Reports, and the mechanism planning staff proposed in amending the county comprehensive plan. ^{policies} The entire Board of Councilors rejected adoption. Furthermore, planning staff were clearly directed not to present these items before the Planning Commission during a work session the following day. Councilor Stewart was most clear in her direction to staff, adding that the proposals resemble st the latest fad from a planning school.

The Clark County Food Systems Council, under the guidance of the planning and Public Health departments, has been busy working behind the scenes. A campaign was designed to lobby the county legislative body for specific land use zoning issues. The campaign's central agenda supports, defends, and even expands upon the "unauthorized formula." There are recommendations for agriculture production districts. The zoning district (or overlays) will not require pertinent physical qualities and capabilities such as the inclusion of prime agricultural or forestry soils.

These reports, the committees, the sponsoring agencies, and the funding all need to be scrutinized. I ask this Board to examine the true motives, and the depth of involvement by the planning and health departments for funding the campaign. It is really alarming that these county agencies have ventured outside the standard process, and apparently come up with their own planning solutions.

These engineered reports have somehow been blessed by a Board of Councilors, been adopted as policy, and elevated in stature without benefit of public review. Their rank of importance is evident in the new policies woven throughout the two volumes of data for this comprehensive plan update

yet,

You as a Board voted not to adopt. Maybe because of politics, I don't know, but all of you knew it was theoretical mumbojumbo. Back in June 2012, Chair Boldt and Commissioners Mielke and Steve Stuart did not approve the reports. July 15, 2015, the entire Board did not approve and gave directions to planning staff not to present them before the planning commission.

Staff assured the Board last July they would not present. That action should have ended the campaign. But it remains. My emails between Oliver and myself demonstrate the Board's action to not advance was ignored by staff and their goal of changing policy remained intact. The records form a complete picture of what happened and how the Board's authority was diminished. Somehow, staff were able to assume legislative authority.

There is now a question of whether the health and planning departments used federal funds to develop a lobbying campaign. To spend federal funds to campaign for new legislative rules should be very alarming to everyone. The Federal Anti-Lobbying Act prohibits spending federal funds to influence any government, unless Congress authorizes it