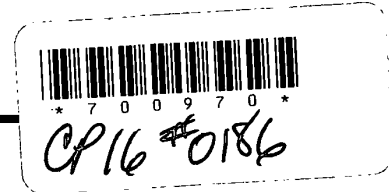


O'Donnell, Mary Beth



From: Carol Levanen <cnldental@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, July 21, 2014 8:13 PM
To: Madore, David; Mielke, Tom; Barnes, Ed; Carol Levanen; Susan Rasmussen; Leah Higgins; Rick Dunning; Rita Dietrich; Jerry Olson; Fred Pickering; Jim Malinowski; Frank White; Benjamin Moss; Lonnie Moss; Melinda Zamora; Nick Redinger; Curt Massie; Marcus Becker; Clark County Citizens United Inc.
Subject: Food Systems Council - for the record

Dear Commissioners,

Clark County Citizens United, Inc. continues to evaluate the information presented to the Board of Commissioners in a work session on July 16, 2014. On page 7 of those documents is referenced a September 25, 2013 BOCC Work Session - Direction to staff. Item three in that column states, "*Continue work with Food Systems Council on proposal for ag production district*". CCCU, Inc. is not familiar with this Council, so research was done to determine what role they play in the process of updating the Comprehensive Plan. The group is under the umbrella of the Clark County Board of Health, but their role is not what citizens would expect from that agency. It was determined that the majority of the members were supporters of the environmental community, Friends of Clark County, and Farmers Market in Vancouver. The county web site claims the members were from all walks of life in the county and community, but that was not the case. Their main focus seemed to be the Vancouver Farmers market and similar venues. With those interests, they have been working on how to preserve rural Clark County and prevent development and changes to the zoning of those lands.

CCCU, Inc. is not aware of any reference or language in the Growth Management Act that directs the county to use the Department of Health to determine what rural lands zoning will be in the Comprehensive Land Use Plan or how that department determines planning for infrastructure and growth in the urban areas. CCCU, Inc. is not aware of any rural residential landowner representation on this council to create a balance, if indeed the DOH is the appropriate tool for such planning. All of these persons were placed on this council by way of a request by the county for volunteers for the Department of Health Advisory Council. The general public was not aware of the completely different direction these appointees were pursuing.

All of us can subscribe to sustainable agriculture, local foods, food banks, farmers markets and the like. But, not at the expense of the rural landowner, who has been forced into incorrect large lot resource land zoning. Such zoning should not be in the hands of such a council, and Clark County Citizens United, Inc. cannot support their activities.

Sincerely,

Carol Levanen, Ex. Secretary
Clark County Citizens United, Inc.
P.O. Box 2188
Battle Ground, Washington 98604