

O'Donnell, Mary Beth



From: LaRocque, Linnea on behalf of Barnes, Ed
Sent: Wednesday, September 24, 2014 9:35 AM
To: Orjiako, Oliver
Cc: O'Donnell, Mary Beth; Tilton, Rebecca
Subject: September 23, 2014 Tuesday meeting with Commissioner Madore (This information to be placed in the public record)

for your files

Linnea LaRocque, Administrative Assistant
Clark County Board of Commissioners
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From: Carol Levanen [<mailto:cnldental@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, September 24, 2014 8:36 AM
To: Barnes, Ed; Madore, David; Mielke, Tom; Silliman, Peter; 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: September 23, 2014 Tuesday meeting with Commissioner Madore (This information to be placed in the public record)

Dear Commissioners,

Clark County Citizens United, Inc members, Susan Rasmussen and Carol Levanen, were shocked to see the resource maps that Planning staff presented to Commissioner Madore at a meeting on September 23, 2014. Those maps indicating supposed resource soils, consumed all of Clark County. It is most illogical that all of Clark County could be prime, or comparable, soil for agriculture, and at the same time, the same land is prime or comparable soils for forest. No other county in the state has such invasive maps. If in fact the maps are true, it begs the question as to why Clark County isn't the agriculture and forest capital of the state, and even the country. It isn't, because it doesn't. The GMA does not direct counties to assume and pretend that these near perfect conditions exist for resource lands, simply because someone places it on a map. It does say to preserve and protect only the significant economically productive resource land that would withstand long term commercial significance. In doing so, the county must use certain parameters and criteria. The purpose for doing so is to use these lands as an economic stimulus and aid for rural communities and the state. It clearly says that if the land is better suited for a different economic use, given certain conditions, it is more appropriate for that purpose. The recent inclusion of almost all of the Prime Class I Hillsboro Loam soil into the Vancouver urban growth boundary in 2007, was a clear example of that. If in fact, the county was determined to preserve prime resource soils, this inclusion would not have happened.

Clark County's compliance to the Growth Management Act needs to meet only the designated criteria set out by the Act. The legislature attempted to give definition to what that criteria is, in various definitions and language in the GMA. The act was not intended to punish the rural county populace. To go far beyond GMA requirements, is not only unfair to those people it affects, but it is also unjust.

Clark County Citizens United, Inc has indicated to the commissioners that Hillsboro Loan Class I Prime soils be preserved, but realize that is not possible, given the 2007 inclusion into the urban growth boundary. CCCU, Inc has then turned to other Class II soils that, although not as good, would be suitable for preservation and long term commercial significance. But, those soils do not include the whole Clark County landscape.

Clark County Citizens United, Inc asks the Board of Commissioners to reject the proposed resource maps submitted by planning staff on September 23, 2014, and ask planning staff to draft a more appropriate map that demonstrates a consideration and respect for the historically parcelized and developed rural lands, while being in compliance to the GMA.

Sincerely,

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