Madore planning proposal joins mix

Alternative 4 to be part of event on growth plan

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Columnist staff writer

Days after the fourth and final alternative to the county’s Comprehensive Growth Management Plan update was released, the public will have an opportunity to comment.

After two months of work, Alternative 4, written by Columbus City Councilor David Madore, was posted for the first time on the city’s website on Friday evening. Planning staff did not contribute to the creation of Alternative 4.

An alternative will be presented to the public at an open house at 5:30 p.m. today at Ridgefield High School. According to a county notice, at least two members of the council, as well as planning staff, will be available to answer questions.

County staff called Madore’s hand in writing the alternative unusual. Some community members have gone a step further, questioning whether the development of Alternative 4 is legal under the county’s home rule charter.

Alternative 4, which Madore has said is in response to the needs of rural landowners, would divide large rural, forest and agricultural lots into smaller parcels. The division, Madore said, would recognize existing parcels that have been in legal nonconformance since the adoption of the county’s first Comprehensive Management Plan in 1994.

“If you look at it, we finally have a chance to fix the inappropriate zoning in this county and make life better for rural landowners,” Madore posted on his Facebook page.

County staff will post a response to multiple requests from The Columbian for comment.

County staff, including Acting County Manager Mark McCauley and Community Planning Director Oliver Orjiala, said it is

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Public Meeting

- What: Open house, where Clark County councilors and planning staff will post a summary of the Comprehensive Growth Management Plan update.
- When: 5:30 p.m. today.
- Where: Ridgefield High School, 2724 S. Hilgard Road, Ridgefield.
- On the Web: www.clarkwa.gov/thegrid