

**O'Donnell, Mary Beth**



OP16#0630

**From:** Ann Foster <annfoster5093@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 08, 2015 1:53 PM  
**To:** Cnty 2016 Comp Plan; Cnty Board of County Councilors General Delivery  
**Subject:** Comp Plan Comment

It is my opinion, and shared with a growing number of concerned citizens, that this "Alternative 4", currently being considered, is the creation of an inexperienced policy analyst (a member of the Councilors' staff), at the direction of a County Councilor; and it came to be only as a result of Councilors' relationship with Clark County Citizens United, a special interest group. It needs to be noted that CCCU alleges representation of "6,000" (sometimes 8,000) rural landowners in Clark County, although absolutely no documentation exists for this number to be verified.

CCCU does not represent all rural landowners but is receiving special treatment. This was unethical, and perhaps illegally, reinforced by that fact that CCCU was the only special interest group invited to the work session held on March 11, 2015, where CCCU was supposed to be representing rural land-owners. This action in itself flies in the face of a goal of the Growth Management Act, "Citizen participation and coordination. Encourage the involvement of citizens in the planning process and ensure coordination between communities and jurisdictions to reconcile conflicts" (Goal #11).

Other community groups, such as the Clark/Cowlitz Farm Bureau, Friends of Clark County, Friends of East Fork, Clark County Food System Council or any number of rural neighborhood associations - of which none were invited to the table at a particular, well-attended and very public work session (March 11) - .have not received the attention or the ear of the majority of the current County Councilors, and, in fact, conversations have been denied ..... conversations, for example, regarding TDR's. TDR's have been suggested and encouraged by no fewer than three community groups for the last 20 years. Absolutely no consideration has been given to this program.

This is but one issue surrounding the development of Alternative 4 as an update to the Comprehensive Growth Plan. There are numerous violations that would be created by the acceptance of this alternative: suburban sprawl, critical depletion of ground water, reduced surface water available in rural areas, loss of productive ag land, potential infrastructure failures, increase in property taxes - and more.

It is obvious that all continuing efforts to pursue Alternative 4 is an investment of taxpayer money on something that should never come to be, and, at worst, will result in sizeable lawsuits. This is an irresponsible or even unethical use of tax money.

Regards,  
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