Hello,

The attached comments were submitted during the public comment portion of the Sept. 15 BOCC Hearing.

Thanks,
Rebecca

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Growth does not support itself. 
Rate-payers subsidize development. 
Alternative 1 is more frugal than Alternatives 2 or 4

EXAMPLE

The Cost of extending the sewer from Ridgefield to Salmon Creek Treatment plant. (This is based on my own bill from Clark Regional Wastewater District)

Each household with a sewer hook-up in the Ridgefield Urban Growth Boundary pays a new charge to Clark Regional Wastewater District for the extension, which increases our bill about 50.8% from the base charge.

$37.00  Monthly Base Service Charge
$18.80  System Integration/Extension Charge

18.80 divided by 37.00 is .508, which is a 50.8% increase over the base service charge. Thus we pay about a 50.8% increase in our sewer bill to support development.

This 50.8 percent increase is for every sewer hook-up in the Ridgefield growth boundary. This is for homeowners of every income level except for low-income seniors. The 50.8 increase includes seniors on medium low fixed incomes trying to shelter in place for their last years. It includes families of every income level with two jobs to support a house, families with children and/or a parent to support and people trying to launch a business.

This 50.8% increase will decrease as new connections are made to the new sewer line. However, the amount paid before the system is paid off will not be returned to the ratepayers.

We also pay a City Operating Charge that goes to the City of Ridgefield. This charge does not go down as new people come on line, but is not directly for expanding the line, so I have not included it.

Costs to the rate-payers and bond-payers for basic capital facilities will go up the more sprawl occurs. Thus, Alternative 1 will be more frugal than Alternative 2, which will in turn be more frugal than Alternative 4.