

Rec'd From Carol Levanen 10/27/15

Carol L.

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Clark County Board of Councilors
P.O. Box 5000
Vancouver, Washington 98666



For the Public Record and the 2016 Comprehensive Plan update

Dear Councilors,

The Growth Management Act was adopted by the state Legislature, to help counties plan for 20 years into the future. The legislative findings state in **36.70A.010**, *It is in the public interest that citizens, communities, local governments, and the private sector cooperate and coordinate with one another in comprehensive land use planning. Further, the legislature finds that it is in the public interest that economic development programs be shared with communities experiencing insufficient economic growth. Comprehensive means, "of large scope; covering much; inclusive. Such a plan should encompass all of the land within the county. Comprehensive planning would also include rural and resource land.. But, since it's adoption, rural areas of the county have been considered, as the WWGMHB described it, "The leftover meatloaf of the plan.". From the beginning of the GMA planning, there has never been an intention of cooperation and coordination with the rural and resource lands, nor that economic development programs be shared with those lands. The focus has always been on urban lands only, and the only purpose for lands outside urban areas was to preserve them for the cities. Clark County has never had an all inclusive planning process, and rural and resource economies suffer because of it. Councilor Madore and Councilor Mielke have seen and understood this discrepancy, and want to do something about it.*

According to the GMA, the plan must have accurate data regarding past development and historical trends, to determine a baseline from which to start the planning process. But, Clark County has never done that. Instead, artificial data was created to fulfill a particular planning goal that was artificially created. This was confirmed in Superior Court when Judge Edwin J. Poyfair stated, "...the county used an unauthorized formula to the review of the Clark County Comprehensive Plan's land use densities. The...interpretation was erroneous... The result is a plan that gives little regard for the realities of existing rural development in direct contradiction of the terms of the GMA." The GMA requires that accurate data be used for the baseline of the planning process, and then updated on a yearly basis. Currently, there is very little accurate data in the current Comprehensive Plan, or in the 2016 update of the Plan, and the Plan is in need of correction. In order to plan effectively, the data for such planning must be accurate. Councilor Madore's comprehensive research of the proposed data in the update, clearly demonstrates inconsistencies in the planning numbers. He and staff should be commended for such thorough evaluation. Rightfully so, he has brought that information forward for all of the councilors to consider.

Ultimately, the councilors are responsible for the welfare of the citizens and must assure that whatever planning is done, is done right, based on accurate and complete information. This is not the responsibility of staff, and the councilors cannot place that burden on them. The Councilors must monitor and review all of the work that is presented them, to be sure it is appropriate, according to the needs of the communities and the mandates of Growth Management Act.

Sincerely, *Carol Levanen*

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

Schroader, Kathy

From: Tilton, Rebecca
Sent: Thursday, October 29, 2015 10:48 AM
To: Orjiako, Oliver; Schroader, Kathy
Subject: Oct. 20 Comp Plan Comments
Attachments: Alexander_Valerie_10-20-15 Comp Plan Comments.pdf; Allen_Milada_10-20-15 Comp Plan Comments.pdf; Boynton_Stephen and Lissa_10-20-15 Comp Plan Comments.pdf; Edwards_Ron_10-20-15 Comp Plan Comments.pdf; Levanen_Carol_10-20-15 Comp Plan Comments.pdf; Levanen_Carol_10-27-15 Comp Plan Comments.pdf; Marshall_Sue_10-20-15 Comp Plan Comments.pdf; Rasmussen_Susan_10-20-15 Comp Plan Comments.pdf; Reisbick_Margaret_10-20-15 Comp Plan Comments.pdf; Starke_Gretchen_10-20-15 Comp Plan Comments.pdf; Tweet_Margaret_10-20-15 Comp Plan Comments.pdf

Hello,

Here are your copies of written testimony submitted during the Oct. 20 Comp Plan hearing. There's also one from Carol Levanen that was submitted on Oct. 27 during general public comment.

Also, I've mailed a packet of information to Cindy Holley (sign-in sheets, written testimony, maps, etc.).

Thanks and have a great day. :)

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