



ALL POLITICS IS LOCAL

Friends of Clark County gearing up for legal action

Posted on December 22, 2015 by Kaitlin Gillespie

At least one organization is already gearing up for legal action over Clark County's 20-year growth plan.

Land-use and conservation group Friends of Clark County, whose members have been vocally opposed to Councilor David Madore's zoning alternative since day one, is raising money in case it needs to launch a legal battle against — or on behalf of — Clark County.

"We are serious about continuing to defend the principles that are blatantly ignored in the development and passing in what is now being called the locally preferred alternative," said David McDonald, a land-use attorney and rural Clark County resident. "We're a band of crusaders that believe it's our job to monitor this part of the county process and provide real facts and true legal argument."

McDonald, by the way, has been representing FoCC pro-bono, and will donate \$50 for every \$100 donation up to \$1,000 to the non-profit. He intends to continue representing the group for free, but the fund is in place in case the organization needs to bring in a second attorney or someone to do the grunt work of compiling material for a potential lawsuit.

This could go one of a couple ways, McDonald said. One, the council pushes Madore's Alternative 4 through to the state and FoCC sues.

Two, "cooler heads prevail," as he puts it, and Alternative 4 is thrown out. If another group sues — vocal Alternative 4 proponent Clark County Citizens United, for example — the group may file a countersuit on behalf of Clark County to support its decision.

The writing's already on the wall that the latter might happen. Councilor Jeanne Stewart's been no fan of Alternative 4, incoming council Chair Marc Boldt has already said he wants it thrown out and Councilor Elect Julie Olson has said if there's substantial evidence that Alt 4 won't pass muster with state law, then the county needs to backtrack.

The county's growth plan must be completed and accepted by the Commerce Department by June 30. The county needs to finish its part by April 30 in order to meet that goal.



Kaitlin Gillespie

I'm the Clark County government reporter at The Columbian. Get in touch at kaitlin.gillespie@columbian.com or 360-735-4517.

Comments

6 Comments

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Add a comment...



David Clark

Lets look at the result of what the so called "friends" of Clark County wants: Higher rents, higher house prices, more traffic congestion.

Even the Chairman of the Whitehouse Council of Economic Advisors recognised the fact that restricting supply with planning causes higher rents & higher home prices when he said:

"Restricted supply leads to higher prices and less affordability. We see the association in the relationship between land use regulations and affordability in several dozen U.S. metro areas "

https://www.whitehouse.gov/.../20151120_barriers_shared...

Restricting supply also forces... See More

Reply · 1 · Dec 25, 2015 5:04pm



Bridget Schwarz · Ridgefield, Washington

I understand the complexity required to update the curent growth managment plan. I appreciate the expertise of the county's Long Range planning department to do the job. I regret the disregard of elected officails for the professionalism and integrity the process deserves. I hope we can afford all the added costs and timeline crunches that have been thrust upon us.

Mostly, I hope the new Board will re-adopt Alternative 1 (the current plan) so we can have a couple years to start over and get this done right!

Reply · 3 · Dec 23, 2015 4:40pm



Sam Atkinson · Chambersburg Area Senior High School

Why anyone would follow Rating of corruted, poiticians, you and Benton lining your own pockets and calling civil citizen Commie to cover your corruted dealing with citizens of this state. Your the Wolfs blaming the Dog for killin the sheep. Who is paying you two to rob the sheep of thier property to make massive sprawl? You can hide it for so long....

Reply · 1 · Dec 23, 2015 1:53pm



Christian Berrigan · Works at Self-Employed

John Kowalski represents the left perfectly in his statement:

" there are no private property rights, only privileges accorded by government in service to the people."

They are anti-constitutional tyrants.... statist.... communists at heart. Their way is our path to the destruction of liberty and prosperity. They are NEVER to be appeased, and ANY who do are enemies of the republic, your liberty, and our humanity.

That's it, period.

Reply · 6 · Dec 23, 2015 10:53am



Sam Atkinson · Chambersburg Area Senior High School

Oh my Don Benton best friend what to expect from rantings. Your guys are nuts bulling

On my Boss Benton best friend, what to expect from rankings. Fear guys are hate, being and being obnoxious.

Your an enemy of the state then? Better watch you and guns around crowds? Hair trigger running things you and Boss Hog Benton. You truley can't stand other USA Citizens that share Rights, just yours are valid?

Reply · Dec 23, 2015 1:44pm



John Burke · Vancouver, Washington

Sam Atkinson: "Rights" you say?

Kowalski denies the very concept of property rights that is the _basis_ of all other rights, which are derived from the concept of inalienable self-ownership. Kowalski asserts instead that property -- and so rights as such -- is merely a government-bestowed privilege, which can be demied to anyone by the state based the vague rationale of "service to the people".

Christian Berrigan's posting attacks Kowalski denial of property rights for being self-evidently anti-constitutional, tyrannical, statist, and communistic since -- again, because all rights are deriv... [See More](#)

Reply ·  2 · Dec 24, 2015 1:51pm



Christian Berrigan · Works at Self-Employed

John Burke I read Sam's reply 3 times and found it unintelligible, not germain, and hateful in general.

Reply ·  1 · Dec 24, 2015 3:57pm

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David Clark

Of course they are NOT "friends of clark county". They are only friends of radical environmentalists who want all of us to abandon cars, take light rail, abandon our houses for tiny apartments. They want to force us to us to become like LA or New York. They only help rich developers who build high density crap like in Portland.

Reply ·  7 · Dec 22, 2015 1:37pm · Edited



Fran Hammond · Vancouver, Washington

I believe you are confusing Friends of Clark County with Clark County Citizens United - they are the ones that want to develop every square inch!

Reply ·  8 · Dec 22, 2015 1:44pm



Bridget McLeman


According to CCCU testimony at Council Council today - they want more bridges, more houses, more roads, more cars and fewer buses, less restrictive zoning for more development and more people, more fee waivers for more business, more infrastructure and less regulation of rural lands.

Reply ·  6 · Dec 22, 2015 5:06pm



Fran Hammond · Vancouver, Washington

Bridget McLeman - yes, and that is exactly what their want list has been all along!

Reply ·  4 Dec 22, 2015 5 40pm

alternative 4 dark county clark county citizens united clark county council

comprehensive growth management plan David Madore david mcdonald Friends of Clark County

growth plan lawsuit legal fund

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