FYI and for the record Thanks

--- Forwarded Message ---

From: Carol Levanen [mailto.cnldental@yahoo.com]
Sent: Saturday, May 21, 2016 2:18 PM
To: Boldt, Marc; Stewart, Jeanne; Olson, Julie (Councilor); Mielke, Tom; Madore, David; Orjako, Oliver
Subject: Fw. Violation of basic civil rights...denied parity, denied representation

Clark County Board of Councilors
Comprehensive Plan update
Clark County Planning Commission
P O Box 5000
Vancouver, Washington 98666

Dear Councilors and Commissioners,

Clark County rural landowner’s civil rights are being violated. Our cultural way of life and the lifestyle and character of rural and resource lands, that has been in place since the 1930s, is being completely ignored. We fail to be fairly, reasonably and legally recognized, along with the urban populations, in any Clark County comprehensive plan.

Themes have emerged that demonstrate rural landowners are denied personal and financial equality, and fair and equal representation in the drafting of the 2016 Comprehensive Plan.

The system is intentionally rigged against us:
- We are singled out and exclusivity is applied against us.
- The planning process fails to operate in concert with rural landowners. This is against what Dept. of Commerce says. The Dept. says to defer to the rural citizens in defining Rural characteristic features of rural neighborhoods.
- Reckless disregard for rural culture, society, and economies.
- We have not enjoyed parity
The rural landowners are denied equality among the other citizens in urban areas. This is a fundamental flaw in the county's public participation process of comprehensive plans.

**Basic failure in the process is revealed. . .Guts of the Poyfair Remand**

- susan rasmussen <sprazz@outlook.com>

- 
- Today at 11:19 AM

The comp plan was never adapted to fully comply with the fundamental issue at the center of the Poyfair Remand. There should have been a transformation process in place to rid the comprehensive plan of all elements that advanced the "unauthorized formula" that enabled a "cap on rural growth."

The assumption in the flawed formula was dealt with by the corrections to agri-forest and reinstating the rural centers. That merely addressed the tip of the iceberg. Reality of the county zoning and land use regulations show the basic unauthorized formula remains clearly intact and the "cap on rural growth" has been allowed to linger and advance. This is a major misstep and the behavior is alarming. The reality of the county's comp plan bends around the Superior Court Orders the orders are meaningless.

This shows a basic failure of the system. How can a government agency be allowed to ignore court orders? This shouldn't happen in the 21st Century. This is a critical issue and everybody should be enraged, everybody should demand answers. The system failed the rural landowners it could fail anybody at any time. There needs to be leadership and provisions for oversight.

This is cumulative. There is a reckless disregard for the truth, and trust. It calls into question the integrity of the county's work on the comp plan, and the process. There needs to be reforms to the process. There needs to challenges to the status quo. The people need to protest this injustice.

**Roles of the planning staff as lobbyists running a campaign using public funds**

- susan rasmussen <sprazz@outlook.com>

- 
- Today at 12:04 PM

The entire comprehensive plan update and the process used was nothing more than a campaign and the lobbyist were the planning staff.

Were public funds misspent in an advocacy campaign to promote the “cap on rural growth?”
Were public funds misspent in attempts at disregarding honest, truthful data?
Was there a strategy devised to intentionally exclude rural landowners, degrade private property rights, and exploit their lands to advance environmental goals and to cap rural growth?

The campaign's ultimate goal was to influence the BOCC. The staff developed and cleverly designed propaganda that would lead the Board to arrive at a predetermined outcome.
Tools that were used
- Aging Readiness, Growing Healthier Reports
- Agriculture Preservation Strategies Report (recombining properties)
- Low population projection numbers
- “Plenty of buildable lands”
- Exclusivity against the rural landowners
- Maintaining the overwhelming non-conforming lots
- Failing to apply the correct data when designating resource lands
- Failing to make the corrections to properly designated resource, rural lands
- UH and UR overlays in place over 22 years
- Requiring overly large remainder parcels (85%) with covenants into perpetuity
- No oversight
- The BOCC has failed to challenge the county planning regimen
- Failing to acknowledge the updates in the Current Use Taxation Program Forest (5 acres trees)
- USDA Census of Ag. Clark County Profiles 1950-2012 fail to be recognized
- Failure in using Dept. of Commerce guidelines in using rural landowners to define rural character
- Failure to acknowledge the county’s robust equine community, 4-H communities, and Master Gardeners. All support healthy, rural lifestyles.
- The county fails to encourage participation of the rural landowners in the public participation process
- The county fails to empower and educate the citizens

This message tells an important story as to what Clark County is doing to the rural and resource communities they are supposed to help and support. The councilors have ignored the people and turned over their responsibilities to un-elected officials who have a no-growth agenda for the rural and resource lands. Clark County is spending rural and resource landowner’s tax dollars against them. Those affected by this bias and infringement of civil rights must convince the Board of Councilors that such actions will not be tolerated.

This information is submitted on behalf of Members and supporters of Clark County Citizens United, Inc. by:

Susan Rasmussen, President, CCCU, Inc.
via email