

**Schroeder, Kathy**



**From:** susan rasmussen <sprazz@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 08, 2016 10:29 AM  
**To:** Cnty 2016 Comp Plan  
**Subject:** FW: Use of Federal Grants for lobbying purposes

FOR THE PUBLIC RECORD OF THE 2016 CLARK COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

---

**From:** [susan rasmussen](#)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 8, 2016 10:25 AM  
**To:** [susan rasmussen](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Use of Federal Grants for lobbying purposes

**Subject:** Use of Federal Grants for lobbying purposes

The Food Systems Council (under the guidance of Clark County Public Health,) has been used in a campaign to lobby the county legislatures for specific land use zoning issues. The center of the campaign is the agenda that supports, defends, and expands the "unauthorized formula." Included in the Legacy Lands Program is an element that conserves and preserves farmland. Included in additional proposals is an element for an Agricultural Production District. This zoning district (or overlay) will not require pertinent physical qualities and capabilities such as the inclusion of prime agricultural or forestry soils.

There is much information contained within supporting documents and reports that fail to be revealed to the public, nor the policy makers. What is evident, these documents are driven to arrive at a predetermined outcome. What is also revealed, the supporting documents included the use of Federal grant money to support this outcome.

The pertinent background work that supports the agenda is contained with in grant-funded research documents:

1. M. Ostrom and C. Donovan, "Is this Local?." Federal -State Marketing Improvement Program, USDA Agricultural Marketing Service (2013-2016), \$76,633.
2. C. Moulton, D. Collins, M. Ostrom, Jose Garcia-Pabon, "Farm Business Management Educational Program for Washington State," USDA Risk Management Agency, RME Program (2013-2014), \$96,613, includes funding, curriculum, and coordination for Cultivating Success farmer educational program in Clark County. Ostrom 2013 PROGRESS REPORT #1, SMALL-SCALE FOOD FARMING, file 127Ostrom, Pages 9-12 Rejected.
3. J. Schahczenski, S. Andrews, M. Ostrom, C. Schahczenski, "Understanding How to Motivate Climate Friendly Agricultural Practices," proposal submitted to USDA AFRI NIFA through the National Center for Appropriate Technology (2014-2016), \$678,705 Pending.
4. H. Peterson, G. Feenstra, S. Hardesty, M. Ostrom, K. Tanaka; "Impacts of Values-Based Supply Chains on Small and Medium-Sized Farms," proposal submitted to USDA AFRI NIFI through Kansas State University (2014-2016) \$500,000. \_ Future Funding Improving small and mid-sized farm viability and their environmental practices is the goal of several major USDA grant programs.

These reports (derived from grants), have been intimately involved in developing a campaign tied to specific pending legislative issues that impact land use zoning regulations. This is an intentional act that involves lobbying government officials. The Federal Anti-Lobbying Act prohibits spending federal funds to influence any government, unless Congress authorizes it. The use of USDA grants to fund subordinating reports from Clark County Public Health to bolster the Growing Healthier Report, and the Agriculture Preservation Strategies Report, may be violations.

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan Rasmussen for

