For the public record of the Clark County 2016 Comprehensive Plan update

The state Dept of Commerce continues to emphasize allowing open and full public participation in the planning processes. The Dept of Commerce considers this an essential element that is required in updating a comprehensive plan. The Dept has warned that failing to do so may expose a jurisdiction to challenges before the Hearings Board. Clark County Citizens United asks that the entire Board of Councilors do everything possible to comply with the GMA on this important issue. Kindly reference RCW 36.70a.020 (11), 36.70a.035, and 36.70a.140.

The Clark County 2016 update continues to be complex. This is demonstrated in the fact that proposals have changed, discussions continue, and new foundational elements appear that impact most of the entire plan contained within the two volumes of data. It is impossible to bring up all relevant points of discussion in three minutes of testimony at any single hearing. It is impossible to cover all proposals and issues that come up during your deliberations. There aren't opportunities provided to the citizens in public testimony to rebut issues presented during Board deliberations.

We urge you to offer the public a chance to give follow up questions or comment at the end of meetings, also, since they may have information pertinent to points raised during your discussions. Allowing comments during your deliberations could be much more practical and helpful in ensuring a good public participation process.

Thank you,
Susan Rasmussen
Clark County Citizens United, Inc