

9/6/16 = Rec'd from Carol Levanen - RUT
CC'd = Boce; Orijako; Schroeder; Official Record

September 6, 2016

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

Dear Councilors,

Clark County has a compelling reason to do the will of the people and change the way business has been done in the past. Not only does the county continue to use an erroneous formula for the 2016 Comprehensive Plan, but ways are contrived to accomplish that goal, in order to bypass the Growth Management Act.. As Judge Poyfair stated, the county had an end in sight and set the goal, first. Then the documents were created to back into the goal, disregarding the people and the law. Such activity is not allowed under the GMA. The 90/10 split does not reflect historical growth in urban and rural areas, nor does the 1.23% growth rate. The courts have said that using this erroneous formula to put a cap on rural growth, is illegal and is not to be used to plan growth in rural areas. It is a formula that manipulates the population numbers to make it appear that is what the community wants to have happen, regardless of the volumes of public testimony to say otherwise. To support the erroneous documents via a public process, the county created various committees that were used to provide the "public" testimony. This process is not meaningful when the testimony supporting the Plan comes from the very people who created it in the first place. The general public had no idea that such activity was happening, nor how these actions would impact their lives. The plan needs to be done over again, and truly reflect the people's choice.

This 2016 Comprehensive Plan, again shows the mentality of staff and the erroneous formula. Even the park land and open space element was created long before the public process for the 2016 Plan. The same is true for the Ageing Readiness, and Growing Healthier Reports, that are the foundational documents for the whole 2016 Plan. If this Plan goes forward, it will result in locking up all rural and resource land in some type of "resource" category, with large lot zoning. This is not the intent of the GMA. The County must change their ways, if they do not want to be in the courts for twenty years, as Mr. Orijako once claimed, would be fine with him. All of this erroneous activity is a terrible waste of taxpayer funding, and accomplishes nothing but a stagnant economy and ill will with the citizens.

CCCU continues to research documents, and is able to confirm what is being said here. There are many funding mechanisms for county activities and policies, that have been used, and continue to be used for the Plan. It may be wise to spend time to closely look at where those funds are going. In the meantime, this Council should seriously reconsider the consequences of their actions, go back to the drawing board and reject the current 2016 Comprehensive Plan, as it is written.

Sincerely,



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