

From: Jim Blighton <maejeb37@yahoo.com>
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To: Cnty 2016 Comp Plan
Subject: Alternative 4

Before moving to Vancouver, fourteen years ago, we lived on 12.5 acres some fifteen miles east of Eugene, OR. We moved to the farm in 1969 and soon afterward, the state of Oregon began it's zoning process for all rural areas. I attended all the meeting, held an our area and at those meetings, the majority of us, in attendance, requested minimum lot sizes of two acres. However, after several meetings, it became apparent the state officials favored five acre minimums and the majorities requests for 2 acre minimums fell on deaf ears. All of us realized no matter the lot size, the soil conditions dictate what may be suitable for the lot in terms of water and sewer. We also realized the 2 acre minimums would be more suitable in terms of cost and upkeep. Most of us, at the meeting knew how much work is involved in the upkeep of multiple acres, such as 5, 10 and 20 acre parcels. The end result of the current zoning in Oregon, several things have happened. Younger couples cannot afford and are not interested in the wok involved with the larger parcels. Only the more affluent and older retired folks reside in my old area. In addition, these folks do not have school age children and my old school district has fewer student and operate in a smaller classification for extra curricular activities. I support Alternative 4. In my estimation, children raised in a rural environment, blend into society much easier.

Thank You
James E. Blighton