

Wiser, Sonja

From: Orjiako, Oliver
Sent: Friday, June 16, 2017 8:48 AM
To: Albrecht, Gary; Alvarez, Jose; Anderson, Colete; Euler, Gordon; Hermen, Matt; Kamp, Jacqueline; Lebowsky, Laurie; Lumbantobing, Sharon; Orjiako, Oliver; Schroader, Kathy; Wiser, Sonja
Cc: Cook, Christine
Subject: FW: Clark County's Broken public process

All:

FYI and Kathy for the record. Thanks.



Oliver Orjiako
Director
COMMUNITY PLANNING

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From: Olson, Julie (Councilor)
Sent: Thursday, June 15, 2017 5:06 PM
To: Orjiako, Oliver; Horne, Chris
Subject: FW: Clark County's Broken public process

For the record if you have not received it.

Julie Olson
Clark County Council
District 2

From: susan rasmussen [<mailto:sprazz@outlook.com>]
Sent: Thursday, June 15, 2017 1:46 PM
To: Quiring, Eileen; Boldt, Marc; Olson, Julie (Councilor); Stewart, Jeanne
Subject: FW: Clark County's Broken public process

For the Public Record of the County's Comprehensive Plan

Most citizens would prefer living in affordable, safe housing and enjoy lifestyles of their choosing. However, while the comprehensive growth plan alludes to promises on delivering things we all hold dear, it actually

serves other purposes. One purpose makes the citizens feel they have meaningful influence over the plan's direction. The real primary goal of the plan, is to put limitations on personal freedoms.

The primary goal is based on an improperly assumed set of values that non-elected Clark County staff dictate. This elite staff decides where and how county citizens will be permitted to live. Their actions are rarely challenged and go unabated. The staff's hidden agenda is advanced via policies of the elected officials, and contrived strategies. The result is a disingenuous public participation process that leaves planning beyond the control of the citizens it intends to benefit. This erodes our personal freedoms and is unAmerican.

The current public participation plan suggests input is garnered from various communities of citizens. This isn't true. Nearly all work is generated by staff and various stakeholder groups appointed by staff. The groups lack diversity and appointed according to their allied perspectives. County citizens play no meaningful part in selecting these various groups, the Clark County Food Systems Council is such an example.

The committees may present the appearance of broad community representation. The county has many special purpose committees and more can be created without general public knowledge. These committees become tools for the planning staff to promote their preconceived plans. County citizens play no part in selecting membership of these groups, yet, they are making direct decisions that impact our future wellbeing. Why is it the county lacks a committee for protections of private property rights? These protections are critical and are granted status in state GMA planning goal #6. However, the county continues support of committees that outrageously report we live in a *"food desert,"* and recommends, *"recombining rural parcels."*

The reports from these groups are advanced through the process with only token public review. The overarching policies are generated by elite groups that most citizens have never heard of. Consider the work of the Food Systems Council, (Health Department), and the Agriculture Preservation Strategies committee. These committees offered no real public participation opportunities and were used as tools in a well-designed lobbying campaign . . . all financed by tax dollars. Work shops were held to promote the work of the hidden agenda. Why would the Health Department sponsor a land use seminar at the Vancouver library featuring Tim Trohimovich of Futurwise? The work that resulted from these committees generated controversial reports that ultimately became foundational documents of the county's comprehensive plan.

Traditional accountability has been removed from the process. Clark County Citizens United contends this is a serious problem. The faulty, incomplete public record is symptomatic of a very broken process that is vulnerable to bias and corruption.

Susan Rasmussen for
Clark County Citizens United, Inc.
Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10