

cc'd = Bocc; Orjiako; Wiser; Schrader; & Record

July 11, 2017

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

For the Public Record

Dear Councilors,

So once again, after 22 years, this council has taken away the citizens land rights in the 2016 Comprehensive Land Use Plan. Those citizens represent 50% of the people, who own 50% of the land mass in the county. But, you now expect them to, once again, hold their land in static, laying fallow, for another 20 years, without any ability to make housing and financial decisions in the future, for that land.

Before Home Rule and the Charter, those people had some ability to do something, with the adoption of Alternative 4 in November of 2015. But, this council rejected that change, and took those land rights away from those people again, by rejecting the document and putting everything back to what it has been for 22 years. You stopped any activity altogether, with a moratorium, and even though you lifted some of it, the landowner who is surrounded by small lots, will not be able to ask for a rezone, so they can fit in.

You have decided to keep the cluster ability for resource land, but you are fully aware that such a decision will do very little to benefit those people, because only 17% if the agriculture lands are 20 acres or larger and 8% of the forest land is 40 acres or larger. For the most part, they are all five acres. This council is fully aware that one would need 40 acres in the agriculture zone, and 80 acres in the forest zone, to even consider the cluster provision. On paper the cluster provision looks good, but in reality, it's useless to landowners. It is just smoke and mirrors policy making.

Landowners stress the question to CCCU as to why the county is doing this to them. CCCU has no reasonable answer for them. Whether such onerous policies are driven by a control factor, disregard for the people or an environmental factor, it is wrong to burden 50% of the county population in such a way. Alternative 4 was a compromise that met the letter of the law, and gave these people at least some hope for the future. This council needs to bring it back.

Sincerely,



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