

In support of HB 4075

I am Larry Sullivan, a Washington County landowner. I am here today to address some issues.

The first is to ask this body to restore property rights I inadvertently lost as a result of HB 4078. Today my property is designated "RR" and according to attorneys at both the State of Oregon and Metro will remain so until land use planning decisions are returned to local bodies.

Secondly, is to dispel the myths I found clogging OLIS. I am not circumventing any process. Addressing you directly is the only remaining avenue I have to regain my rights. Another myth is if HB 4075 passes the land will be developed immediately. Passage of HB 4075 simply returns the "UR" designation recommended by Washington County, Metro and LCDC and makes my land eligible for inclusion in the local planning process. Lastly, the myth that we must save farm land at the expense of all other considerations. Conserve farmland is 1 of 19 Land Use Goals. In 2016 23.8 million acres were enrolled in the USDA'S CRP program, a federal program where farmers are paid to leave their land fallow to discourage overproduction. The USDA'S CRP program is idling 1 ½ times the total acreage farmed in the entire state.

The good paying high tech jobs in Washington County are a magnet and will continue to attract people. Today 18% of Intel's work force in Washington County commutes from Clark County, Washington. You decide what drives that behavior.

In closing land use goal #1 is citizen input. Goal 2. Paraphrasing a bit. Land use decisions and actions are to be fact based. So please forget about the "sacred cow" called farmland that is dragged out in any land use discussion and make your decisions based on fact and need instead of emotion.

Thank you.