

February 6, 2018

Dear Representative,

I am a resident of the Helvetia Community, a blueberry farmer, and an employee of Intel. I urge you to pass HB 4075, returning land to the local planning process.

Recently I was in attendance at a town hall meeting that included discussion of HB 4075. I greatly appreciate the time and energy Representatives Sollman and McClain and Senator Riley put into the meeting, but I left perplexed regarding Representative McClain's position. She suggested that now is the wrong time to address HB 4075 due to the newly approved Metro process allowing for interim (3 year) U.G.B. amendments to be considered.

I'm puzzled because if this new process to expand U.G.B. is used it will reduce the U.R. supply. There are five cities requesting U.G.B. changes in 2018 and four are in Washington County, the fastest growing county, but most of the U.R. acreage is in Clackamas County. The interim process can reduce the U.R. supply in Washington County, but does nothing to address the shortage. Approving HB 4075 would increase U.R. land supply.

Also, the new process cannot be applied to the land in HB 4075 which was designated R.R. by legislation. Passing this bill puts this land back into the normal land planning process, and time does matter. Future growth planning is not on hold, it is taking place now. Choices will be made that must exclude this land even though more logical, more cost efficient choices could exist.

Including the land in the long-range planning process again allows the Oregon system to work as intended, SB 1011 was about looking ahead. HB 4075 does just that, it makes land available in Washington County for future planning. I urge you to pass HB 4075.

Sincerely,

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