

February 7, 2018

House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee

Oregon State Legislature

Dear Chair Clem and Committee Members,

I am writing today regarding your upcoming hearing on HB4075. I am opposed to any further changes to the flawed Land Use Process that culminated in a Grand Bargain without due process or transparency. This seems like another attempt to circumvent expected due process and the clear intent of the law.

I am a fourth generation farmer with family farm land both within the City of Forest Grove, plus proposed land in Urban Reserves which was changed by the Grand Bargain to a newly created designation that put part of it automatically and immediately into Forest Grove's Urban Growth Boundary. The remainder has been designated as Rural Reserve which has factored into my Nephew pursuing a farming career. After participating and following the original process for years, the later change occurred without any knowledge or chance to participate in the so-called 'Grand Bargain'. This clearly appears to have been a violation of due process, transparency and democratic principles.

Now I have learned that some of the Rural Reserve Land in Washington County may be considered to be moved from that designation and considered for Urban Use. If this were to occur it makes a mockery of the 50 year certainty that was the cornerstone for this experiment.

I do not want to get into the complicated discussion of what should be designated as what, rather I wonder how much citizens can trust their government's word in planning for longer term business and succession decisions. If within the matter of a couple of years from adoption there is a hearing to consider already changing what was believed to be a many fold longer range Plan.

How can this be declared an emergency? If this is considered there is no certainty for any of the land in the various designations.

Please do the right thing and vote NO on HB4075

Sincerely,

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