



April 29, 2019

Clackamas County Board of Commissioners
Policy Position
SB 365A: Relating to Land Use Regulations for Marijuana Production

Clackamas County opposes SB 365A: The Board of County Commissioners opposes SB 365A, which would prohibit local governments from imposing system development charges (SDCs) for increased use of transportation facilities resulting from the production of marijuana on property located in lands zoned Exclusive Farm Use (EFU).

Counties currently have limited funding sources to be able to pay for infrastructure to accommodate growth. SDCs, or fees charged on new development, are an essential tool for local governments to mitigate the cost of growth so that existing taxpayers are not burdened with the cost of making these improvements.

Since legalization of recreational marijuana in January 2016, Clackamas County has seen significant, industrial-scale marijuana production uses on farmland. In one case, 60 industrial steel buildings were constructed to serve multiple businesses and multiple owners. Such sites generate traffic and increase drainage needs that require significant infrastructure investments, which are typically funded by SDCs. Prohibiting the use of SDCs would remove our ability to pay for these infrastructure upgrades that are essential to supporting this growth.

We urge a “NO” vote on SB 365A.

Please contact Chris Lyons at clyons@clackamas.us for more information.