

February 5, 2015

To Clark County City Planning Directors:

We want to give you a brief update on the 2016 Clark County Comprehensive Plan update.

First of all, we are very appreciative of the support the cities have shown in the update process, and we thank you for the letter that was drafted by the cities in December and sent to the Board of County Councilors in January.

The Board of County Councilors held a work session on January 21, 2015 on the comprehensive plan. Staff reviewed the work that has been completed to date, including the alternatives for the supplemental EIS which at that point was to be released on February 4. At the work session, the Board asked that work on the SEIS be stopped until a fourth alternative could be developed. At this point we do not know what the additional alternative will be. This means we don't know how it will affect the SEPA process for the comp plan update, either timing-wise or substance-wise. It is possible we could add a fourth alternative to the SEIS, or it may require that a full EIS be prepared.

At a public hearing on February 3, 2015, the Board and heard testimony on, considered, and then tabled for further consideration, a request from the city of Ridgefield to add land to the city's urban growth area (UGA) for residential development. This request was received on October 22, 2014, well after the agreed-upon deadline of July 31, 2014. We have also received a request from the city of La Center to add 17 acres to the city's UGA, property that was recently bought by the La Center School District for use as a school site.

In order to be fair to all our city partners, we are giving the cities another opportunity to submit requests for urban growth boundary expansions. **The deadline for any request is March 3, 2015, and the request should include a population-based needs justification.** For the sake of the SEPA process we ask that any requests be limited to areas that were studied in the 2007 EIS. Also, as before, if the request includes land zoned for agriculture or forest, the city will be responsible for the de-designation process.

Even given this delay, we still envision completing the comprehensive plan update by the end of June 2016, as scheduled. Please let me know if you have questions.

Sincerely,



Oliver Orjiako, Director  
Clark County Community Planning

Cc: Board of County Councilors/County Manager  
City Mayors  
Chris Cook, Prosecuting Attorney's Office