

From: [Heidi Cody](#)
To: [Sonja Wiser](#)
Cc: [Cathryn Chudy](#); [Jacqui Kamp](#); [Susan Ellinger](#); [Jose Alvarez](#)
Subject: Re: Clark County Planning Commission Schedule for April, 2023
Date: Thursday, April 6, 2023 3:59:58 PM
Attachments: [ACE Itr Supporting Middle Population Forecast.pdf](#)

Hello Sonja,

Thank you for your assistance. ACE would like to submit the attached letter as a public comment for tonight. Please let me know if this takes care of forwarding it to both the Planning Commission and the County Councilmembers.

Thank you,
Heidi Cody

On Thu, Apr 6, 2023 at 2:02 PM Sonja Wiser <Sonja.Wiser@clark.wa.gov> wrote:

Hello, I made a mistake below: It should read “Ms. Kathleen Otto and **Rebecca Messinger**” at the Councilor’s Office. Thank you

From: Sonja Wiser
Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2023 1:55 PM
To: Heidi Cody <hcodystudio@gmail.com>
Cc: Cathryn Chudy <chudyca@gmail.com>; Jacqui Kamp <Jacqui.Kamp@clark.wa.gov>; Susan Ellinger <Susan.Ellinger@clark.wa.gov>; Jose Alvarez <Jose.Alvarez@clark.wa.gov>
Subject: RE: Clark County Planning Commission Schedule for April, 2023

Hello Heidi and Cathryn. Tonight is not a public hearing; it’s a Planning Commission work session. However, if you wish, you are welcome to submit public comment. If you would like to submit for tonight, please send to me asap, so I can send to the staff members and to the PC members and update to our webpage. Oliver is out until 4/17, but I can forward your comments to Ms. Kathleen Otto and Jennifer Clark at the Councilor’s Office. If you would prefer to wait until the hearing, let me know. We appreciate public comment in advance.
Thanks

From: Heidi Cody <hcodystudio@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2023 1:50 PM
To: Sonja Wiser <Sonja.Wiser@clark.wa.gov>
Cc: Cathryn Chudy <chudyca@gmail.com>
Subject: Re: Clark County Planning Commission Schedule for April, 2023

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Clark County. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Sonja,

We would like to submit a letter from Alliance for Community Engagement SWWA (ACE) to the Planning Commission regarding the Population Projections, which is the topic of a hearing tonight. We would also like to cc Clark County Council and Oliver Orjiako. Can you please advise us on the best way to do that?

Thank you,

Heidi Cody and Cathryn Chudy

On Tue, Mar 28, 2023 at 12:10 PM Sonja Wiser <Sonja.Wiser@clark.wa.gov> wrote:

A Planning Commission Work Session has been scheduled for **Thursday, April 6, 2023**, beginning at 5:30 p.m. The hearing has been scheduled for **Thursday, April 20, 2023**, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

The agendas for both meetings are enclosed.

More information can be viewed on the Planning Commission webpage link

below:

<https://clark.wa.gov/community-planning/planning-commission-hearings-and-meeting-notes>

Please Note: This webpage link will be updated as more information becomes available

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April 6, 2023

Alliance for Community Engagement SWWA (ACE)

Clark County Planning Commission

Dear Clark County Planning Commission:

Alliance for Community Engagement SWWA (ACE) is a coalition of environmental and social justice organizations who advocate for climate and resiliency policy in Clark County. ACE supports Clark County adopting the “MIDDLE” population projection of 698,416, as estimated by the Office of Financial Management on December 20, 2022. In accordance with RCW 43.62.035, the Middle range represents OFM’s estimate of the county’s most likely population.¹

ACE is concerned with the resiliency of Clark County communities in the face of climate impacts. Clark County faces challenges including air pollution; affordable housing; disproportionate health impacts for already overburdened community members; protection of farmland and local food systems; increased flooding, droughts, and heat waves along with wildfire risks; decreased stream volumes and water supply; loss of open spaces; harmful over-development; lack of multi-modal transportation; and traffic congestion.

According to the Clark County Community Planning Staff report dated 4/18/2023, Urban Growth Areas (UGAs)

“are sized in accordance with the adopted population forecast, choosing a forecast that significantly underestimates population growth can lead to UGAs that are too small, a shortage of developable land and upward pressure on housing and land prices. Alternatively, the GMA requires local governments to develop detailed funding plans for urban services, selecting a range that is too high can result in excessive and wasteful infrastructure spending.”

ACE believes it makes sense to follow OFM’s lead on this and adopt the “MIDDLE” population projection. This realistic estimate will help conserve resources and contain sprawl. It will also protect the general health, safety, and well-being of Clark County communities.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Alliance for Community Engagement

¹<https://ofm.wa.gov/washington-data-research/population-demographics/population-forecasts-and-projections/growth-management-act-county-projections>

CC: Clark County Council, Oliver Orjiako