

**From:** [Rebecca Messinger](#)  
**To:** [Karen Bowerman](#); [Glen Yung](#); [Michelle Belkot](#); [Gary Medvigy](#); [Sue Marshall](#)  
**Cc:** [Sonja Wiser](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Comments for population projection hearing - 4/18/23  
**Date:** Monday, April 17, 2023 2:01:14 PM  
**Attachments:** [PopulationNumber.pdf](#)  
[image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)

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Please see the attached Comments from Judie Stanton. Thank you.



**Rebecca Messinger**  
Clerk to the Council  
COUNTY MANAGER'S OFFICE

564-397-4305



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**From:** Judie Stanton <judiestanton@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 17, 2023 1:55 PM  
**To:** Rebecca Messinger <Rebecca.Messinger@clark.wa.gov>  
**Cc:** Oliver Orjiako <Oliver.Orjiako@clark.wa.gov>; Jose Alvarez <Jose.Alvarez@clark.wa.gov>; Jacqui Kamp <Jacqui.Kamp@clark.wa.gov>  
**Subject:** Comments for population projection hearing - 4/18/23

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Hi Rebecca,

Please provide my attached comments to the County Councilors.

Thank you,

Judie Stanton

April 17, 2023

Council Chair Bowerman  
Councilor Belkot  
Councilor Marshall  
Councilor Medvigy  
Councilor Yung

Greetings Councilors,

Anyone who has lived in Clark County long enough knows that growth is expensive. Expensive either in terms of new and increased taxes or in added congestion and lower levels of service.

Your decision on the size of population increase to plan for will also determine the additional capital facilities and service needs. To suggest you choose too low a number is just as irresponsible as to push for a higher number than the experts project.

I think most of us will be interested in how our governments plan to pay for new and expanded public facilities required for any increase in population.

We'll want to know how our county, city and school district plan to pay for the additional roads, parks, schools, law enforcement personnel, jail space and upgrades to sewage treatment plants. If our local governments can't pay for the needed new facilities and personnel, then we all experience lower levels of service.

More traffic congestion, longer lines and slower processing of permits, more school portables, slower response times, reduced law enforcement services, more jail crowding and longer waits for a court date. Those are just some of the impacts we'll feel with decreased levels of service.

Our local governments don't have enough money to do everything and most residents aren't hoping for more taxes. The cost to support growth is becoming increasingly more expensive with just a few recent examples being the cost of needed road upgrades in the 179th Street area, the price of new schools that have significantly increased property taxes in some parts of the county, and the anticipated cost of bigger and better jail space.

**I encourage you to choose the future population number that is most likely to occur, the Washington State Office of Financial Management (OFM) middle number.** I'm certain you're being lobbied to choose a higher number by those who have something to gain. But most of us just want you to get it right. The OFM has explained, in detail, how they go about predicting and their projections have been very accurate. I urge you to go with that.

Sincerely,



Judie Stanton  
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Vancouver, WA 98682