Good day, Gabriel,

Thank you for your comments. I have forwarded them to staff, and will add these to the Index of Record.

From: Clark County <webteam@clark.wa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, June 4, 2024 1:28 PM
To: Cnty 2025 Comp Plan <comp.plan@clark.wa.gov>
Subject: Comprehensive Plan Update Comments

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Submitted on Tue, 06/04/2024 - 1:28 PM

First Name

Gabriel

Last Name

Gutierrez

Email Address

dexter626love@gmail.com

Address

Vancouver, Washington. 98683

Message Subject

Smoking in Affordable Housing

Comments

I am concerned with the air quality available to people living in affordable housing developments. There are several affordable housing developments within the county, specifically in Vancouver and its suburbs as well as Battle Ground. However, there are quite a few properties where smoking is allowed either in the apartments or right outside of them.

As time has proven, a lower level of wealth corresponds positively to a higher birth rate. With that being said, it is safe to say that a significant plurality of residents in affordable housing will be children. Children should not and mostly do not smoke. Despite this, they are not immune to secondhand smoke from other residents. And, as most smokers come from lower income levels per the CDC, there will be plenty of smokers exposing children to that dangerous secondhand smoke. If this matter is not addressed quickly, the fastest growing subset of our population will have several health problems in the future. These people are incapable of paying for their care on their own, resulting in premature death or a severe burden on state and federal healthcare systems.

The solution is to withhold funding from programs such as Section 8 if the lease does not include "non-smoking" as a requirement for occupants. It is not a new cost to the developers and maintainers of the property, and by simply reducing the exposure to secondhand smoke for children, those children can grow to live healthier lives.

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