From: <u>Jeffrey Delapena</u>
To: <u>alexnotarte@gmail.com</u>

Cc: Cnty 2025 Comp Plan; Jenna Kay; Oliver Orjiako; Jose Alvarez

Subject: RE: Comprehensive Plan Update Comments **Date:** Tuesday, June 4, 2024 1:33:15 PM

Good day, Alejandro,

Thank you for your comments regarding the 2025 EIS Update. 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 1:31 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 - 1:31 PM

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Message Subject

Updates to the EIS

Comments

I am concerned about improving public transportation and making it accessible for everyone. Currently, Clark County has functioning public transit, but it is underutilized due to issues with bus timing communication, as noted in general consensus on Yelp. Clark County and Vancouver lack the infrastructure to support a walkable city, leaving many without cars dependent on public transportation, which often results in timing delays.

This issue will only worsen as our population grows. The current Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) includes revisions that allow for higher housing density, such as 4-plexes and 6-plexes on single land plots. With this projected increase in population and housing density, more people will rely on public transportation. Creating a more efficient public transportation system will promote equity and opportunity across different tax brackets.

C-Tran is already making significant strides in reducing carbon emissions. In June 2023, C-Tran successfully launched electric buses. By taking this step, C-Tran is addressing environmental justice issues. Additionally, there are plans to replace the 2008 bus fleet with hydrogen fuel cell buses. This shift towards greener energy is crucial as public transportation usage is expected to increase with population growth.

Expanding bus routes, such as the line linking the Vancouver Waterfront to Salmon Creek, is one example of a solution to this problem. Unfortunately, one limitation of this solution is funding. As our population grows, more opportunities to implement a general tax or a transportation tax to help fund this project could be put into place.

As Vancouver's population grows and urban sprawl spreads, more people will need reliable public transportation. Expanding C-Tran and its bus routes will not only accommodate this growth but also create more job opportunities for Clark County residents. Furthermore, as Vancouver evolves into a larger city, residents will demand public transport that is fast, efficient, affordable, safe, and environmentally friendly.

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