

**From:** [Rebecca Messinger](#)  
**To:** [Oliver Orjiako](#); [Jose Alvarez](#); [Jeffrey Delapena](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Contract to Berk Consulting FDU SB 5517  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 25, 2024 8:24:53 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)

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Please see the below comments. Thank you!



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

564-397-4305



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**From:** James McRae <dempco638@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 24, 2024 9:29 PM  
**To:** Rebecca Messinger <Rebecca.Messinger@clark.wa.gov>; Glen Yung <Glen.Yung@clark.wa.gov>; Karen Bowerman <Karen.Bowerman@clark.wa.gov>; Gary Medvigy <Gary.Medvigy@clark.wa.gov>; Sue.marshal@clark.wa.gov; Kathleen Otto <Kathleen.Otto@clark.wa.gov>  
**Subject:** Contract to Berk Consulting FDU SB 5517

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To Clark County Council  
1300 Franklin St.  
Vancouver WA 98660

Sent by email to  
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Dear Council Members,

As a resident of Clark County in the 18<sup>th</sup> Legislative District, resident in County Council District Number 2 and currently serve as an appointed precinct officer for precinct 638, I request that the County Council suspend the decision to spend 100,000 dollars of taxpayer money to Berk Consulting and the plan to implement the FRDU SB 5517.

The list of grievances against the operator of the Portland Vancouver Junction Railroad (PVJR) is long and their behavior is abysmal. Their tactics are underhanded. Their company headquarters are not in Clark County. The heads of the railroad and their associate companies don't reside in Clark County but places like Dillon Montana and Bellevue Washington. They have no interest in this community, and accept money for themselves.

The so-called job benefits to Clark County will be minimal as PVJR's business partner's have plans on using robotic cars for transportation and operating in remote cities.

This action by the Council, would be reminiscent of January 13<sup>th</sup> 2022, when the County Council approved a new housing development hours after they approved the PVJR request for a change to industrial zoning across the rail tracks. New councilors were left in the position of having to explain to the public the previous Council's disastrous actions. It was and still is a black eye on the Council's history of community trust.

As you know this is an election year. In the following year, Clark County will have two new council seats filled. Please have the respect for the new councilors and existing ones to table this action until the SEPA report, and current government investigations has been completed regarding the actions of the Portland Vancouver Junction Railroad's operators.

I and others are doing my best to bring election candidates up to speed on the actions taken by the railroad and the County Council and I hope that this will not be one of the steps toward turning Clark County into the next Flint Michigan.

Please do not approve the Berk Consulting Contract.

Sincerely  
James McRae  
Democratic PCO Precinct 638