

## Jenna Kay

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**From:** Don Steinke <crvanwash@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 4, 2024 1:10 PM  
**To:** Jenna Kay  
**Cc:** Stacey; Small, Rebecca

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To CAG, EJC and the partner agencies, care of Jenna Kay

I've been told that dozens of property owners in Clark County have asked to be included in the Urban Growth Area. How would that fit within the Climate Amendment to the GMA, in terms of reducing vehicle trips.

### **I looked up the law.**

Session law 2023: The Climate element of the GMA, edited for brevity and highlighted by Don Steinke.

**Sec. 1.** RCW 36.70A.020 and 2021 c 254 s 1 are each amended to read as follows:

The following goals are adopted to guide the development and adoption of comprehensive plans and development regulations . . . .

- (1) Urban growth. Encourage development in urban areas where adequate public facilities and services exist or can be provided in an efficient manner.
- (2) **Reduce sprawl.** Reduce the inappropriate conversion of undeveloped land into sprawling, low-density development.
- (3) Transportation. **Encourage efficient multimodal transportation systems that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions and per capita vehicle miles traveled**, and are based on regional priorities and coordinated with county and city comprehensive plans.
- (4) Housing. Plan for and accommodate housing affordable to all economic segments of the population of this state, promote a variety of residential densities and housing types, and encourage preservation of existing housing stock.
- (14) Climate change and resiliency. Ensure that comprehensive plans, development regulations, and regional policies, plans, and strategies . . . **support reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and per capita vehicle miles traveled**; prepare for climate impact scenarios; foster resiliency to climate impacts . . . and advance environmental justice.

### **In Addition, I asked our Dept of Commerce for input. They said:**

Regarding your suggestions about urban growth areas, infill housing, and parking, you will find all of those measures in our guidance (sharing four of 16 measures):

- **Policy C.06** – Prioritize infill development through zoning and permitting process.

- **Goal K** – Increase housing diversity and supply within urban growth areas to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and support environmental justice.
- **Policy K.04** – Establish minimum residential densities within urban growth areas.
- **Policy K.08** – Maintain a stable urban growth area to reduce development pressure on rural and residential lands.

You can find and explore all 16 measures from this particular filter by using our [Climate Policy Explorer](#) by selecting the sub-element, “GHG”, and the climate sector, “Zoning & Development”.