

From: crVancouverUSA@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Don Steinke](#)
To: [Cnty Board of County Councilors General Delivery](#)
Subject: Please vote in favor of Amended Resolution No. 2025-04-x
Date: Friday, April 11, 2025 4:29:54 PM

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Dear Chair Marshall and Council Members,

From Don Steinke -- Rural Clark County East Resident
To the Clark County Council

Dear Councilmembers,

Around 1986, Friends of the Columbia Gorge, with the help of Senator Mark Hatfield, persuaded President Reagan to sign The Columbia Gorge National Scenic Act. That law forbids developments in the Columbia Gorge unless they meet special conditions.

The Columbia Gorge is like a National Park containing scattered towns.

I'm a member of Friends of the Columbia Gorge. Our mission is to protect the integrity of The Columbia Gorge National Scenic Act.

As such I've appeared here several times to inform the council about the violations of the Zimmerly gravel mine.

Now we're concerned about the potential threats to the Columbia Gorge from other mining proposal that may appear in your DEIS.

Please vote in favor of Amended Resolution No. 2025-04-x, relating to the adoption of the alternatives for study in an environmental impact statement that will be used for the County's 2025 periodic review and update of the County's comprehensive land use plan.

The Clark County Council has already informally endorsed this Amended Resolution during the "Council time" portion of a public meeting last month. The Council should now formally adopt the Amended Resolution, which is good public policy that will help protect the livability and special resources of Clark County's rural areas, including in the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.

The Amended Resolution will do two important things. First, it will remove from the review process the numerous site-specific requests seeking new Surface Mining Overlay designations. I fully support that outcome. The Council should reject any efforts to open up new sites to mining designations, especially if the environmental review would be funded by Clark County taxpayers. The local region already supplies sufficient mineral resources for use in Clark County. No law or rule requires mineral resources used in Clark County to be extracted from Clark County.

Second, the Amended Resolution will wisely reject the proposal to spend as much as \$300,000 hiring consultants to prepare a "resource lands study." Such a costly study is unnecessary, could open up the entire County to additional mining designations that could harm natural resources, and is virtually impossible to perform and complete in a timely manner that would allow the County to comply with its statutory deadline of December 31, 2025, to complete the periodic review process. The resource lands study is unnecessary, too expensive, and potentially harmful, and it was proposed way too late.

Thank you for your public service. Please vote to protect our communities, our environment, and our rural quality of

life.

Specifically, please vote to keep the site-specific mining requests and the costly resource lands study . . . OUT . . . of the County's 2025 planning process. Please vote in favor of Amended Resolution No. 2025-04-x.

Sincerely,
Don Steinke

Sincerely,
Mr. Don Steinke
Vancouver, WA 98682-0052