

From: [Babrak Amiri](#)
To: [Rebecca Messinger](#)
Cc: [Sue Marshall](#); [Michelle Belkot](#); [Wil Fuentes](#); [Matt Little](#); [Glen Yung](#)
Subject: Letter to County Council - support of AG Resource Study
Date: Saturday, April 12, 2025 1:42:35 PM
Attachments: [Letter to County Council 04-15-2025 - Support of AG Resource Study.pdf](#)

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Hi Rebecca,

Please include this letter for the hearing on 4/15/2025 in support of the countywide resource study, item #2 under separate business. Please let me know if there are any questions.

Thanks,

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April 11, 2025

To: Clark County Council:
Council Chair Sue Marshall, and Councilors; Michelle Belkot, Wil Fuentes, Matt Little, and Glen Yung

Re: Support for Countywide Agricultural Study and Rejection of Resolution No. 2025-03-xx

Dear Councilors,

We are writing to express our strong support for the countywide Agricultural (Resource Land) Study and to respectfully urge you to oppose Resolution No. 2025-03-xx as currently drafted. This resolution would significantly hinder City of Ridgefield's ability to pursue long-term economic development, particularly in the area surrounding Exit 16 along the I-5 Corridor.

While we respect and recognize the importance of protecting agricultural resources, we also have firsthand knowledge that the North Ridgefield Annexation Area and the area surrounding Exit 16 have no meaningful value for agricultural use. This conclusion was underscored by the site-specific study previously provided by Johnson Economics. Our property was a Christmas tree farm long time ago which was **abandoned more than 25 years ago** because it was no longer feasible to farm. In the past 10 years we planted more than 3,000 Christmas trees all of which died. Despite these facts, all land surrounding Exit 16 is still designated as agricultural under the Clark County zoning code—a designation that is outdated and inconsistent with the infrastructure investment made in the area.

City of Ridgefield has demonstrated its desire to grow in a strategic and sustainable manner. The Exit 16 area is ideally suited for commercial and industrial development: it is served by municipal utilities, features relatively flat topography, and enjoys immediate access to a major transportation corridor. These attributes make it one of the most viable areas in the region for meaningful job creation and long-term economic vitality.

In recognition of this, the Ridgefield City Council approved two comprehensive plan alternatives that reflect these development goals. The Clark County Council subsequently accepted those alternatives and voted to conduct the environmental analysis required to evaluate them.

In December 2023, the Council made the prudent decision to initiate this countywide resource study. Reversing that decision now, as proposed in Resolution No. 2025-03-xx, would halt the required process and delay City of Ridgefield's ability to expand its UGA. By the time the next comprehensive plan update cycle occurs, the opportunity to incorporate

this strategically located land into the city could be lost forever—along with the economic potential it represents.

We respectfully urge the Council to affirm your prior decision to complete the countywide resource land study. The future economic health of Ridgefield and Clark County region depends on it.

We urge you to reject Resolution No. 2025-03-xx and allow the countywide resource land study to move forward. Doing so will make sure that land use decisions are based on scientific data and ensure balanced and responsible growth in Clark County.

We appreciate your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Babrak Amiri

Via Email: Rebecca.Messinger@clark.wa.gov