From:	Susan Saul
То:	Cnty Board of County Councilors General Delivery
Subject:	Amended Resolution No. 2025-04-x
Date:	Friday, April 11, 2025 11:12:07 PM
Attachments:	Clark County Amended Resolution 20205-04-x 4-11-2025.pdf

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Our letter to the Clark County Council is attached.

Susan Saul Conservation Chair <u>conservation@vancouveraudubon.org</u>





P.O. Box 1966 Vancouver, WA 98668-1966

April 11, 2025

Clark County Council 1300 Franklin Street Vancouver, WA 98660

comments submitted electronically via email to: <u>boardcom@clark.wa.gov</u>

Re: Amended Resolution No. 2025-04-x

Dear Council Members:

The Vancouver Audubon Society urges you to 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 bird and wildlife habitat and the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.

The Amended Resolution will remove from the review process the numerous site-specific requests seeking new Surface Mining Overlay designations. The Vancouver Audubon Society fully supports 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.

Also, the Amended Resolution will wisely reject the proposal to spend as much as \$300,000 on 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 bird and wildlife habitat, 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.

Thank you for your public service. Please vote to protect our bird and wildlife habitat.

Sincerely,

Susan Mr. Saul

Susan Saul Conservation Chair