

From: vlwclark@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Victoria Clark](#)
To: [Rebecca Messinger](#)
Subject: Please vote in favor of Amended Resolution No. 2025-04-x
Date: Tuesday, April 15, 2025 7:44:39 AM

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of Clark County. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Chair Marshall and Council Members,

By and large, I am not a political person, nor do I keep close tabs on local governmental decisions and policies. But this is too important for me to ignore. I am URGING 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.

I have lived in Clark County since 1975, and in the Yacolt area since 1980. My children, born in the 80's and 90's, barely recognize the place when they come to visit as there has been so much urbanization. Seeing the sprawl of the Vancouver area creep northward has been frustrating and distressing, and it's getting worse each year. Native species we used to see frequently have already disappeared--band-tailed pigeons, grouse, piney squirrels, and screech owls, for instance. Dismal, featureless subdivisions have not only altered the character of our little town, but have added a great burden to our roads. This is a great concern when wildfires threaten, as they have done repeatedly during the last decade. Vandalism is already increasing, and older residents such as ourselves are being taxed to the point of being forced to sell up and move. If we had wanted to live in the greater Portland/Vancouver area, we would have stayed there, but now it's threatening to envelop us despite our decision to live in the country. What happened to the zoning laws that were made to protect rural and forest land in Clark County from developers?

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,
Mrs. Victoria Clark

Yacolt, WA 98675-4403