From: april@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of April Thatcher
To: Cnty Board of County Councilors General Delivery
Subject: Please vote in favor of Amended Resolution No. 2025-04-x
Date: Monday, April 14, 2025 10:05:26 AM

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Dear Chair Marshall and Council Members,

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,
Ms. April Thatcher
Ridgefield, WA 98642-8546