

From: [Jeffrey Delapena](#)
To: [Heather Gordon](#); [Cnty 2025 Comp Plan](#)
Cc: [Oliver Orjiako](#); [Jose Alvarez](#); [Rebecca Messinger](#)
Subject: RE: Comprehensive Plan Comments
Date: Thursday, January 8, 2026 8:52:00 AM

Good day, Heather,

Thank you for providing this feedback ahead of the Joint Hearing to select the Preferred Land Use Alternative for the 2025 Comprehensive Plan Update.

I am forwarding to additional members of Staff. Your comments will be brought to the attention of the Council and Planning Commission ahead of the Hearing and be added to the Index of Record.

Best,

Jeff Delapena
Program Assistant
COMMUNITY PLANNING

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-----Original Message-----

From: Heather Gordon <heathergord@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 7, 2026 8:45 PM
To: Cnty 2025 Comp Plan <comp.plan@clark.wa.gov>
Subject: Comprehensive Plan Comments

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To Whom It May Concern,

I am a 19-year resident of Ridgefield and a 35-year resident of Clark County. I have watched with both hope and sadness as the county has transformed over this time. One of the things that made living in this community and raising my family here so rich and wonderful was how much the area was more than just suburban housing. We always had the farms close by for pumpkins, for berries, for plums, for Christmas trees, and for fresh corn. All of that is getting harder and harder to find in our local communities as they develop and add in commerce, some of it essential, much of it redundant.

I am not anti-development, but I am pro-local food. It's healthier for consumers, it's healthier for our environment — helping with the need to address the realities of a changing climate caused by our overuse of transportation systems. To make our communities resilient in the upcoming decades, we need to continue to have agricultural areas close by.

I really hope that the research and data collected by our Agricultural Advisory Commission is taken to heart. It is relatively easy and fast to pave over fields, but very hard to bring them back. Communities elsewhere have made the mistake of not retaining lands for farms, and are having to undo that by creating spaces for urban farming. Let's be forward looking here in SW Washington and do something different. Let's learn from the mistakes of others rather than make the same ones here.

Small farms can be enormously productive and successful. In Ridgefield, Red Truck Farm is a tremendous asset. But our population explosion in Ridgefield means we'll be needing more Red Truck Farms. Where are they to go if we keep adopting Comprehensive Plans that don't retain agricultural space for them?

I hope that the County Council will thoughtfully consider that the needs of the county are bigger than those with the monies to develop it. Please keep our agricultural land designations.

Thank you for your work.

Heather G. Gordon

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