

From: [Jenna Kay](#)
To: [Cnty 2025 Comp Plan](#); [Jeffrey Delapena](#)
Subject: FW: THANKS AND GROWTH MANAGEMENT HEARINGS BOARD COMMENT
Date: Friday, April 17, 2026 3:27:05 PM
Attachments: [GMHB Public Comment 17 April 2026.pdf](#)

For the record

From: Randal Friedman <randal@camasearthdaysociety.com>
Sent: Friday, April 17, 2026 3:11 PM
To: Sue Marshall <Sue.Marshall@clark.wa.gov>
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Subject: THANKS AND GROWTH MANAGEMENT HEARINGS BOARD COMMENT

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Chair Marshall — Thank you for the follow-up and the work of your staff in reviewing the Society's submittal concerning Camas' request for UGA expansion. Your staff recognized that the request was not appropriate given the land within Camas' existing urban area which includes hundreds of acres of brownfields in our city's center. It does not reflect action by our Legislature to expand the GMA to new core areas. These basic concerns were also expressed by Heidi Cody and Don Steinke in our meeting with Oliver.

The discussion with your staff and information from the first hearing highlights several additions added to the Mill District Plan. Following the path of Ridgefield, the plan seeks recognition and inclusion of non-operational mill property into the urban lands model. This should clarify that this land is available for future planning. It is no longer restricted by operations with buildings being demolished. It is part of SW Washington's future.

I had the opportunity to speak with Vancouver's mayor at an arts function about the Mill District Plan. She was appreciative of the efforts to recognize the interdependence of the highway corridor Camas shares with Washougal and Vancouver. This symbiotic relationship demonstrates how the Camas Mill property should rightfully return to the regional powerhouse it was and form a backbone for future non-automotive dependent low-carbon living in SW Washington. I was able to follow-up with Washougal's mayor with whom I've shared these ideas over the past several years.

I've attached a public comment I made this morning at the Growth Management Hearings Board. It was well received. It seems they've never been so directly confronted with the inexorable linkage between land use, climate change and affordability. I got their interest. I'm following up with staff. FYI I learned that our Board representative is leaving the Board and the Governor's office is now considering a replacement with action expected next month.

Thanks again and best in your next endeavor. Your action helps check the expansion sought by a city choosing to continue the greenfield sprawl model for development to the region's detriment.

Randal Friedman

Land Use Policy

April 17, 2026 Public Comment Growth Management Hearings Board

Good morning, My name is Randal Friedman and I am from Camas. I am a co-founder of the two-year old Camas Earth Day Society to establish and maintain Camas' legacy as the root of Earth Day 1970. Denis Hayes, the son of a Camas millworker, spent his childhood amongst the uncontrolled air, water and land pollution thinking there must be a way to make paper that didn't destroy the Earth. His lifetime included helping pass the landmark legislation protecting our air, land, water and wildlife and thereby protecting our future.

Five years ago the community asked Denis to come back and help get a seat at the table for the mill's all important remediation now under state order. We created and the state funded the Community Advisory Group of which I am an original member.

Why am I here? Aside from working with our schools and library, and native gardening on public lands, we have established ourselves as a voice for new ways of considering how the GMA, Climate Change, and affordability come together through the development of brownfields. These are remnants of our State's great industrial history. Half of the 660 acre Camas Mill is now a brownfield under cleanup order.

Properly remediated brownfields are a way to combat the increasing sprawl the GMA seeks to reign in. It is becoming widely accepted that sprawl and carbon reduction cannot coexist.

Clark County staff recognized our work in choosing to withhold support for a specific request to expand Camas' UGA through 160 acres of rural Ag land. The alternative to this sprawl is what we call the *Mill District Plan*.

I am here today to introduce myself. I am grateful that the architects of the GMA saw the wisdom to establish this appellate function, available to all, to among other things consider statewide policy needs. Our state continues to be a focus of long-term growth. Planning and climate change are linked at the hip.

Thank you for your service and the work your staff does. The community looks to you to hear that unheard voice too often sadly excluded from local planning in this world of change.