

From: [Cnty 2025 Comp Plan](#)
To: karissa@friendsofclarkcounty.org
Cc: [Oliver Orjiako](#); [Rebecca Messinger](#); [Amy Wooten](#)
Subject: FW: Friends of Clark County's Comments on the Preferred Alternative for the 2025 Comp Plan Update
Date: Friday, April 24, 2026 8:10:00 AM
Attachments: [FOCC Comments on the Preferred Alternative 2025 Comp Plan April 2026.docx.pdf](#)
[image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Good day, Karissa,

Thank you very much for providing Friends of Clark County's feedback related to the April 27th Council Hearing to select the Preferred Alternative. I am forwarding to additional members of Staff for their awareness.

These comments will be added to the Comprehensive Plan Index of Record.

Best regards,



Jeff Delapena
Program Assistant
COMMUNITY PLANNING

564.397.4558



From: Karissa Page <karissa@friendsofclarkcounty.org>
Sent: Thursday, April 23, 2026 6:35 PM
To: Sue Marshall <Sue.Marshall@clark.wa.gov>; Glen Yung <Glen.Yung@clark.wa.gov>; Matt Little <Matt.Little@clark.wa.gov>; Wil Fuentes <Wil.Fuentes@clark.wa.gov>; Cnty 2025 Comp Plan <comp.plan@clark.wa.gov>; Oliver Orjiako <Oliver.Orjiako@clark.wa.gov>; Rebecca Messinger <Rebecca.Messinger@clark.wa.gov>
Cc: Ann Foster <annfoster5093@gmail.com>
Subject: Friends of Clark County's Comments on the Preferred Alternative for the 2025 Comp Plan Update

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.

Hello,

Please review the attached letter from Friends of Clark County for the Clark County 2025 Comprehensive Plan Update Preferred Alternative hearing.

Thank you,

Karissa

FOCC



Friends of Clark County

PLANTING THE SEEDS OF RESPONSIBLE GROWTH

Clark County Council
% Rebecca Messinger
Public Services Center
6th Floor
1300 Franklin Street
Vancouver, WA 98660

April 23, 2026

RE: Comments *For the Record* on the Preferred Alternative for the 2025 Comprehensive Plan Update

My name is Ann Foster and I am writing on behalf of Friends of Clark County (FOCC), a local non-profit advocacy organization representing its thousands of supporters, who are residents of Clark County, WA, to express our position on the Preferred Alternative for the 2025 Comp Plan Update.

Clark County's own modeling¹ establishes that ***all*** its cities² can accommodate their projected population growth within existing urban growth areas (UGAs), meaning there is **no legal reason** to expand their UGAs. Clark County's Preferred Alternative for the Comp Plan should reflect this reality. Expansion of our current UGAs and paving over hundreds of acres of prime farmland for expensive, sprawling and emissions-inducing development is unnecessary.

Additionally, the 2025 Agricultural Lands Study found that ***all*** currently designated agricultural lands meet the legal criteria for designation in Washington State law. The study also concluded that Clark County has *additional* incredibly high-quality soils in our

¹ The County's adopted Vacant Buildable Lands Model, OFM adopted population projection and adopted Population, Housing and Employment Resolution, all adopted and passed after robust public hearings, factually support the County's modeling. No jurisdiction appealed any of those adopted resolutions and they are the legal and factual foundation of the County's update.

² The record also contains documents presented to the City of Ridgefield and the City of La Center by their respective consultants that all the forecasted growth by the County can be accommodated within those cities' existing UGAs.

rural areas that are not currently designated as agricultural lands, but meet the criteria for designation. Hundreds of acres of designated agricultural land with prime soils and additional agricultural-quality rural land will be destroyed if the cities are granted their UGA expansions for development. These lands represent an invaluable community resource as we consider the need to feed our growing population, local food security and climate change resiliency, and the future of the farming industry and jobs in the agricultural sector as a whole.

Given the facts, **the Clark County Council must choose Alternative 1** to meet your obligations to act on the climate emergency and other elements of the Growth Management Act—reducing sprawl, transportation, protecting and enhancing the environment, open space and recreation, natural resources—intended to protect the quality of life for Clark County residents and preserve our precious natural resources that ensure community resiliency.

Furthermore, Friends of Clark County agrees with the Comp Plan recommendations of the Clark County Agricultural Advisory Commission on the subject of Transfer of Development Rights (TDRs), and additionally recommends a policy to be included in the 2025 Comprehensive Plan Update that **commits to developing a Farmland Protection Program within 12 months of the completion of a 2025 Plan**. We strongly support a program that aligns with the GMA, *is countywide*, and actually *protects existing and potential agricultural land*. There should be no de-designation of agricultural land as part of the 2025 comprehensive planning process.

Finally, Clark County must match the City of Vancouver's greenhouse gas emissions goals, as the recommendations made by the Clark County Climate Community Advisory Group (CAG) will be rendered toothless without an explicit GHG reduction goal, and Clark County, as well as the world, is far behind in acting meaningfully to address the climate emergency at the urgency and scale articulated by global scientific consensus.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide knowledgeable and factual input into the 2025 Comprehensive Plan Update process.



Ann Foster

President

Friends of Clark County Board of Directors