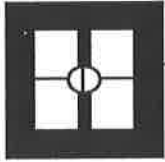


CITY OF HILLSBORO



TESTIMONY OF THE CITY OF HILLSBORO REGARDING HOUSE BILL 4090

My name is Jeannine Rustad, and I am here on behalf of the City of Hillsboro to express concerns about House Bill 4090.

The City of Hillsboro – Oregon’s 5th largest city with a population of 91,250 – is a full service city. As such, we have concerns that HB 4090 could interfere with our ability to plan for and efficiently deliver services. We have read Oregon City’s concerns and, as we share those concerns, we incorporate them by reference.

The effects of HB 4090 could be immediately felt in areas recently added to the urban growth boundary by Metro in 2011. This recent Portland Metro UGB expansion added land both to the north (approximately 340 acres) and south (approximately 1060 acres) of Hillsboro. The city has begun to work with the county and service providers to amend agreements regarding governance and service of these areas. Additionally, the city is undertaking planning efforts to update capital improvement plans to accommodate extension of services in an orderly manner – for the area to the south, planning efforts have been underway since 2006. HB 4090 could give property owners the ability to circumvent these efforts by the city and go directly to an adjacent service district. In addition to interfering with planning efforts, this ability of property owners adjacent to service districts to barter between the municipality and service district could potentially compromise equity in service delivery and cost efficiencies.

In addition to potential inequities spelled out above, HB 4090 could interfere with Intergovernmental Agreements for the provision of services (such as SB 122 agreements and Urban Area Planning Agreements). These agreements were a result of difficult negotiations and circumventing such agreements could come at a high cost to cities, service districts and utilities. These repercussions would likely be felt throughout the Portland Metro Region, if not cities throughout the state.

With regard to the proposed amendments (HB 4090-3), we offer the following concerns:

- The amendment (Section 6) limits a city's right to determine service provision in its own boundary. (The amendment requires that a city provide the service after removing a portion of a district from city limits. Current law does not require cities to provide those services directly).
- With approximately 950 special districts and 242 cities throughout the state there are many individual circumstances that would have unintended consequences from the amendment.

In short, HB 4090 will lead to inefficiencies, poor governance, inequities and the loss of *local decision making* concerning development impacts on existing infrastructure, the community and its citizens.