



March 28, 2013

Rep. Brian Clem, Chair  
House Committee on Land Use  
Oregon State Legislature  
Salem, OR 97301

Re: House Bill 3384

Chair Clem and Members of the Committee:

Metro is the regional government of the Portland metropolitan area, serving a population of 1.5 million people. As you know, one of our major responsibilities is land use and transportation planning to support the development of vibrant, livable, economically prosperous communities.

Metro has concerns about House Bill 3384. As introduced, this bill creates a de facto "supersiting" process by which an applicant pursuing a particular kind of land use decision may abandon the local land use process by applying for a permit from the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development, which is directed to grant the permit. This approach ignores many considerations that local communities take into account in managing their growth, including the critical requirement that urban growth boundary expansions be based on demonstrated need.

There are numerous land uses that citizens of our cities, counties and state may find desirable. HB 3384 selects one of these uses and exempts it from the local planning process, in which local communities consider competing needs and the costs of meeting those needs. Metro has consistently opposed legislation that would interfere with or legislate the outcomes of the local planning process. We urge you not to move HB 3384 forward.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

Randy Tucker  
Legislative Affairs Manager