

Raszka Shelley

From: Steve Spinnett <sspinnett@damascusoregon.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 1:13 PM
To: Raszka Shelley
Subject: Fwd: updated Opposition to HB 4029

> Greetings Shelley,

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> I was hoping this talking point from me can get posted.

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> The City of Damascus was not given the opportunity to participate in the development of this bill. The City requests full inclusion in the Senate Committee process to allow it a chance to be heard.

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> This bill has far-reaching impacts beyond simply the City of Damascus. It will set precedent for Oregon's land use system going forward. Oregon's land use laws were adopted to prevent the sort of patchwork planning that this bill promotes.

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> This bill contains no requirement that the withdrawn property be annexed into another city or that another city take the annexed property. In fact, it prevents the city from which the tract has been withdrawn from reannexing the property for a period of 10 years. This makes it possible that properties which choose to withdraw from Damascus will remain as urban unincorporated for the foreseeable future.

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> An additional challenge raised by the likelihood of urban unincorporated properties is that there is no incentive for neighboring jurisdictions to offer urban services to the withdrawn properties which are difficult to serve. The result could well be that jurisdictions will cherry pick the easy to serve areas.

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> The region's public policy discourages existing urban unincorporated areas and opposes the creation of new unincorporated areas within the UGB.

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> The City is currently in the process of referring two comprehensive plans to the May ballot. HB 4029 undermines that political process as well as the City's development of a land use and zoning system that serves the entire community as opposed to a handful of self-interested property owners.

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> Thank you,

> Steve Spinnett

> Mayor, City of Damascus

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