



CITY OF NORTH PLAINS

31360 NW Commercial St. North Plains, Oregon 97133

April 22, 2015

The Honorable Val Hoyle
House Committee on Rules
Oregon State Capitol
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Representative Hoyle and Members of the Committee:

My name is Margaret L. Reh. I am the City Recorder for the City of North Plains. We are a small town of just over 2000 citizens. We are located about 20 miles west of Portland. I appreciate the work that has been put into House Bill 3505 but feel its adoption will add a burden to our staff that is not necessary. Public records decisions can be complex in nature. We try to attend to record requests as quickly as possible and have been very successful in keeping our customers and citizens satisfied. The costs and complexities of requests, especially related to land use decisions can, at times, be quite high.

I am concerned of the burden that Bill 3505 will place on my staff. This Bill could cause issues in perceived inconsistency with which customer will be helped prior to another. The proposed amendment seems like an over-reaction to an incident that would have occurred no matter what the retention period was. Our small town already has storage concerns and this bill may lead us to an unsurmountable issue of not having the storage capability for an expanded retention schedule; a minimum of 3 years retention for a desk calendar, for example seems unrealistic. These currently have a one-year retention; by requiring cities to keep an additional two years' worth will add to ongoing storage costs in any medium.

The staff and City Council of the city of North Plains strives to remain transparent. This Bill is not the answer to the problem.

Sincerely,

Margaret L. Reh
City Recorder