

May 18, 2015

Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Oregon State Legislature Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: Support for HB 3282

Chair Edwards and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the City of Scappoose, I'm writing in support of HB 3282 which clarifies that cities can process UGB remands very narrowly by periodic review. Many cities have been struggling with UGB expansions around this state and this will help provide clarity for cities under certain circumstances.

The City of Scappoose's UGB amendment is currently before the State Court of Appeals. We don't know what the outcome will be. If it is remanded, the bill could be very beneficial to us. More broadly, however, we're encouraged to hear that DLCD has put real thought into how to utilize periodic review effectively under a variety of different circumstances. I was involved in a successful periodic review process with the City of Forest Grove and have experienced its potential benefits first hand.

However, for the most part cities have viewed periodic review largely as a relic of a bygone era, one in which there was funding for comprehensive local land use policy and planning reviews. That funding has diminished considerably - as evidenced by the greatly reduced amount of local government grants in the DLCD's -15-17 budget - and in many cases what's required isn't a comprehensive review but something more specific and tailored. We commend the bill's sponsors and DLCD for their work on this bill and would encourage them to keep exploring potential applications of periodic review as well as reach out to local government to explore our needs and help us understand the benefits.

Thank you for your consideration of this important issue.

Sincerely,

Michael Sykes City Manager