Chair Clem and Members of the Committee:

I disagree with HB 4079 and urge you to not support it.

HB 4079 allows the two cities to expand into farm and forest land without regard for existing state laws designed to provide orderly and efficient growth. It also allows them to ignore their responsibility to properly zone land within existing urban growth boundaries to satisfy a legitimate need for low cost housing.

Furthermore, the substantial costs of extending water, sewer and transportation facilities to ever more distant and decentralized sites have not been adequately considered.

HB 4079 will not provide affordable housing, but will open the door to wasteful use of productive land even as population growth increases demands for food and fiber. It should not be supported.

Sincerely,

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