

February 10, 2016

RE: SB 1573

Dear Senators:

You are so RIGHT to review this fiasco of voters deciding whether or not small pieces of land can be annexed into their city limits. Sherwood voted down Brookman Annexation by a handful of a handful of votes in November 2011. The third time it went to a vote (last November) the opposition had grown. They call it THEIR "village" and want to keep it just the way THEY want it and will put out any kind of misinformation to have it THEIR way. One of their road signs said, "DON'T BE TRICKED... will ADD 5000+ PEOPLE... VOTE NO 34-242." The plan was for 257 single dwelling homes and that comes out to approximately 20 residents per house-hold! WHAT???. When Sherwood's population was less than 3000 in the mid-1980s I don't remember anyone putting up a stink about all the growth and development that created a city of 18,000+. How nice... THEY got THEIRS.

I think the problem with public vote on this is that small opposition groups are hard campaigning and very vocal where as others are ambivalent and don't even bother to vote. Of Sherwood's 10,305 registered voters, less than half voted last November: 69% nay 31% aye. Now that three elections have passed, the need for housing continues and is getting rather dire. And, those who could have purchased a new home five years ago can now pay \$45,000 to \$60,000 more for a home. Too bad (the) THEY can't have that added to THEIR mortgages.

With highest regards,

Carleen Brewer
Sherwood, OR