

Submitter: Roz Shirack

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development

Measure: SB1051

Please vote NO on SB 1051 because it undermines the existing public process for expanding a UGB. I particularly oppose the required agreement from a city "to ensure" that all urban services will be provided within two years of a UGB expansion. This is an unrealistic time frame and puts a priority on these urban expansions at the expense of older areas in cities that still need service upgrades. For example in Salem there are still blocks in older residential areas that have a paved street, but no curbs, gutters, or sidewalks. It took years to get the original 80-90 year old water mains replaced with new, larger diameter ones in Salem. Cities need to be able to focus on the infrastructure needs within their city boundaries, not be required to extend infrastructure beyond that.

I am also opposed to allowing these UGB expansions to be determined by individual private landowners, rather than the affected city in a public process.

The Legislature has already required cities to provide for greater housing density within their UGBs. Hopefully this will delay the need to expand UGBs for many decades. SB 1051 conflicts with that long time effort for urban areas to grow up, not out.