

Submitter: Amy Houchen

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development

Measure: SB1537

I support what SB 1537 gets right. We need to improve infrastructure to encourage residential building on land that's already within urban growth boundaries (UGBs), including affordable housing.

Because there's plenty of land for residential building already within our UGBs, i urge amending SB 1537 to get rid of the provision for expansion of the UGBs. It was a terrible idea when it was proposed last year, and it's still terrible. The expansion would open up a lot of farmland to suburban sprawl, where housing will be built mainly by private developers on large lots for the upper-middle-class and rich. More roads, more driving, more pollution--it's a sorry picture, and not what Oregon is known for. And it certainly won't help Oregon's housing crisis.