

Submitter: Mara Kelly

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development

Measure: SB1537

I grew up on a small farm south of Salem. I also lived in Portland and in Austin, TX. Please do not be enticed to sprawl. I saw Austin go from livable to insane costly real estate market without the infrastructure to support its width. It's now a mini-Los Angeles. Driving from the city, it's strip mall after strip mall.

The UGB change would forever lose and ruin the great, fertile earth we have here in the Willamette Valley. Instead, can we focus on reduce, reuse, recycle within the current boundaries? We have numerous vacant buildings downtown in Salem and Portland. Build on vacant lots still in the city. Encourage infill for the needed development. Really exhaust those options. Otherwise, it will increase our need to also add more transit and public works in these areas that don't seem to already get funding they need.