

Submitter: Nancy Kelly
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3921

Dear Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony. I urge you to oppose HB3921.

My name is Nancy Kelly and I live in the Charter Oaks area. I am both directly affected by this bill, and a concerned Roseburg citizen.

The drafters of HB3921 have elevated the Roseburg UGB swap to emergency status under a pretense of preservation of the public peace, health and safety. This would appear to disregard the due process of community members for which the drafters serve, and usurp the authority of the state department established for the purpose of review and determination of land uses.

If the process for changing urban growth boundaries is broken, then as a legislative body you need to fix - not override with emergency declarations - this process.

The Roseburg UGB swap is currently under review by the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD). Would it not stand to reason that a state agency composed of experts in the field of land use law would be unbiased in determining whether or not the proper steps and measures be taken in accordance with balancing both the conservation of land with development for growth? Why is it necessary to declare an emergency in order to solve a statewide (even nationwide) dilemma of homelessness and affordable housing? The proposed UGB swap will not address either of those specific issues.

By adopting HB3921 as a declared emergency rather than letting the Oregon statutes and administrative rules pertaining to land uses be the determining guide for an eventual Roseburg UGB adjustment, you risk being complicit in allowing special interests to forever change the literal landscape of our community, for our citizens, and for our state. We prefer not to become another California sprawl without a rural community heart.

Respectfully,
Nancy Kelly