

Submitter: Sally Palmer

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Rules

Measure: HB3414

The effort to subvert our land use laws is exactly the opposite of what we need to do in Oregon to prevent further sprawl which leads to the need for outlying stores, schools, churches, etc., puts more automobiles on the roads which themselves would need expanding and therefore the use of more fossil fuels which contributes to climate change which contributes to the increased incidence of forest fires and will be the end of the Oregon we know and love and the Oregon that has been protected by our strict land use laws. There is plenty of land within the current UGB designations throughout the affected area which can be repurposed (unused strip mall construction, unused parking lots, and similar) and every effort should be made instead to terminate our love affair with the automobile which is contributing to this "need" for more land supposedly to meet the needs for affordable housing.

Affordable housing can just as easily be a semi-detached unit with a small fenced garden space and perhaps no garage at all, let alone a 2-car affair. Emphasis should be on developing alternate means of transportation, such as rail, which will reduce the use of fossil fuel, which results in climate change which contributes to the forest fire risk, and we certainly do not need a repeat of forest fire devastation such as we have had in the recent past. All of this points to the proposed amendment to House Bill 3414, which would violate the protection afforded by our current UGBs, a very careless, dangerous, terrifying change for the legislators to approve.