

Submitter: Tim Eddy
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HB3414
Legislators,

A blanket expansion of all urban growth boundaries across the State of Oregon will only exacerbate current housing affordability issues and ongoing struggles with housing and commercial development that doesn't support building strong, safe, walkable communities.

Oregon land-use law has been pivotal to creating more compact, people-friendly communities throughout Oregon - these are places in which people want to live and grow their families. This is in large part how Oregon has distinguished itself from California, Colorado, and other states overwhelmed by unlivable communities founded on unchecked sprawl of unsafe, strictly auto-oriented patchwork development that wastes productive agricultural and forest land.

Blanket expansion of the UGBs will only serve to provide high profit to builders and developers whose business is based on building oversized, expensive, single-family homes on large lots - wasting valuable land. Ample land for affordable housing construction currently exists within areas within UGBs and is currently served by municipal utilities and roads that have already been constructed and paid for, not require expensive new infrastructure.

Oregon's land-use laws and standing process for expanding growth boundaries works well - please don't scrap this for short-term developer profit. Blanket expansion of the UGBs will not enhance Oregon's inventory of affordable housing.