



February 13, 2024

**Clackamas County Board of Commissioners
Policy Position
Relating to Urban Unincorporated Areas**

Clackamas County opposes HB 4063 unless amended to include dedicated funding to perform the work required in urban unincorporated areas (UUAs).

Clackamas County was thankful to be included in the interim workgroup designed to clarify requirements for increased planning and needs assessments for the purpose of housing production in urban areas that are not already cities. We believe the proposed language included has addressed our technical concerns and can be helpful to housing production goals. However, without ongoing funding the county will be limited in helping the state to achieve those goals.

In Clackamas County, our UUA hosts over 90,000 residents. Said another way, if the Clackamas UUA were to become a single city, it would immediately become the largest city in Clackamas County and be the 8th largest city in Oregon by population – nearly as large at the City of Beaverton.

The cost to perform the proposed planning work to serve UUA's and support statewide housing production goals – that would be held accountable by the newly proposed Housing Accountability and Production Office (HAPO) – is not addressed in this bill, and should be. In order to meet the objectives in HB 4063, Clackamas County would need at least two additional FTE, or the equivalent in consulting services, for no less than two years to initiate the programs, and will need to identify ongoing funds to keep the program solvent.

We urge the inclusion of start-up funding in HB 4063, as well as dedicated programmatic funding to advance the proposed planning initiatives. Without funding, the county's ability to support state housing production goals in this largely populated area will be extremely limited, and with the added layer of accountability through the formation of HAPO will be considered an unfunded mandate.

Please contact Trent Wilson at twilson2@clackamas.us for more information.