

Member Hall  
245 High Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301  
(503) 363-8392



Mailing Address  
P.O. Box 13835  
Salem, OR 97309  
[MarionDemocrats.org](http://MarionDemocrats.org)

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## HB 3414 Housing and Land Use -17 Amendment – Oppose

Chair Fahey, Vice-Chair Breese-Iverson, Vice-Chair Kropf and Members of the Committee:

The Marion County Democrats Legislative Committee strongly opposes the -17 amendments to HB 3414.

This is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Oregon's historic land use laws, championed by then Oregon Republican Governor Tom McCall and guided through the legislative process by Chief Sponsor Hector MacPherson.

Oregon's land use laws have prevented the sprawl of parking lots and shopping malls that pepper the landscape of what were once citrus tree fields of Southern California.

Our committee membership includes a former elected official who participated in the "Salem Futures" committee in the middle 1990's. That committee repeatedly went out in the community and found overwhelmingly citizens supported no expansion of the UGB to prevent development in Oregon's lush farmland in the Willamette Valley.

Expansion of the UGB requires new infrastructure investments by local governments at a time when many local governments budgets are struggling to keep up with the maintenance of the existing infrastructure.

Expanding rather than doing infill and re-zoning existing under-utilized land within UGB's adds to travel time for work and school and strains the resources of transit districts whose boundaries expand when the UGB expands.

Bare land is a precious commodity. It is especially precious when it grows crops that add to our state GDP, attract tourism and feeds Oregonians and the world.

Please reject dash 17 and any like attempts to blow up our existing land use system.  
Future Oregonian's are counting on you as well as those of us who are here now.