From:

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Sent:

Monday, March 13, 2017 9:44 AM

To:

**HECDT Exhibits** 

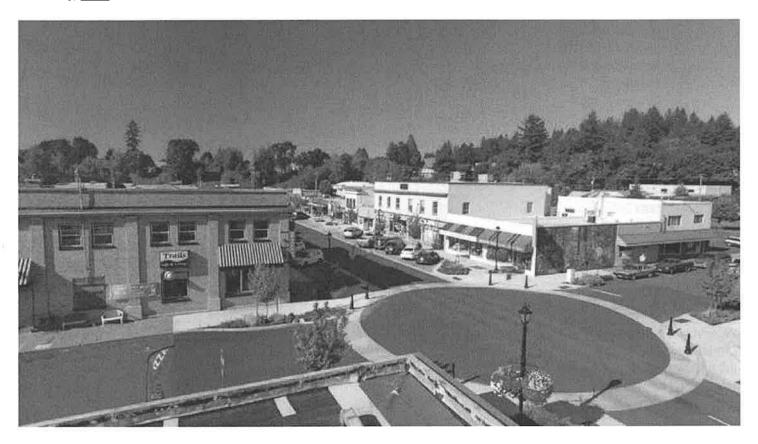
Subject:

HB 2470 Testimony - Estacada

Members of the House Committee on Ec. Dev. & Trade,

I am writing today with regard to HB 2470, which deals with Urban Renewal Agencies and the constitution of their boards.

I respectfully ask that you oppose HB2470 as it has great potential to stymie the catalytic work made possible by Urban Renewal programming. Estacada has benefitted greatly through Urban Renewal. Take a look at our Downtown revitalization and streetscape, which would have been quite impossible without Urban Renewal and a nimble and visionary, local board of directors.



Below you will find 6 points which outline the Association of Oregon Redevelopment Agencies' position of opposition to the Bill. I concur with these points and would also like to demonstrate why these points are valid in the context of how HB2470 would impact Estacada specifically.

Below the 6 points you will see the 12 entities impacted by urban renewal in Estacada. HB2470 would require that each of these entities be represented on our Urban Renewal Board—that's a board of 18 (which includes our current URA board, the 7-member City Council)—a rather large board for a city of 3000+ residents. Theoretically a quorum of 10 could be possible, even probable, but I question the likelihood that County and regional entities would ever participate in our meetings. I would also add that while these entities are contributing tax dollars to our projects, they likely have little interest or context to inform the decision-making power they would have as voting board members. Input from

contributing tax districts is certainly important, but that input has already been given during the development of our Urban Renewal Plan, with which our urban renewal activities must conform.

## Why is HB 2470 impractical and counterproductive?

- 1. HB 2470 will lead to large, unwieldy urban renewal boards
- 2. HB 2470 could curb urban renewal plans because UR agencies would not get quorum to conduct meetings
- 3. HB 2470 could paralyze urban renewal if each overlapping jurisdiction were given veto authority
- 4. Cities could lose control over urban renewal planning
- 5. HB 2470 is a burden to small taxing districts with limited staff
- 6. Existing law already requires consultation and input from affected overlapping taxing districts

## Effected Districts by Estacada URA

- 1. Cemetery District
- 2. Clackamas County Rural
- 3. Clackamas County Extension and 4H
- 4. County Library
- 5. Soil Conservation
- 6. Estacada City and Bond
- 7. Clackamas ESD
- 8. Estacada Fire 69
- 9. Clackamas Community College and Bond
- 10. Port of Portland
- 11. Estacada School 108
- 12. Vector Control

Thank you for your time and consideration.

## **Matt Lorenzen**

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