

Submitter: Lisa Arkin
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HB3414

Dear Legislators,

I am writing to urge you to reject House Bill 3414, which would allow all cities in Oregon a one-time expansion of their UGBs while bypassing our Goal 14 state land use law. In particular, the -17 amendment is particularly objectionable.

I serve on the Envision Eugene Technical Advisory Committee, appointed by the Eugene City Council to study how Eugene will grow to accommodate new housing and to determine if and where the City should identify urban reserves. The staff from the Eugene Planning Department have completed a detailed analysis of our housing needs and land within the UGB that could be used to build more housing BEFORE the City takes steps to annex additional resource lands. This careful work demonstrated that there was quite a bit of available land within the UGB, and while we did vote to approve some land for urban reserves, the acreage was much, much smaller and more compact than originally anticipated. Cities must go through the necessary research, data analysis and public vetting before bringing more land into their jurisdiction.

Cities must first determine underused land inside our UGBs that should be converted to housing before expanding city limits and UGBs.

The Legislature must reject efforts to undermine Oregon's land use laws that have served this State well by setting a standard for careful and detailed planning processes. Please vote no on HB 3414 and do not entertain the -17 amendment,

Thank you for your consideration, Lisa Arkin