

Submitter: Sarah Deumling
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HB3414

Our land use laws have played a big role in keeping Oregon more livable than most states by reducing sprawl into the landscape and thereby protecting our invaluable agricultural forest and open space areas. Why would we want to change this now with climate change knocking at our doors with a vengeance asking us to protect green space to sequester carbon and to drive less to reduce our troubling GHG emissions. We have such wonderful opportunities in our cities and towns to create walkable communities with population densities that can support public transportation with commercial uses on the ground floors and apartments or condos in the upper stories. People need to live near jobs and amenities, especially low income folks. It is both expensive and bad for the planet to drive from the urban edges to distant jobs in the cities.

As you can guess by now I am adamantly opposed to the 3414 -17 amendment. We can take advantage of the existing infrastructure for water, sewer, power, transportation, etc. , within current UGBs and by growing up (adding additional stories), filling in or converting to more needed uses. This will be far less costly and easier to maintain into the future than opening up new, undeveloped areas (perhaps productive farm land) beyond the current UGBs which will not only have to be built out now but maintained into the distant future \$\$\$\$. NOT A GOOD IDEA!

I keep thinking of charming European towns and cities built on this principal that work! We can do it too. It will be wiser financially, environmentally and from both an energy and a climate perspective. Join the 21st century and reject the -17 amendment - please - for all of us and our children's children.

Sincerely,
Sarah Deumling