

Submitter: Susan Hansen
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HB3414

Dear Rules Committee,

I strongly oppose the dash-17 amendment; it is clearly an attempt to thwart the orderly UGB expansion process which has served to protect Oregon from sprawl and to taxpayers from the aftereffects of unaffordable expansion.

As a board member of the environmental non-profit Bear Creek Recovery, I have spent over a decade learning about the problems created when cities expand too quickly and can't afford the infrastructure and services required to support growth. All over Oregon, cities struggle to manage their sewage, to upgrade drinking water plants, to keep up with repairs for the roads within their city limits and to provide adequate parks/greenspaces. Allowing UGB expansion without the vital proof that a city is ready and financially able to provide and maintain infrastructure would create an even greater infrastructure crisis.

Growth never pays for itself. System Development Charges are never adequate to pay for the impacts of growth. Oregon cities can't depend on bailouts when they get in trouble trying to fund all the expensive new infrastructure and services associated with growth. Our current successful process requires cities to show they have adequate resources to support UGB growth. This is simply another push by developers to find ways around our highly successful land use goals so they can make a quick profit. Those developers will be long gone when the ongoing bills come due for services and infrastructure. Please vote no!

Sincerely,
Susan Hansen
PO Box 50 Molalla Oregon