

Submitter: Matt Van Wey
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HB3414

As a farmer near the UGB of the city of Estacada, I strongly oppose the dash17 amendment being proposed that would allow expansion of the UGB. There is prime farmland surrounding many of our towns and cities that would be destroyed by development allowed with this amendment, or made unaffordable due to the development pressure. Instead of developing vacant and underused land within the city limits, Estacada continues to annex productive farm and forest lands to build massive housing developments. This is one example of many within Oregon, and would only be made worse by loosening our land use laws to allow further UGB expansion. Housing can be created carefully without sacrificing our rapidly diminishing prime farmland.

Please consider the negative impacts this bill would have on not only the rural character of many Oregon communities, but of the viability of local agriculture.

Sincerely,
Matt Van Wey
Quackenbush Farm