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February 10, 2025

Dear Co-Chair Helm, Co-Chair Owens, Vice-Chair Finger McDonald, and members of the House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water:

RE: HB 2950

My name is Andrée Tremoulet, and I am writing to testify in support of HB 2950, which would modernize Statewide Planning Goal 1 through a comprehensive advisory committee process. As a planning professional for the past four decades, I have firsthand experience with both understanding and implementing our state's land use goals in my work, and I strongly support the concept of amending Goal 1.

The concept of community engagement has evolved significantly since Goal 1 was adopted 50 years ago, but it has never been updated, and no administrative rules to guide its implementation have been adopted. As our research for Washington County showed, the very concept of community in the planning field has expanded since 1975 from being a geographic community (e.g., neighborhood) to include other kinds of communities, such as communities of interest (e.g., bike advocates) and communities of identity (e.g., people with disabilities). Promising Practices for Long-Term Community Engagement

HB 2950 will give the direction and the resources necessary for DLCD and LCDC to modernize Goal 1. In that time, participation technology evolved, outreach techniques have changed, inclusivity practices have improved, and barriers to public participation have been studied and identified by land use experts across the state. It is overdue for our public engagement goal to reflect these advancements.

For these reasons, I urge your support for HB 2950.

Thank you,

Andrée Tremoulet, Ph.D.

Andrie Tremoult

Principal