

To the members of the Oregon Legislature:

Please support and advance HB 3499. Citizens should have the right to vote on all new urban renewal plans, as well as major changes to plans.

Urban Renewal is debt imposed on members of a community—homeowners and renters. Urban Renewal debts must be repaid from the property taxes of future development ventures—whether they are successful or not—siphoning funds from schools and emergency services along the way.

I'm concerned. Here are some facts:

- Federal funding for Urban Renewal dried up by the mid-1970s because the program displaced established residents and communities.
- The state of California banned cities from using Urban Renewal agencies in 2011.
- That same year, Clackamas county voters passed protections requiring a public vote on use of Urban Renewal funds.

Urban Renewal is a vehicle that should never be used without our citizens clearly understanding, *and voting on*, what they're getting into.

Thank you,

Rick Peters
Wilsonville, Oregon