

Good afternoon, Chair Pham, Vice-Chair Anderson, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Natasha Atkinson, and I work in Roseburg, Oregon. I am pleased to provide my support to HB 3921. This bill is designed to increase residential development capacity in order to meet Roseburg's housing needs.

I recognize that a severe shortage of housing is an impediment to local economic development objectives. Available housing is a key component to retaining and drawing people to work within our area. It is also imperative to attract industry outside of timber. The lack of available housing at any price point in Roseburg is a barrier for many people interested in our community.

The proposed UGB swap provides the opportunity to add significant housing development, which in turn provides substantial economic benefits to our region. The concept of exchanging steep and inaccessible acres for lands more capable of development is an example of good government and planning. The costs of infrastructure and site development are significantly lower on relatively flat land as compared to the majority of Roseburg's existing vacant residential property that is on steep slopes. If approved, amending the UGB will provide a much-needed opportunity for an increase in available housing within Roseburg city limits.

I urge you to approve HB 3921 for the betterment of Douglas County's current and future community.

Thank you, Natasha Atkinson