WILLIAMSON Angela * DLCD

From: MASON Palmer * DLCD
Sent: Monday, November 2, 2026 3:56 PM
To: WILLIAMSON Angela * DLCD
Subject: FW: Public Comment: Opposing Unincorporated Rural Housing Densities - from Sarah Brown

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

FYI ...

Palmer Mason
Inter-Agency Coordinator, J.D. | Director's Office Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development
Cell: 503-269-2040 | Main: 503-373-0050
palmer.mason@dlcd.oregon.gov |
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.oregon.gov%2FLCD&data=05%7C02%7CAngela.WILLIAMSON%40dlcd.oregon.gov%7Caabaf7f8552741cd37eb08df393cdb08%7Caa3f6932fa7c47b4a0cea598cad161cf%7C0%7C0%7C639292605685842344%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=4cDusBTfyB8AwhQWxIgQgHRhFPPrenRHpcPRLqJE%2Bf0%3D&reserved=0

I support DLCD's efforts to coordinate with other agencies to improve housing production and general collaboration.

-----Original Message-----
From: hello@protectruraloregon.com <hello@protectruraloregon.com>
Sent: Monday, November 2, 2026 3:48 PM
To: MASON Palmer * DLCD <palmer.mason@dlcd.oregon.gov>; JININGS Jon * DLCD <jon.jinings@dlcd.oregon.gov>
Cc: sarah.a.brown08@gmail.com
Subject: Public Comment: Opposing Unincorporated Rural Housing Densities - from Sarah Brown

Land Conservation and Development Commission c/o Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development
635 Capitol Street NE, Suite 150
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Housing in Unincorporated Communities — OAR chapter 660, divisions 4, 11, 14 and 22

Dear Commissioners,

My name is Sarah Brown. I live in 97760, and I am a farmer and resident of this area. I am writing to oppose the Housing in Unincorporated Communities rules as proposed. Please do not give counties new powers to expand and upzone rural unincorporated communities. Urban development belongs inside cities.

My husband and I have called Central Oregon home for 12 years. We spent 2 1/2 of those years searching high and low to find a small slice of land to call our own and build our dream--a small vegetable farm to feed our community. Finding a place with water rights as well as a livable home was no small feat--it took time, dedication, and every bit of savings we had. We have spent the last 4 1/2 years transforming our neglected soil into a thriving small farm with which we feed ourselves and this community. The idea that our surrounding area and rural community have the potential to be bought and sold to developers is extremely disheartening.

Water is already short in much of rural Oregon. New subdivisions and commercial development on wells would make that worse for everyone who already relies on them.

These communities would get expandable boundaries without city infrastructure or city government. Rural residents would face a choice between degraded services and higher taxes to pay for urban-level services, and rezoning would push land values and property taxes up either way.

Exurban development would mean longer commutes and more traffic on narrow rural roads, through places that were never built for it.

Oregon chose a different path from the sprawl you see in other states, and it has worked for fifty years. Please don’t weaken it now.

Sincerely,
Sarah Brown
97760