From: CARPENTER Mina * DLCD
To: JININGS Jon * DLCD; MASON Palmer * DLCD; WILLIAMSON Angela * DLCD
Subject: Comment Submission: Housing in Unincorporated Communities
Date: Wednesday, November 18, 2026 7:54:30 PM

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Name: Maureen Lauran
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Rule: Housing in Unincorporated Communities
Organization or affiliation (optional): Thrive Hood River
Comment: Unincorporated communities have defined boundaries. They are usually surrounded by farm and forest lands, which they depend on economically. When land is taken into an unincorporated community boundary, it must be rezoned to non-resource uses. Present rules allow counties to take in surrounding farm and forest land when other adjacent land is not adequate to accommodate a need in a particular unincorporated community. Under the proposed rules, farm and forest land can be taken into a boundary if other adjacent lands cannot accommodate “growth capacity.” Growth capacity for housing is to be based on population estimates. Farm and forest zoning curtails unrelated housing, and hence population growth, in order to protect the resource use. So it appears that the proposed rules allow growth capacity to be defined as any population that could be placed on the land after rezoning. The proposed rules are a blank check for the destruction of farm and forest land.