

This is my comment for the GC Meeting on 9/8/2020.

The National Scenic Area Act is not a “Temporary Moratorium” on building. The urban area boundaries are just that, boundaries. There is language in the plan that allows for an expansion if there is a specific need, and it must be scrutinized to prove there is truly a need. This language should be left alone. For a city leader to simply say “We need to expand the Urban Growth Boundary to allow more development to occur,” is counter to the intent of the NSA. The reason the NSA was created was to protect this Gorge for current and future generations to see and enjoy its beauty. To allow cities to expand in size every few years will eventually create the urban sprawl you are supposed to be preventing!

You should be clarifying language, clarifying definitions, incorporating climate change issues, and making the guidelines easier to understand, **YOU SHOULD NOT BE REWRITING** the plan to allow significant changes such as expansions of the urban growth boundaries. Again....the NSA was designed to prevent urban sprawl, not just slow it down. You have wasted a ridiculous amount of time on this topic, time that would have been better spent on enforcement issues. By giving the green light to expanding Urban Growth Boundaries you have changed the intent of the National Scenic Area Act. You do **NOT** have the authority to make that change.

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