

June 30, 2020

To: Columbia River Gorge Commissioners

The Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area is just that, a national scenic area, not a local scenic area. It is a national treasure to be enjoyed by all, not slowly eroded away. I strongly support the limiting of urban sprawl with the proposed definition of a minor revision (up to 20 acres or 1% of the urban area cumulatively).

Given the poor pattern of development that has happened in the urban areas, there is no reason to expand the urban growth area boundaries. It has been driven by greed, not need. No compelling reason to do so has been presented. A regional analysis of the development potential in the existing urban areas should be required.

As climate change will negatively impact the entire National Scenic Area, please adopt a climate action plan with a 1-year timeline.

Thank you,

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