

November 28, 2020

Re: Proposed Urban Growth Boundary Amendment for the McMinnville Growth Management and Urbanization Plan

Dear Mayor Hill and members of the City Council,

I write to strongly endorse the UGB Amendment currently before you.

I was a member of the Project Advisory Committee for the McMinnville Buildable Lands Inventory, Housing Needs Analysis, and Housing Strategy, which in 2018 and 2019 supported the City staff's and consultant's extensive analysis of the housing challenges facing the city. As a current member of the Planning Commission, I know that almost every decision we make is influenced by the strain on McMinnville's limited housing and available residential land.

While the need for additional housing, especially affordable housing, is almost universally acknowledged, a path to expansion of the UGB has not been clear.

I commend the City Council for pursuing a response to the 2003 remand as a solution to this dilemma, and Planning Department leadership and staff for their truly exquisite work on the proposed UGB amendment. The staff's analysis is comprehensive and well-reasoned throughout, and Planning Director Richards has wisely built consensus with various stakeholders, vastly increasing the City's chances of success.

I urge you to approve the UGB Amendment. Thank you for your leadership on this very important issue.

Best regards,

Susan Dirks
McMinnville