



July 23, 2019

City of Umatilla Planning Commission  
216 S.E. 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Pendleton, Oregon 97801

**Re: City of Hermiston Plan Map Amendment Co-adoption (P-124-19)**

Dear Commissioners:

This letter is submitted jointly by Housing Land Advocates (HLA) and the Fair Housing Council of Oregon (FHCO). Both HLA and FHCO are non-profit organizations that advocate for land use policies and practices that ensure an adequate and appropriate supply of affordable housing for all Oregonians. FHCO's interests relate to a jurisdiction's obligation to affirmatively further fair housing. Please include these comments in the record for the above-referenced proposed amendment.

As you know, and as reflected in the staff report, all amendments to the City's Comprehensive Plan and Zoning map must comply with the Statewide Planning Goals. ORS 197.175(2)(a). When a decision is made affecting the residential land supply, the City must refer to its Housing Needs Analysis (HNA) and Buildable Land Inventory (BLI) in order to show that an adequate number of needed housing units (both housing type and affordability level) will be supported by the residential land supply after enactment of the proposed change.

The staff report for the proposed Comprehensive Plan Map Amendment states that Goal 10 criteria are satisfied simply because "The R-3 zoning will permit a range of residential uses allowing the city to provide a variety of housing options". However, Goal 10 findings must demonstrate, with an adequate factual basis, that the proposed changes do not leave the City with less than adequate residential land supplies in the types, locations, and affordability ranges affected. See *Mulford v. Town of Lakeview*, 36 Or LUBA 715, 731 (1999) (rezoning residential land for industrial uses); *Gresham v. Fairview*, 3 Or LUBA 219 (same); see also, *Home Builders*



*Assn. of Lane Cty. v. City of Eugene*, 41 Or LUBA 370, 422 (2002) (subjecting Goal 10 inventories to tree and waterway protection zones of indefinite quantities and locations). Further, since the purpose of the amendment is to encourage more development, the report should additionally reference the City's HNA to demonstrate the changes the amendment will have on needed housing. Only with a complete analysis showing any gain or loss in needed housing as compared to the BLI can housing advocates and planners understand whether the City is achieving its goals through this Comprehensive Plan Map Amendment.

HLA and FHCO urge the Commission to defer adoption of the proposed Comprehensive Plan Map Amendment until Goal 10 findings are revised in order to provide an adequate factual basis through evaluation under the HNA and BLI. Thank you for your consideration. Please provide written notice of your decision to, FHCO, c/o Louise Dix, at 1221 SW Yamhill Street, #305, Portland, OR 97205 and HLA, c/o Jennifer Bragar, at 121 SW Morrison Street, Suite 1850, Portland, OR 97204. Please feel free to email Louise Dix at [ldix@fhco.org](mailto:ldix@fhco.org) or reach her by phone at (541) 951-0667.

Thank you for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Louise Dix".

Louise Dix  
AFFH Specialist  
Fair Housing Council of Oregon

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jennifer Bragar".

Jennifer Bragar  
President  
Housing Land Advocates

cc: Kevin Young ([kevin.young@state.or.us](mailto:kevin.young@state.or.us))