

TO: A City By Choice

FROM: Chairman Andy Duyck

RE: Cedar Creek Study Area

Thank you for your letter regarding the proposal to conduct a feasibility study of governance options in the Cedar Creek area. Over the past few weeks I have met with representatives from A City by Choice, Commissioner Malinowski and staff to discuss this proposal.

As you may know, the County has been working on these issues for over 30 years and we are well aware of the challenges that come with urban areas developing outside of cities and the limited resources the County has to address them. While there are no “easy” answers, there are many examples of the County’s efforts, including the County’s strategic business plan, the creation of the ESPD and the URMD, the SB 122 planning process and resulting agreements, the Urbanization Forum, and grant-funded planning projects in North Bethany, West Bull Mountain and now Aloha-Reedville.

It has been our experience that these undertakings typically require significant funds and staff capacity, both of which are problematic even during robust economic times. However, that being said, the County is working with a local firm to use a relatively new type of polling technology (web-panel) to gather further information in the geographic area of your proposed study. The purpose of this polling is to assist the Board of Commissioners in its ongoing effort to develop strategies and solutions to address the service and governance issues in the urban unincorporated area. The leadership of A City by Choice has participated in early discussions about this project and will have the opportunity to provide further input as the project moves forward.

Finally, speaking on behalf of the Board of Commissioners, I would like to commend you for extraordinary citizen involvement throughout this process. I look forward to meeting with you on April 18th.

Sincerely,

Andy Duyck