



**Washington County**  
**Citizen Participation Organization #7 (CPO 7)**  
Sunset West/Rock Creek/Bethany  
Portland, OR 97229

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April 25, 2011

Washington County Board of Commissioners  
155 N. First Avenue  
Hillsboro, OR 97124

**Re: Support of Feasibility Study for “Cedar Creek” Study Area**

Dear Commissioners,

The residents of unincorporated Washington County deserve an opportunity to choose their system of local government. And they need the information to make an informed choice. To that end, we support the feasibility study proposal offered by A City by Choice for those residents north of Highway 26. The repeatable process outlined in that proposal can be used next by our residents living in the Aloha-Reedville area and other unincorporated urban areas that desire sustainable communities. We urge the County to support and provide financial support for the feasibility study proposed by A City by Choice.

CPO 7 residents in the unincorporated area are rapidly approaching a crossroads where the status quo will no longer be feasible. The current path is not sustainable due to expected population growth with its attendant increased demand for municipal services, a yearning for local representation, and a desire for more local control over fiscal resources. As stated in the County’s 2020 plan, Washington County does not have the policies or financial tools to meet the increasing need for additional municipal services to the urban unincorporated area. All governance options should be studied, including incorporation into a new city, annexation to an existing city, and increased County service districts. CPO 7 does not take a position on which governance choice is appropriate. Without a feasibility study, it is impossible for anyone to weigh the options.

“Planning is bringing the future into the present so that you can do something about it now.” (Alan Lakein). With a feasibility study, all interested parties—the County, the City of Beaverton, and local residents—will have the information needed to make choices now for a sustainable future.

Best Regards,

Kevin O'Donnell  
CPO 7 Chair  
on behalf of CPO 7