

Representation

Approximately 61,000 citizens of the Cedar Creek area are greatly under-represented. For local government, they rely entirely on sharing a Washington County Commissioner and a Metro Councilor who represent 130,000 and 270,000 citizens respectively. Cedar Creek area residents have **no** representation on key policy-making bodies and **no** locally focused municipal government to help acquire funding for local objectives.

Growth Management for Livability

Achieving livable, sustainable, and complete communities within Washington County is best served through a strong local voice in planning and community development. The Cedar Creek area must have plans and implementation strategies for infill, more efficient transit and livable, functioning centers coordinated with economic development and cultural affairs.

Flexible Budget

The Cedar Creek area is served by distinct service districts and other entities that are funded using monies budgeted for specific purposes. These different line-item budgets prevent spending in the best interest of the area residents. For example, if there is a cost savings on a road project, the money must go back into county-wide project for roads, and cannot be used for other local needs.

Fees paid to Benefit Others

Franchise fees are charged to all Oregon residents. These fees go to cities only. Thus, residents of unincorporated Cedar Creek area pay \$5 million in franchise fees each year that cannot be used for the community. These fees could and should be reinvested in the community that contributes it and could be used to pay livability improvements such as sidewalks, incentives for business growth, community events, or other things the community desires.