

# Clark County Buildable Lands Program Update

Project Advisory Committee  
Meeting #3

3/20/20

**ECONorthwest**  
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# Welcome and Status Update

# Meeting #2 Summary

# Topics for this meeting

- Follow up on residential land classifications
- Market factor
- Infrastructure gaps

# Residential Land Classifications Update

# Residential: Lot Size Threshold for Vacant

## Current approach:

- Lots < 5,000 sf considered “built”
  - Land is “committed”, but no units means still part of forecast
- Platted lots > 5,000 sf grouped with vacant land that has not subdivided yet
  - Platted lots are already net land, no further deductions needed

# Residential: Lot Size Threshold for Vacant

## Refined recommendation:

- Create a new residential land classification for vacant platted lots:
  - Parcels 1,000 sf - 1 acre
  - Platted within the last 20 years
  - Meet other criteria for vacant
- Assume capacity of 1 unit per lot

*Questions or comments?*

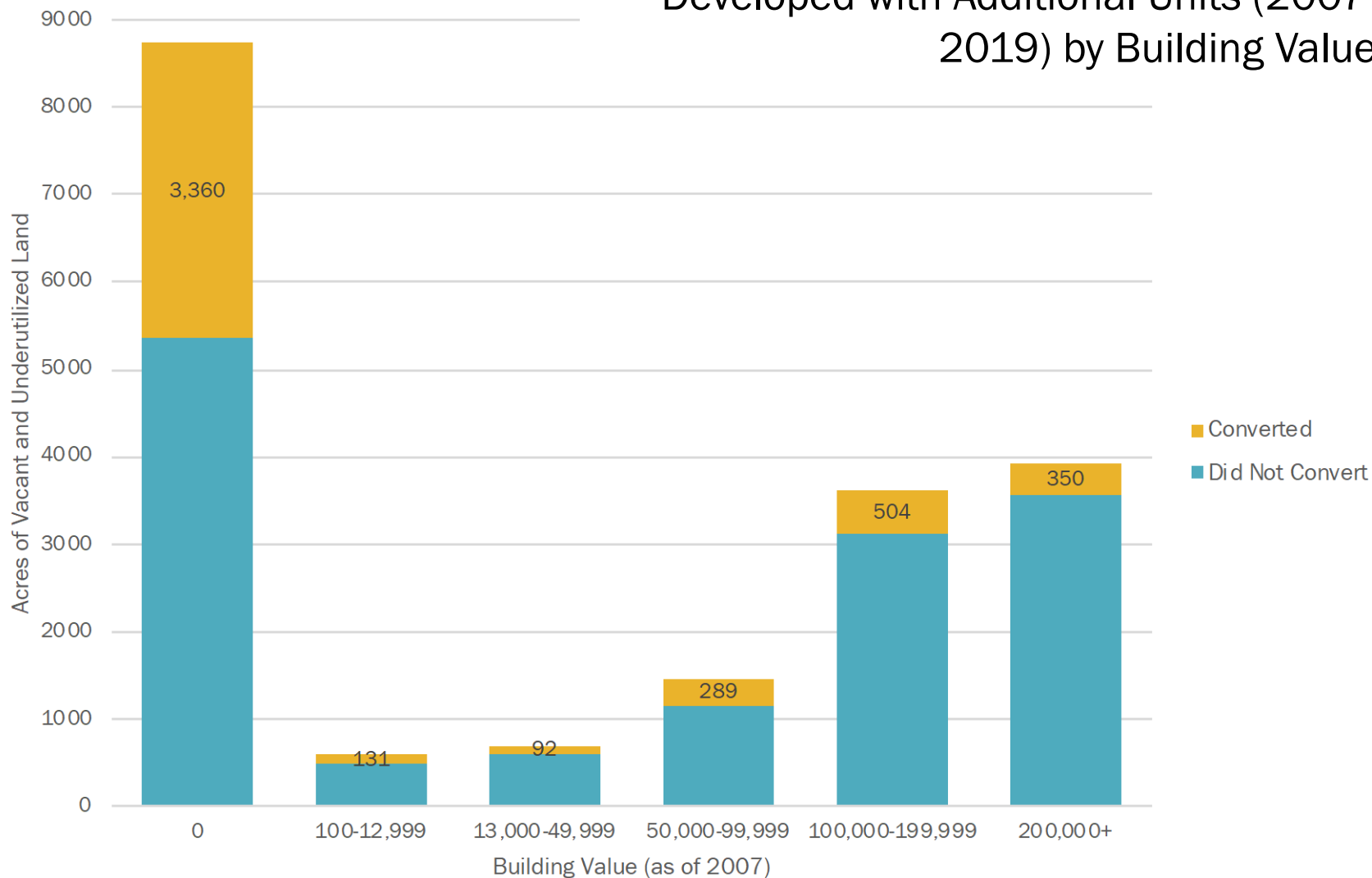
## Current approach:

- Parcels with buildings >\$13,000 considered built/underutilized
  - Threshold not updated since 2000
  - Doesn't vary with parcel size



# Residential: Building Value Threshold for Vacant

Vacant and Underutilized Acres that Developed with Additional Units (2007-2019) by Building Value



## Updates and refined recommendation:

- Building value is reliable, some other assessor's data less so
- Threshold of \$13,000 reasonable as of 2007
- Adjust threshold annually based on the percent change in property values of existing development in Clark County

*Questions or comments?*

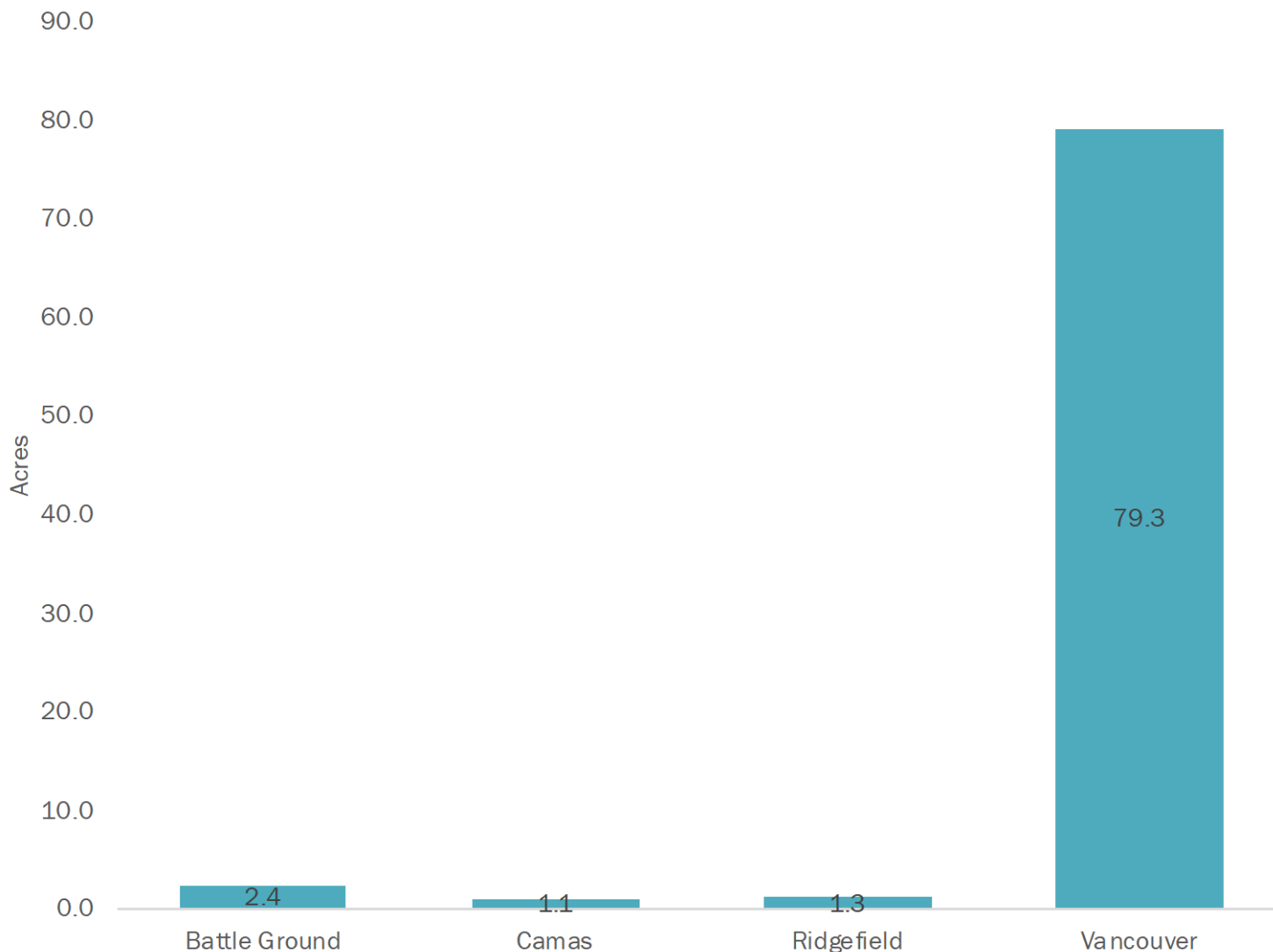
# Residential: Lot Size for Underutilized

## Current approach:

- Lots <1 acre excluded from underutilized category (vacant or built)

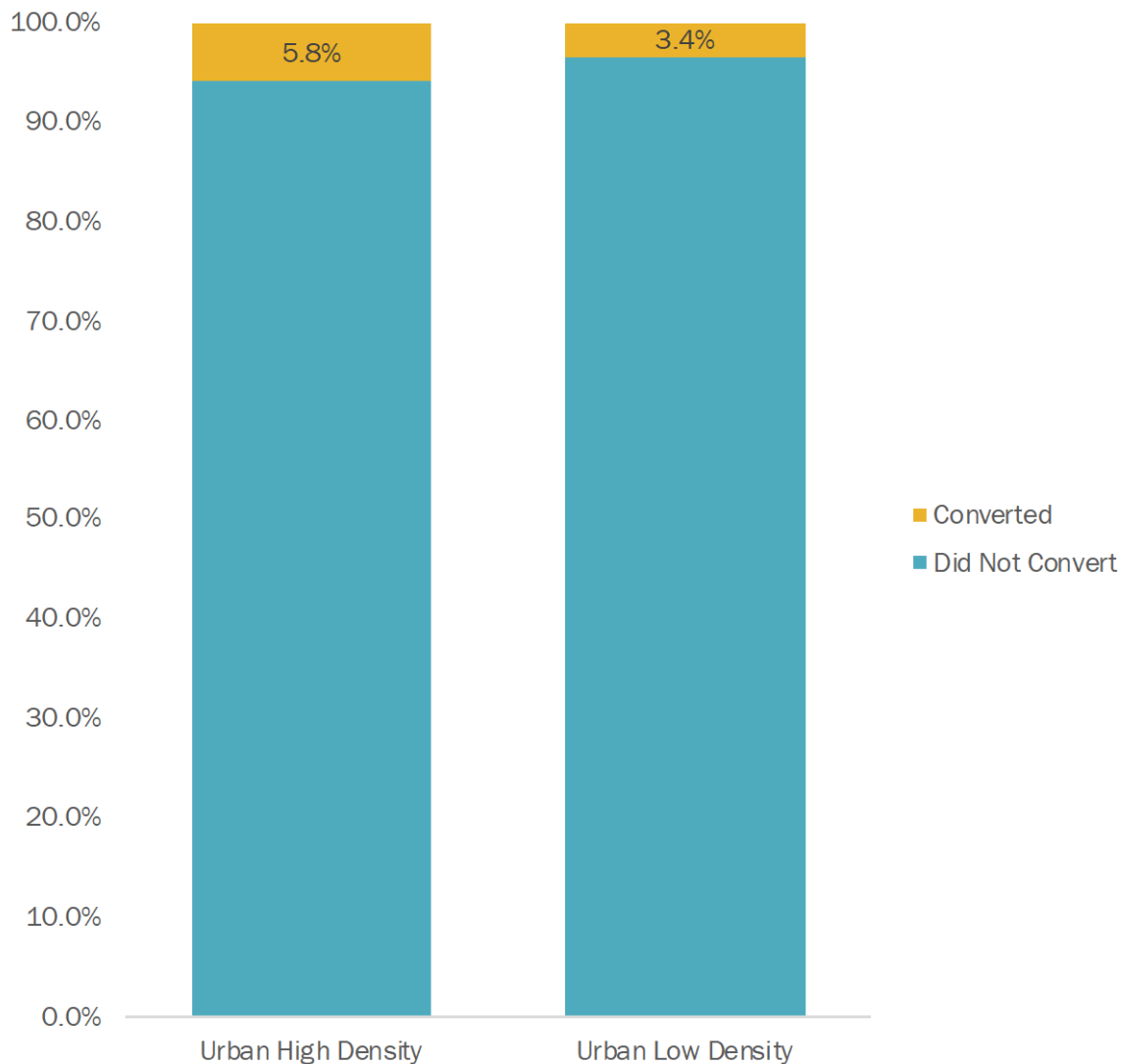
# Residential: Lot Size for Underutilized

Acres of “Built” Property 0.5-1 acre that Converted (2007-2019) by UGA



# Residential: Lot Size for Underutilized

Percent of “Built” Property 0.5-1 acre in the Vancouver UGA that Converted (2007-2019) by GMA Land Use



# Residential: Lot Size for Underutilized

## Refined recommendation:

- Establish a new classification for small underutilized lots:
  - 1/2-acre to 1 acre in size
  - Vancouver UGA only
  - ≤ 1 existing dwelling unit
  - Residential – Urban High
- Apply a redevelopment rate of 5-10% of acres (for this classification)

*Questions or comments?*

# Market Factor

# Market Factor: State Guidance

*“An evaluation and identification of land suitable for development or redevelopment shall include: Use of a reasonable land market supply factor when evaluating land suitable to accommodate new development or redevelopment of land for residential development and employment activities. **The reasonable market supply factor identifies reductions in the amount of land suitable for development and redevelopment.**”*

– RCW 36.70A.215(3)(b)(ii)



# Market Factor: State Guidance

Factors to consider include:

- Infrastructure cost to serve development
- Cost of development
- Timelines to permit and develop land
- Market availability of land
- Economic conditions needed to achieve proposed densities
- Market demand
  - RCW 36.70A.217

# Market Factor: Current Approach

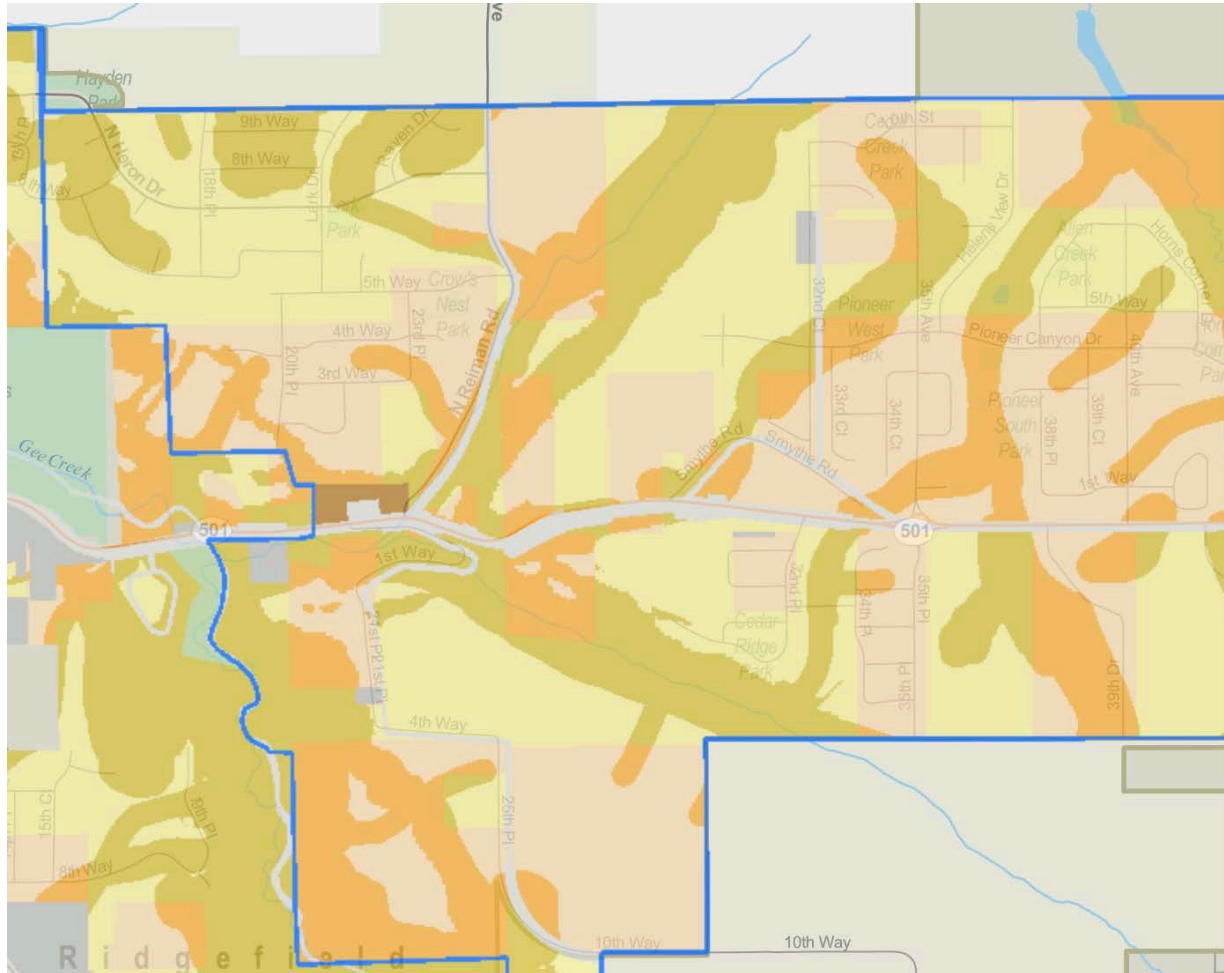
- “Never to convert” factors in the VBLM:
  - 10% of vacant land
  - 30% of underutilized land
- Demand side assumptions

Assumptions	1994	2004	2007	2016
<b>Residential</b>				
Market Factor	25%	0	10%	15%
Error factor	5%	0	0	0
<b>Commercial</b>				
Market Factor	25%	25%	0	15%
<b>Industrial</b>				
Market Factor	25%	25%	0	15%
<b>Business Park</b>				
Market Factor	N/A	25%	0	15%

- Compared gross acreage of vacant and underutilized residential land in 1996 VBLM to 2019 VBLM within same 1996 UGA boundary
  - Not all of what's "left" is due to market factor
  - Not a precise indicator
  - Ridgefield & Yacolt more problematic

# Example: Ridgefield UGA

1996 VBLM



## Layers

- ▶  Taxlots
- ▼  Market\_Factor\_Study
- ▼  City and UGA1996
- 
- ▶  VBLM 2020
- ▼  VBLM1996
  - Built
  - Mansions and Condos
  - Vacant
  - Vacant Critical
  - Vacant Exempt
  - Underutilized
  - Underutilized Critical
  - Roads and Easements
  - Private Openspace
  - Parks and OpenSpace
- ▶  GMA Landuse 2019

# Example: Ridgefield UGA

2019 VBLM

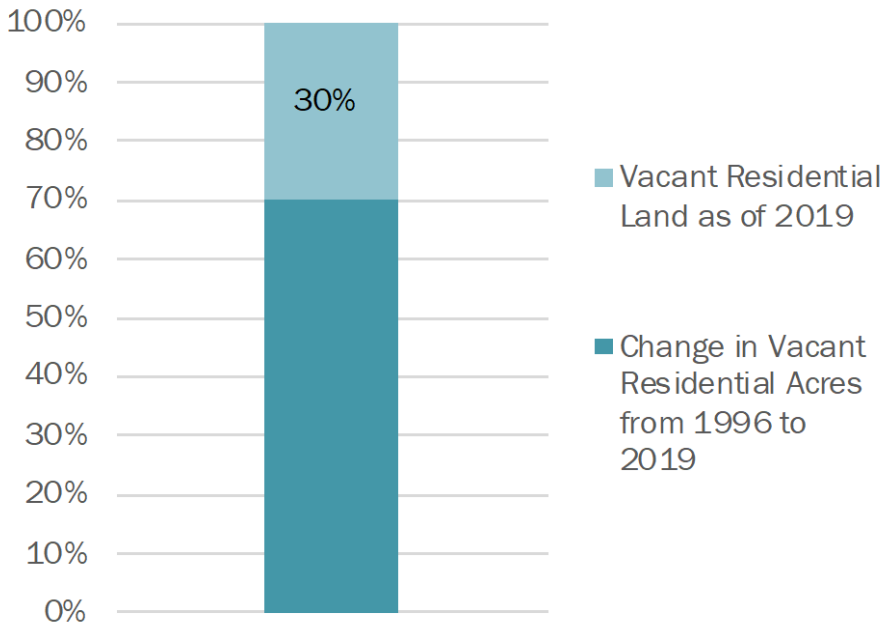


Land that was vacant and underutilized that is now built

Land that was previously considered underutilized now classified as vacant

# Market Factor: Results

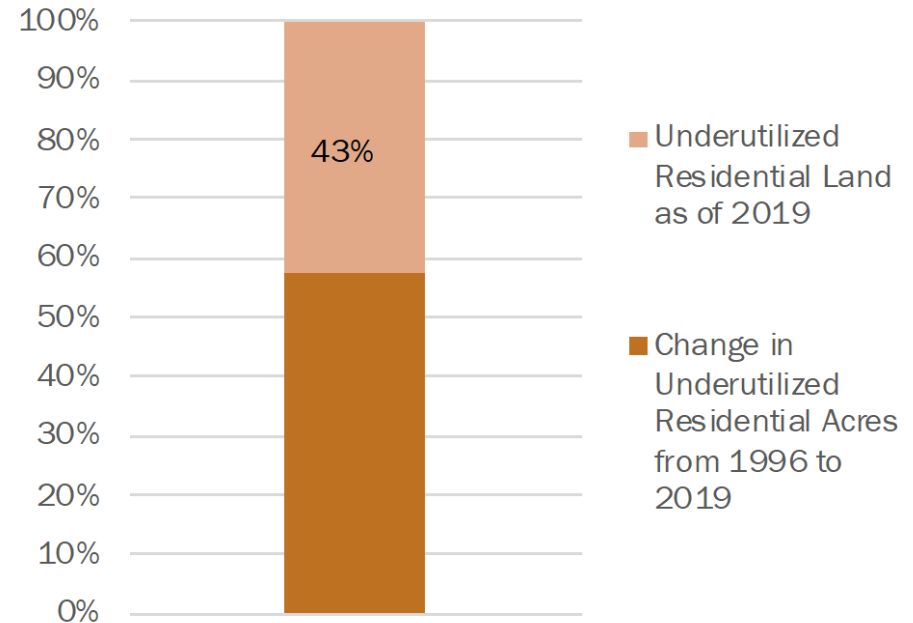
## Overall Share of Vacant and Underutilized Land Converted and Remaining, 1996 to 2019



### Planning assumptions:

- 10% never to convert\*
- 25% market factor\*\* (1994)
- 5% error factor\*\* (1994)

\* Applied to gross acres of land supply  
\*\* Applied to net acres of land demand



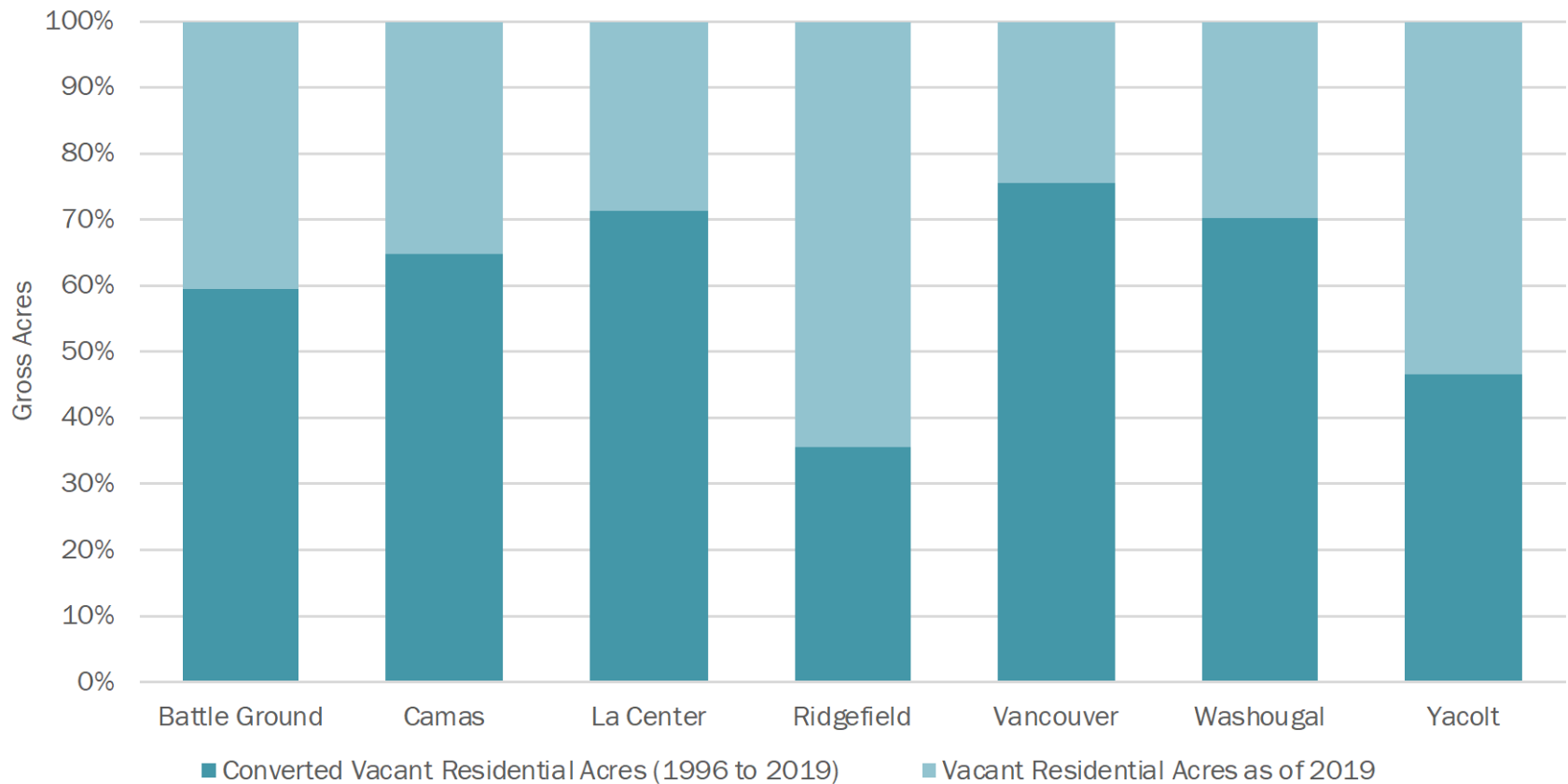
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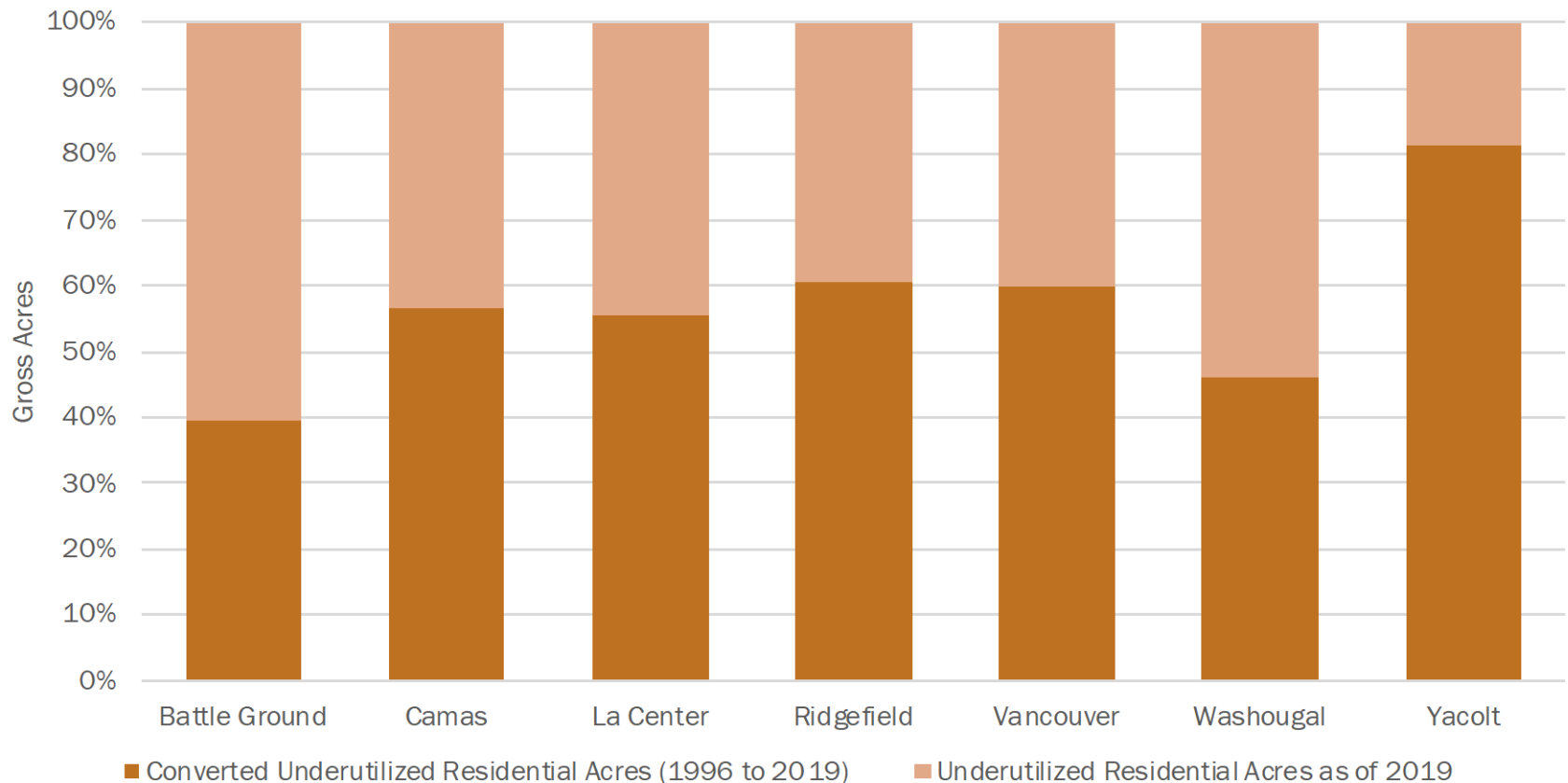
# Market Factor: Results

## Percent of Vacant Residential Land Converted and Remaining, 1996 to 2019, by UGA



# Market Factor: Results

## Percent of Underutilized Residential Land Converted and Remaining, 1996 to 2019, by UGA





# Market Factor: Preliminary Conclusions

- Current factors roughly in line with observed trends
  - 15% market factor applied in 2016
  - 10% and 30% never-to-convert factors
- Planning assumptions intentionally create some surplus in the system
- Recommendations:
  - No change to never-to-convert factors
  - Additional market factor  $\leq 15\%$  on demand side

# Market Factor: Questions and Comments

# Infrastructure Gaps

# Infrastructure Gaps: Background

- Evaluation and identification of land suitable for development or redevelopment shall include... “infrastructure gaps (including but not limited to transportation, water, sewer, and stormwater).”
- Consider:
  - Long-term lack of urban development
  - Infrastructure plans
  - Is development likely to occur quickly once infrastructure is available?

# Infrastructure Gaps: Proposed Approach

- Cities can document an infrastructure gap
- Assumption is most areas can be served within 20 years

*Please limit comments to 3 minutes per person.  
Additional comments may be submitted in writing.*

# Public Comment

# Preview of Next Meeting Topics

# Next Meeting Topics

- Mixed use
- Follow up on redevelopment
- Follow up on other topics as needed

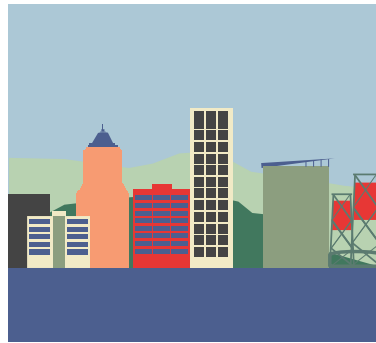


# ECONorthwest

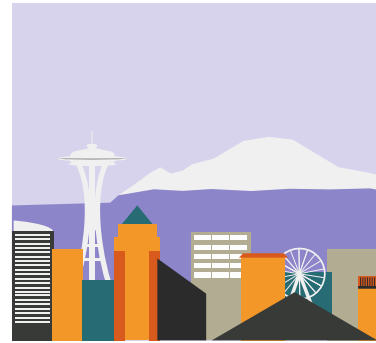
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Eugene



Portland



Seattle



Boise