

**BOARD OF COUNTY COUNCILORS  
MINUTES OF DECEMBER 22, 2015**

The Board convened in the Councilors' Hearing Room, 6th Floor, Public Service Center, 1300 Franklin Street, Vancouver, Washington. Councilors David Madore, Jeanne E. Stewart, and Tom Mielke present.

**10:00 A.M.**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Councilors led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**

The Councilors had a moment of silence.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Madore spoke about the consent agenda. He stated staff was pulling consent agenda item #4.

**ACTION:** Moved by Mielke to **APPROVE** consent agenda items #1 – #3 and #5 - #9. Stewart seconded the motion. Councilors Madore, Stewart, and Mielke voted aye. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. Terrance McCann spoke about a variety of issues.
2. Carolyn Crain spoke about the proposed resolutions.
3. Lee Jensen inquired about the proposed resolutions. **Chris Horne, Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, joined the discussion. Further discussion ensued.**
4. Elizabeth Campbell spoke about the proposed resolutions.
5. Carol Levanen, Clark County Citizens United spoke about buildable lands.
6. John Matson spoke about previous citizen's comments and spoke about Ward road.
7. Ron Sworen spoke about bridge design.

Stewart stated the value in some of the resolutions and suggested moving the resolutions to the New Year with the new Board. She stated the new Board might have some suggestions to add to them and work together as a collective force. She spoke about moving the resolutions into a work session with the new Board. She stated she doesn't like being put in this position as it forces the new group to react rather than work towards the future. She inquired about an abstention vote. Chris Horne, Prosecuting Attorney, joined the discussion. Mielke spoke about doing what the citizens already voted on and spoke about doing the people's business. Madore provided an overview of the resolutions and spoke about representing the people.

**PUBLIC HEARING: ADDITIONAL CHANGES TO THE JOB CREATION RESOLUTION**

To consider additional changes to the "Job Creation Resolution" to allow a waiver of fees when an existing building moves from one location to another, the rewriting of the application requirements for a fee waiver applicant, repeal of monitoring language from section 7, and extension of the time for reevaluation from 60 to 180 days, and other policy guidance from the board regarding emergency repeals.

Madore presented.

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**PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING PUBLIC HEARING: ADDITIONAL CHANGES TO THE JOB CREATION RESOLUTION**

1. Elizabeth Campbell
2. Carol Levanen, Clark County Citizens United
3. Bridget McLeman
4. John Matson

**ACTION:** Moved by Mielke to **APPROVE** Resolution 2015-12-19. Madore seconded the motion. Stewart spoke about job creation and the current barriers. She stated the changes proposed are not prudent. Madore spoke further about the fee waiver program and spoke about the job creation resolution. He also spoke about monitoring the program. Councilors Madore and Mielke voted aye. Stewart abstained. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC HEARING: POLICY FOR ANY NEW COLUMBIA RIVER BRIDGE PROJECT & NEW TOLL-FREE EAST COUNTY BRIDGE**

Adoption of voter approved resolution 2014-07-27 defining the guiding principles and policies governing any new Columbia River bridge projects and a new Toll-free East County Bridge. In the November 2014 General Election, voters asked in a county-wide advisory vote if the BOCC should adopt Resolution 2014-07-27 defining the guiding principles and policies regarding any new bridge across the Columbia River and to commission the Board to clearly support, provide leadership, and champion a new toll-free East County Bridge. The voters approved that ballot measure. This agenda item proposes to do as the voters requested by formally adopting that resolution as official Clark County policy.

Madore presented.

**PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING PUBLIC HEARING: POLICY FOR ANY NEW COLUMBIA RIVER BRIDGE PROJECT & NEW TOLL-FREE EAST COUNTY BRIDGE**

1. Lee Jensen – **Madore joined the discussion.**
2. Carol Levanen, Clark County Citizens United
3. John Matson
4. Bridget McLeman
5. Sharon Nasset
6. Sandra Bristol

**ACTION:** Moved by Mielke to **APPROVE** Resolution 2015-12-20. Madore seconded the motion. Stewart spoke about a third crossing and working with Oregon. She stated opposition on tolls and light rail for Clark County. She stated her opposition of the resolution as it is written. Madore spoke about the timeline of the project. He proposed an amendment regarding language change, but did not get a second. Councilors Madore and Mielke voted aye. Stewart abstained. Motion carried.

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**PUBLIC HEARING: FORMATION OF TOLL-FREE EAST COUNTY BRIDGE TASK FORCE**

The mayors of Troutdale, Fairview, and Wood Village, Oregon have submitted a letter asking us to include them as partners in a new bi-state group to share the vision and to specifically focus on a new toll-free East County Bridge. This agenda item proposes that the BOCC form and sponsor a toll-free East County Bridge Task Force of leaders in both states committed to fast track the construction. The goal is for the collaborative process to explore and arrive at a preferred location and design.

Madore presented.

**PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING PUBLIC HEARING: FORMATION OF TOLL-FREE EAST COUNTY BRIDGE TASK FORCE**

1. Carol Levanen, Clark County Citizens United – **Mielke / Madore joined the discussion.**
2. Sharon Nasset
3. Peter Harrison

**ACTION:** Moved by Mielke to **APPROVE** Resolution 2015-12-21. Madore seconded the motion. Mielke spoke about the current partners and moving forward. Stewart spoke about the need to have productive / sustainable plans and a buy in from future council members. Madore spoke about the citizen's requests. Councilors Madore and Mielke voted aye. Stewart abstained. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC HEARING: FORMATION OF TOLL-FREE WEST COUNTY BRIDGE TASK FORCE**

This agenda item proposes that the BOCC form and sponsor a toll-free West County Bridge Task Force of leaders in both states committed to fast track the construction. The goal is for the collaborative process to explore and arrive at a preferred location and design. The scope includes concepts by State Representative Liz Pike as the I-5 Practical Design Flyover; a "Third Bridge Now" by Sharon Nasset; a new corridor similar to a West County mirror of the I-205; and options found in the 2008 RTC Transportation Corridor Visioning Study.

Madore presented.

**PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING PUBLIC HEARING: FORMATION OF TOLL-FREE WEST COUNTY BRIDGE TASK FORCE**

1. Carolyn Crain – **Mielke / Madore joined the discussion.**
2. Carol Levanen, Clark County Citizens United – **Mielke / Madore joined the discussion.**
3. Sharon Nasset - **Madore joined the discussion.**
4. Peter Harrison
5. John Matson

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**ACTION:** Moved by Mielke to **APPROVE** Resolution 2015-12-22. Madore seconded the motion. Mielke spoke about the current partners and moving forward. Stewart stated her concerns with the resolution and stated the importance of a sustainable plan ahead. Madore spoke about leadership. Stewart also spoke about leadership and clarified her opposition to the resolution at this time. Further discussion ensued. Councilors Madore and Mielke voted aye. Stewart abstained. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC HEARING: LIGHT RAIL POLICY**

To consider adoption of voter approved Resolution 2013-07-17 defining the guiding principles and policies governing Light Rail. In the November 2013 General Election, voters asked in a county-wide advisory vote if the BOCC should adopt Resolution 2013-07-17 opposing every Light Rail project in Clark County unless it is first supported by a majority of the voters in a county-wide advisory vote of the people. The voters approved that ballot measure. This agenda item proposes to do as the voters requested by formally adopting that resolution as official Clark County policy.

Madore presented.

**PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING PUBLIC HEARING: LIGHT RAIL POLICY**

1. Carol Levanen, Clark County Citizens United
2. John Matson
3. Sharon Nasset
4. Josh Egar
5. Lee Jensen
6. Peter Harrison
7. John Matson

**ACTION:** Moved by Mielke to **APPROVE** Resolution 2015-12-23. Madore seconded the motion. Stewart spoke about light rail in Clark County. She stated her concerns with the language in the resolution and stated she wanted the new council to be involved with the light rail policy. Madore spoke further about light rail and representing the voters. Councilors Madore and Mielke voted aye. Stewart abstained. Motion carried.

***The Board adjourned for a break and reconvened at 12:45 PM.***

Madore spoke about the job growth rate.

**PUBLIC HEARING: BUS RAPID TRANSIT POLICY**

To consider adoption of voter approved resolution 2013-07-19 defining the guiding principles and policies governing Bus Rapid Transit. In the November 2013 General Election, voters asked in a county-wide advisory vote if the BOCC should adopt Resolution 2013-07-19 opposing every Bus Rapid Transit project in Clark County unless it is first supported by a majority of the voters in a county-wide advisory vote of the people. The voters approved that ballot measure. This agenda item proposes to do as the voters requested by formally adopting that resolution as official Clark County policy.

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**PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING PUBLIC HEARING: BUS RAPID TRANSIT POLICY**

1. Lee Jensen
2. Peter Harrison
3. Carol Levanen, Clark County Citizens United
4. Sharon Nasset

**ACTION:** Moved by Mielke to **APPROVE** Resolution 2015-12-24. Mielke spoke about costs associated with Bus Rapid Transit. Stewart spoke about citizen's comments regarding Portland and spoke about working together as a team. She spoke about her concerns regarding the fourth plain corridor. She also spoke about C-Tran. She spoke about her concerns with language mentioned in the resolution on line 41 regarding voting. Madore responded and read the resolution. Councilors Madore and Mielke voted aye. Stewart abstained. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC HEARING: TRANSPORTATION POLICY**

To consider adoption of Clark County transportation policies that support toll-free roadways, congestion relief, and free flowing private motor vehicles. In contrast to a "war on cars" such as "Complete Streets" agenda that seeks to force people out of their cars and worsening traffic congestion by shrinking roadway capacity, this policy supports our roadways for motor vehicles in appropriate proportion to other modes of transportation.

Madore presented.

**PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING PUBLIC HEARING: TRANSPORTATION POLICY**

1. Carol Levanen, Clark County Citizens United
2. Gretchen Starke - **Madore joined the discussion.**
3. Sharon Nasset - **Madore joined the discussion.**
4. Peter Harrison

**ACTION:** Moved by Madore to **AMEND** Resolution 2015-12-25, to replace Exhibit 1 which is supporting documentation received from C-Tran and Office of Financial Management and to update the grid. Madore seconded the motion. Councilors Madore and Mielke voted aye. Stewart abstained. Motion carried.

**ACTION:** Moved by Mielke to **APPROVE** Resolution 2015-12-25. Madore seconded the motion. Madore spoke further on the policy. Further discussion ensued. Councilors Madore and Mielke voted aye. Stewart abstained. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC HEARING: FREE MARKET PRINCIPLES POLICY**

To consider adoption of Clark County policies that allow more freedom for lower residential densities, more reasonable parcel sizes, and allows residential and business properties to be unconstrained by mixed use zoning. In contrast to an agenda that pushes for ever shrinking lot sizes, ever higher residential densities constrains, insufficient parking, mixed use zoning, this policy would allow for more flexible choices, less constraints on the free market, more reasonably sized parcel sizes and densities, more provision for parking, and freedom for business and residential zoning.

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Madore presented. Stewart inquired more about language and the intent in the proposed policy as it seemed contradictory to land use updates. Horne responded and spoke further about zoning guidelines. Further discussion ensued.

**PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING PUBLIC HEARING: FREE MARKET PRINCIPLES POLICY**

1. Carol Levanen, Clark County Citizens United
2. Susan Rasmussen, Clark County Citizens United
3. Peter Harrison

**ACTION:** Moved by Mielke to **APPROVE** Resolution 2015-12-26. Madore seconded the motion. Stewart stated her concerns with the resolution. Further discussion ensued. Councilors Madore and Mielke voted aye. Stewart abstained. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC MEETING: POLICY REGARDING MODIFICATION OF CODE TO ELIMINATE REQUIREMENTS NOT IMPOSED UNDER STATE OR FEDERAL LAW**

To consider adoption of a policy to free citizens from burdensome policies that would go above and beyond state and federal law. This agenda item proposes to adopt as Clark County policy, the commitment by Clark County to cut unnecessary red tape, additional costs, and unwarranted restrictions of citizen freedoms that go beyond state and federal standards. This policy would restrict future county code from being adopted that is more burdensome than state or federal requirements unless it is unavoidable. When such cases are identified in existing county code, this policy would compel the amendment of that code to apply the same standard.

Madore presented.

**PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING PUBLIC MEETING: POLICY REGARDING MODIFICATION OF CODE TO ELIMINATE REQUIREMENTS NOT IMPOSED UNDER STATE OR FEDERAL LAW**

1. Carol Levanen, Clark County Citizens United
2. Peter Harrison

**ACTION:** Moved by Mielke to **APPROVE** Resolution 2015-12-27. Madore seconded the motion. Mielke spoke about current law and regulations. Further discussion ensued. Stewart spoke about her concerns with the language in the resolution. Councilors Madore and Mielke voted aye. Stewart abstained. Motion carried.



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**COUNCILOR COMMUNICATIONS**

Stewart thanked everyone who came and testified throughout the year. She thanked the staff for their help and generosity, and her family. She wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.

Mielke spoke about staff. He thanked everyone for letting him serve them. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year.

Madore spoke about hard work and also spoke about the new Board members. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Hearing adjourned

**BOARD OF COUNTY COUNCILORS**



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David Madore, Chair



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Jeanne E. Stewart, Councilor

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Tom Mielke, Councilor

ATTEST:



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Tina Redline, Deputy Clerk of the Board

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Please Note: The Board of Councilors' minutes are action minutes. Digital recordings can be provided upon request. In addition, the Councilors' hearings are broadcast live on CVTV, cable channels 21 and 23, and are also videotaped and repeated several times ([www.cvtv.org](http://www.cvtv.org)).