



OFFICE OF MAYOR CHARLIE HALES  
CITY OF PORTLAND

September 24, 2015

Metro Council President Tom Hughes  
600 NE Grand Avenue  
Portland, OR 97232

RE: 2015 Urban Growth Management Decision

President Hughes:

The City of Portland supports the Metro COO's recommendations for the 2015 Urban Growth Management decision to conclude that there is no need to expand the UGB at this time.

We believe that this approach is the most practical one at this time. The 2015 Urban Growth Report (UGR) is based on adopted local plans and shows that the region has the capacity to meet the 2035 demand for housing and jobs. As with the Climate Smart Communities project, the UGR demonstrates that the region should focus on implementation of our current plans to meet our regional goals to create vibrant communities, promote economic prosperity, and reduce our carbon footprint in a way that ensures the benefits and burdens of growth are distributed equitably.

We support the recommendation that the region should focus on resolving the Clackamas and Multnomah county urban reserves to ensure that we have a wide range of UGB expansion area options in the future. We also support the proposal to begin the next growth management decision process after the urban reserves are acknowledged.

Also, we are ready to participate in a regional discussion on revising the methodology for the UGR. However, any changes must address the ongoing demographic shifts towards smaller, older households and focus on providing a wide range of housing opportunities that are affordable to a diverse community.

Sincerely,

Charlie Hales  
Mayor