Save Helvetia

13260 NW Bishop Road
Hillsboro, OR 97124

April 25, 2011

Director's Office
Department of Land Conservation and Development
635 Capitol Street NE, Suite 150
Salem, OR 97301-2540

Re: Remand of Washington County's Ordinance No. 733 and Metro's Ordinance No. 10-1238A

Dear Director Whitman,

Save Helvetia is a community organization whose supporters testified in the Reserves hearings in Washington County, before Metro Council and before LCDC (on 10/29/2010). We have been patiently awaiting the written remand order so that we might determine our response.

In the meantime, Washington County Board of Commissioners indicates that your "oral order of remand" was sufficiently clear to them to proceed with their response. They are taking the approach that only several components of the Ord. 733 submission need alteration. Metro appears to accept this approach.

As an organization with standing before LCDC, we are perplexed. We take issue with not only the amendments taking place now (Area 8D Urban Reserves, Area 8-SBR Undesignated) but with items that were before you in October (Area 8B Urban Reserves). Washington County treats them as "settled". We do not.

We had a recent conversation with a LCDC commissioner, who expressed surprise and concern regarding the lack of a timely, written order following their findings.

Please inform us as to the rationale for the lack of a timely and written remand order, following nearly 6 months. Please inform us how this lack of written order impacts our standing and rights of appeal to items beyond Washington County's current and narrow amendment process.

We express concern that citizens and organizations with standing have been given no communication about the lack of written remand order and that this then contributes to the Reserves process being less than transparent.

I look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Respectfully,

Cherry Amabisca

cc: Save Helvetia Board of Directors
        Linda Peters, Chair, CPO 8
        Linda Gray, Washington County CCI