



SPRINGFIELD 2030 PLAN

URBAN GROWTH BOUNDARY STUDY

12/3/15 Update

For several years the City of Springfield has been engaged in analyzing the expansion of its urban growth boundary (UGB) and is now preparing for the public adoption as required by state land use law. In conjunction with that work, the City of Springfield is preparing a new set of land use policies called the Springfield 2030 Comprehensive Plan. The Comprehensive Plan will guide and support attainment of the community's livability and economic prosperity goals and redevelopment priorities, including why, where, when and how Springfield will grow over the next 15 years.

The City has considered a range of alternatives for accommodating employment growth within the existing UGB and in alternative locations around the UGB. The Springfield and Lane County Planning Commissions conducted the first evidentiary hearing on the land needs analysis and boundary location alternatives in 2010.

In 2013, the Oregon Legislature adopted HB 2254, directing the Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) to develop and adopt simplified methods for a city outside of Metro (Portland) to evaluate or amend its urban growth boundary (UGB). The new "simplified method" was to be in addition to the method cities currently rely on and goes into effect on January 1, 2016. Springfield, along with Bend and Eugene, previously understood that HB 2254 would not impact its current UGB expansion because it had already completed its analysis and initiated its process prior to the January 1, 2016 effective date.

After considerable investment of time and money to prepare our analysis under the previous rules, these new rules mean Springfield could be required to start its UGB expansion work over. Therefore Springfield is working with Bend, Eugene, and the League of Oregon Cities to reach a solution with LCDC on the implementation of HB 2254 as it applies to jurisdictions already in progress with their UGB expansion work. The cities have asked for a bill to be introduced at the 2016 Legislature to adopt an amendment allowing local governments that had initiated their UGB work prior to July 1, 2013 (the date of HB 2254 was passed) to finish its UGB work under ORS 197.298 and LCDC's administrative rules that implemented that statute. The outcome of the 2016 Legislative session will determine Springfield's next steps.

Springfield will resume its 2030 Comprehensive Plan and UGB expansion work in 2016 based on outcome of the requested Legislative amendment to HB 2254 or the implementation of HB 2254 as adopted.

QUESTIONS? Contact staff Linda Pauly at 541-726-4608 or email lpauly@springfield-or.gov