Testimony, Newburg Tier Map 5-25-22

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I'm a little confused. We're looking at a Comp Plan Amendment to change the Tier Maps on this parcel in Newburg from Tier 2 to Tier 4. Right? Commissioner Bowling said earlier this month that we must act quickly on this change to protect the land from development.

Yet there are several parcels in Waldorf and Bryans Road that should have been changed from Tier 2 to Tier 4 to be in compliance with the 2016 Comp Plan, and that hasn't happened yet. The zoning change to facilitate this shift happened in 2017, but the change in tier designation that was directed by the Comp Plan still has not happened. That's 5 years! So Waldorf and Bryans Road changes can be put on hold for 5 years, but Newburg has to be done right away? That makes no sense.

The Comp Plan directs how land should be used. That's why you are proposing that the Newburg tier map be changed tonight. But when are the changes directed by the Comp Plan for those other Tier 2 parcels going to be implemented? I was told when I was young that I didn't get dessert until I finished my dinner. Let's get those parcels all changed to Tier 4 before we start another Tier Map change. Or at the least, let's get them all done at the same time.

It's on your watch, Commissioners. Change the Newburg land to Tier 4. But the tier maps need to be adjusted for those areas called out in the Comp Plan as well.

And please keep the record open for 30 days.