

FAIRGROUNDS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Bridget Schwarz
Executive Board
bridget@bridge-1-t.com

April 2015



PO Box 292
Jefferson, WA 98642
360-573-5873

Greetings neighbors –

CP16#0678

GROWTH MANAGEMENT ACT UPDATE

What do you want to do with your rural land? For the next 20 years, your options will be determined by the Growth Management Plan the Clark County Board adopts next year. Alternative 4 will impact the most parcels in our neighborhood (and create thousands of new ones). Will the new GMA plan be good or bad for you? The scenarios are endless. These are common:

- You want to pass on your property to heirs. But your parcel size zoning excludes some of your kids.
- You have been farming on 20 – 80 acres all your life and now it's time to retire. Your zoning restricts you from subdividing your acreage to maximize its sales value.
- The proposed zoning for your land is OK. But an increase in property taxes would be unaffordable.
- You are living on a few acres in a McMansion. How do you stop an employer from locating next door?

The big picture is that sprawl has gobbled up most of our resource lands. In many cases developers (and profit potential) have determined where and how that has happened. Now what? We can preserve more resource lands by restricting the rights of the landowners who have preserved our rural lifestyle all these years. Or we can open up more land to sprawl that will primarily benefit developers. Or.....??

For information, click on the GMA listing on the right side of the county website www.clark.wa.gov.

THANK YOU!

The update of our Growth Management Plan is a massive task. It is made more difficult by the exit of so many Community Planning staff experienced with the process. And 2 County Councilors that are new to this and need to get up to speed. And the addition of Alternative 4 which brought the whole process temporarily to a halt. And people like me with seemingly endless questions.

My thanks to Oliver Orjiako and his Community Planning staff for their professional and responsive handling of this GMA update. Thanks also to all the other county departments responsible for a piece of the puzzle. With their help, I am able to help our neighborhood association members be informed and get involved.

PARADE of HOMES

The 2015 Northwest Natural Parade of Homes is coming to the fairgrounds area. Of the 8 lots, 5 are beginning construction and the Building Industry Association (BIA) expects 1 or 2 more to be built. The site is on 179th Street east of I-5 at NE 26th Avenue.

SURVEY MONKEY RESULTS

We asked you multiple choice questions. The results are in this newsletter. The survey also left space for your comments and questions. Too late, I found out there is no way to link your comments directly back to you. So I respond to your comments in this newsletter. Thanks for your valuable responses.

Regards,
Bridget Schwarz
for the Executive Board