

Schroader, Kathy



From: Steven Nelson <kumtux@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 01, 2015 10:42 AM
To: Cnty 2016 Comp Plan; Steve.Nelson@speelyai.org
Subject: 2016 Comp Plan Record

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Greetings to the Clark County Community Planning Office:

Let me introduce myself. My name is Steven Nelson and I have been a resident of Clark County my entire 67 years. Indeed, I am the fourth generation of the Nelson family living here since before statehood. 174th Street was historically named John Nelson Road for my great grandfather, who donated the right-of-way as well as the land for the Finn Hill Cemetery. So we are dedicated to the welfare of this county and have seen a great deal of change, both good and bad. The 1960's through 1980's saw a tremendous growth of suburban sprawl across the county. Our original homestead is gone--replaced by numerous mini-estates upon which no agricultural activity exists. Originally, production off of that property supported a family of nine.

For the past 39 years, I've lived on a 30 acre ATFS-certified tree farm in Hockinson, now protected by the Washington Growth Management Act as RT-20. The biggest threat to timberland owners is not clear cutting, its not fire, its CONVERSION-- Converting forest and agricultural land to other uses. You can't get it back. Its forever lost to suburban sprawl.

Alternative 4 is in direct violation of the spirit and specific purposes of the Growth Management Act. Indeed, Alternative 4 represents the antithesis of growth management planning. Rather, it is exploitation of lands for the benefit of development and developers. Having a County Councilor have the ego to independently invent a planning option is not consistent with the democratic process embraced by our government. The invention of community action groups to advocate for Alternative 4 is a sham and injustice.

Should Alternative 4 be advanced to the state review stage, it will NEVER be approved. Our current councilors have not been around long enough to remember the years of law suits and money wasted to comply with GMA in the first place. We started back then with essentially Alternative 4. Since that time the Forest and Fish decision has come down. The Clean Water Act has come down. Urban in-fill has worked. Why waste out time trying to deny those decisions and laws?

As for for Alternatives 1, 2 and 3, Alternative 2, to expand urban boundaries, would be in the spirit of growth management-- to develop out our cities as they grow.

My very best hopes and wishes for reasonable minds to prevail by the County.

Steve Nelson
24923 NE Westerholm Road
Brush Prairie, Washington 98606

360-903-4597

*Ah, make the most of what we may yet spend,
before we too into Dust descend;
Dust into Dust, and under Dust, to lie;
Sans Wine, sans Song, sans Singer, and—sans End!*