

Schroeder, Kathy



From susan rasmussen <sprazz@outlook.com>
Sent Sunday, September 13, 2015 12:28 PM
To Cnty 2016 Comp Plan
Cc Carol Levanen
Subject Fw: Importance of Citizen Participation

For the public record of the Draft, SEIS

Sent from Windows Mail

From susan rasmussen
Sent Sunday, September 13, 2015 12:27

The public participation element is an important part of building this comprehensive plan. I am forwarding, for your review, what the Dept. of Commerce has written on the subject:

"The term "public participation" implies that those affected by a decision have a right to be involved in the decision-making process, and an opportunity to influence the decision."

Please recall Gordy's opening comments for the hearing Sept. 10. He spoke about the planner's early collaboration with the jurisdictions, "Work with our partners, the cities." Clark County's planning process has been an exclusive one with the jurisdictions, and the environmental communities. This elite partnership is on-going. The County's public process requires much improvement to make it an inclusive with the rural communities.

When the 1994 plan was being composed, Clark County sent a request to John Karpinski for his recommendations. Mr. Karpinski was the attorney for Friends of Clark County, Clark County Natural Resource Council. Mr. Karpinski wrote the "Green Alternative." For the most part, this plan became the foundation for the county's present plan. This letter has been entered into the public record.

Thousands of acres were downzoned from 1, 2.5, 5 acres, to 20, 40, and 80 acre densities. This was done without any consideration of the realities of the patterns of development that were already existing. For the most part, those parcelized lots were created as a result of rural cultural practices that have endured over generations. The practice supported the economic viability of the farms, prevented the fragmentation of families, and ensured the continuity of the farm. The 1994 plan decimated the rural communities and destroyed our way of life. This was a demonstration of one culture exerting dominance over another. There is no balance. This is wrong. This is why Carol and I are there week after week.

The GMA was passed in 1990. Private property rights were listed as one of the thirteen planning elements. All of the planning elements carry equal weight. That hasn't changed. Recognition of the importance of private property rights is written in comprehensive plans throughout the state. Kindly take a look at Chelan County's plans.

It is unfortunate that CCCU is compelled to be present week after week to insure rural voices are heard and recognized. It is unfortunate that property rights haven't ever been considered important.

enough to recognize in any of the county comprehensive plans The citizens voiced importance in the 1977-79 Community Framework Plan and Policies, and again in the 1992 scoping process for the 1994 plan Somehow, this planning element was erased in Clark County

Thank you,
Susan Rasmussen for
Clark County Citizens United, Inc

Sent from Windows Mail

From [susan rasmussen](#)
Sent Friday, September 11, 2015 2:19 PM

Sent from Windows Mail

From [susan rasmussen](#)
Sent Thursday, September 10, 2015 12:13 PM

Dear Councilors,
Clark County's public participation element has not been optimal This isn't new The county has always employed an inclusive policy with the jurisdictions, and the environmental communities However, according to the Dept of Commerce, Citizen participation and coordination is valued, it helps to ensure the respect for private property rights

"The term "public participation" implies that those who are affected by a decision have a right to be involved in the decision-making process, and an opportunity to influence the decision " Thank you,
Susan Rasmussen



Citizen Participation and Coordination

<http://www.commerce.wa.gov/Services/localgovernment/GrowthManagement/Growth-Management-Planning-Topics/Pages/Citizen-Participation-and-Coordination.aspx>

Sent from Windows Mail