

Schroader, Kathy



From: Wisner, Sonja
Sent: Thursday, November 19, 2015 1 03 PM
To: Schroader, Kathy
Subject: FW Letter to Planning Commission
Attachments: LettertoPlanningCommission-edits.doc, ATT00001 htm

Fyi and for the record

From: Betty Sue Morris [<mailto:elisasue@aol.com>]
Sent: Thursday, November 19, 2015 11:23 AM
To: Wisner, Sonja
Subject: Fwd: Letter to Planning Commission

I forgot to cc you when I sent to Oliver and Gordy this morning. My apologies! Thanks - Betty Sue

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message

From: Elisasue@aol.com
Date: November 19, 2015 at 10:41:14 AM PST
To: Oliver.Orjiako@clark.wa.gov
Cc: Gordy.Euler@clark.wa.gov
Subject: Letter to Planning Commission

Good Morning -

I will try to be at the Planning Commission hearing this evening but it is unlikely I will make it since I have a ribbon cutting and reception at the new FISH of Vancouver food pantry at 6

If I am not too late with this submission, could you please make sure my attached letter is included in the Planning Commissioners packets for this evening

Thank you so much and my apologies for not getting this to you sooner.

If it is preferable that I send this to the individual planning commissioners I will certainly do that. However, I do not have their email addresses.

Thanks for all your excellent work on the new Comp Plan, even if Councilors Madore and Mielke don't know enough to recognize how stellar everyone in the planning department really is!

Betty Sue

Betty Sue Morris
Clark County Commissioner 1996 - 2008
152633 NW 19th Loop
Vancouver, WA 98685

Clark County Planning Commission
c/o Dr. Oliver Orijaka, Clark County Planning
Public Service Center
1300 Franklin
Vancouver, WA 98660

Dear Planning Commissioners,

I write to encourage you to hold your ground on your earlier Preferred Alternative recommendation and to remind you that you are under absolutely no obligation to even consider the most recent Alternative 4 B proposal designed by Councilor Madore.

Councilor Madore's most recent changes are totally inappropriate and ridiculously late in the process. While he claims them to be "data based," his "data" is the result of direction he himself gave GIS staff telling them to change the underlying assumptions used in determining the Available, Vacant Buildable Lands Model Inventory. Without extensive professional review prior to their use, there is no way to tell whether the directions given by Councilor Madore to GIS were based on any scientific best practices. When questioned about their accuracy, his response is essentially, and consistently, that they are accurate because he says they are. When questioned about almost any element of his proposal his response is entirely too often: "You misunderstand."

I do not misunderstand.

While development of a county comprehensive land use plan may be a new experience to Councilor Madore, it is not to me, and it is not to several of you.

Altering any planning assumption, especially any population forecast this late in the process is particularly egregious.

If the County Council is going to tamper with the most basic of all building blocks (planning assumptions on VBL, population forecast and urban/rural split) for a comprehensive plan, they should start all over from the beginning and have a broad discussion with the entire community, not just two Councilor Madore led conversations in Hockinson and Ridgefield.

I personally believe the Council's initial population forecast was way too low to be realistic. But changing that forecast at the last minute and without any opportunity for the public to comment in a meaningful way (given the magnitude of the changes and the constricted time line) is irresponsible and shows a stunning disregard of citizen and jurisdictionally determined plans

Councilor Madore has frequently commented that "We are not here to serve the process; the process is here to serve us." He's just wrong about that

The "process" is intended to serve the orderly and publicly inclusive development of a 20 year plan for managing growth. Not the whim of the Council. In fact, that's what it's intended to thwart

So again I urge you to hold your ground and display the proper respect due to work done prior the Councilor's proposal of either Alternative 4 A or B

I have long been sympathetic to the concerns of rural land owners and was pleased to see that your original recommendation called for new approaches to relieve their loss of property rights

Unfortunately, Councilor Madore's proposals lacks any kind of substantive foundation to hold them in place under intensive scrutiny of either the Hearings Board or the Courts, and the rural land owners will lose again.

Thank you for consideration of my thoughts.

Betty Sue Morris

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Betty Sue Morris". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.