

Cortney Ingle

From: jimgregg509@gmail.com
Sent: Wednesday, September 18, 2019 5:07 PM
To: Cortney Ingle
Subject: Comments for PC Hearing August 19
Attachments: September 17 final comp plan revision.docx

Comments from the Mazama Advisory Committee attached.

Please let me know if you get these comments from the Mazama Advisory Committee. It appears on your web site that you did get our comments sent in last Jan but they were listed as from me (Jim Gregg) and not the Mazama Advisory Committee.



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Mazama Advisory Committee

Doug Devin John Sunderland
Midge Cross
Jim Gregg Karen Reneau
Claire Bunney

Terry Karro - Advisor

September 17, 2019

Chair Roberts and Okanogan Planning Commission
Okanogan County Planning Department
123 5th Ave, Suite 130
Okanogan, WA 98840



RE: Draft EIS and Draft Comprehensive Plan

Dear Planning Commissioners,

Once again, we would like to thank you for calling upon the Mazama Advisory Committee (MAC) for our input on Scoping in early 2019, and for this opportunity to again provide input on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Draft Comprehensive Plan of 11-5-2018. We would like to use this comment period to underscore the priorities we included in our Scoping letter of January 17, 2019.

More Completely Planned Area(s): We continue to strongly support the formation of citizens groups and applaud the Planning Commission's recognition of their value. We support and encourage the tools provided by Chapter 8 which allow for the county's establishment of future groups to assist in planning for the diverse regions of Okanogan County.

It is important to us that the Methow Review District and Sub-Unit A be maintained. We have noted previously that some of the information in these planning documents is out of date. Our group is currently working on needed updates. We ask that you recommend their continued adoption as part of this process.



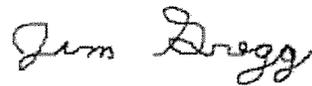
We also look forward to future opportunities to recommend needed changes to these plans as our community changes. We encourage the county to use citizen groups like ours to help make these

updates happen.

Water: The MAC appreciates the various planning efforts and actions that have been taken to better establish a relationship between land use designations and water availability. The comprehensive plan should size rural development to match the available water resources, and provide landowners clarity with respect to the areas that have been designated as “closed basins”. We also encourage the adoption of tools like “water banking” to ensure that the water resources of our County are not lost to lack of use or out-of-basin transfers as has recently been proposed here in the Methow Valley.

Fire: The MAC encourages the County to take a leadership role in preparing our communities for future wildfire events. While individual Firewise work is important, it needs to happen within the context of county land use planning and zoning, including standards and recommendations for building materials, emergency vehicle access, address signage and back-up power generation options. We would encourage that the Comprehensive Plan contain a chapter dedicated to wildfire.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jim Dregg".

For the Mazama Advisory Committee