

Cortney Ingle

From: Ed Alkire <edalkire@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 15, 2019 9:40 AM
To: Cortney Ingle
Subject: Comments on Comp Plan

Dear Ms. Ingle and Planning Commission-

This plan has been worked on for almost 10 years under the leadership of a former employee that failed to provide a legally defensible plan, largely ignored community input from many community meetings held early on in the process, and failed to complete a satisfactory DEIS. We live in a county with limited resources and we cannot expect to have all the resources within the county to adequately address complex issues. We need to use some of our resources to hire outside help to draft a plan that is comprehensive and organized in a way that it can be used as a tool to guide our community as we move forward. Below are some key elements we need to do a better job incorporating into the comp plan.

Recreation - County can play a key role in preserving and enhancing recreational opportunities throughout our county. Recreation is more and more becoming a major economic driver. The plan needs to reflect the importance of recreation to the enjoyment of the citizens and to the economy.

Agriculture - the plan provides inadequate protections for working farms and forests which again are major contributors to our economy. My wife and I own 22 acres we farm and we appreciate the support the county provides to this activity but need that support to be reflected in the comp plan.

Roads - Plan does not coordinate with the county road system which could lead to future road development costs shifting to the taxpayers rather than the development community.

Growth - We need a plan that encourages growth closer to towns so we can leverage off existing infrastructure, conserve water, reduce wildfire exposure, support use of land for agriculture and continue to support recreational use of our lands.

The person that the county hires to replace the former planning director should not alone finish this project! This job is too large and complex to be accomplished in a reasonable time frame for someone who is new to the job.

Thank you for providing this forum to share our thoughts on the proposed plan and DEIS.

Sincerely

Edward A. Alkire
20 Mountain Valley Rd
Winthrop, WA 98862