

Cortney Ingle

From: Leslee Goodman <leslee@alchemyondemand.com>
Sent: Monday, September 16, 2019 7:42 AM
To: Cortney Ingle
Subject: Response to the draft Comprehensive Plan and DEIS
Attachments: Draft Comp Plan letter.pdf

September 16, 2019

Leslee Goodman
205 Upper Beaver Creek Road
Twisp, WA 98856

Okanogan County Planning Commission
Commissioner Andy Hover
c/o cingle@co.okanogan.wa.us

Dear Commissioner Hover and the Planning Commission,

Thank you so much for extending the comment period so that more of us had a chance to review and respond to the proposed plan, which, for me, presents several major concerns.

First and perhaps most important for planning purposes, I had a very difficult time understanding the differences between the various alternatives—and, so far as I could tell, the Draft Comp Plan does not even provide much analysis of the Citizens Alternative—which is the alternative I prefer.

My other concerns include:
The plan’s lack of a Land Use Element to guide future zoning and permitting. (To me, this is the most important part of any meaningful County Plan.)

The plan’s lack of an Economic Development element.

The plan’s failure to adequately provide for sub-area planning as in the Methow Valley (or elsewhere in the County).

The plan’s inadequate protection of natural resources, including water, forests, agricultural land, and open space for recreation.

The plan’s failure to consider, let alone protect, dark skies.

However, rather than continue to list shortcomings of the draft plan, perhaps it’s more helpful to say **what I would like the final plan to do:**

Minimize conflict between residential and other uses of rural lands by creating different designations.

Allow for sub-area planning, guided by local residents’ needs and desires.

Include the entire Methow Watershed within the Methow Valley More Completely Planned Area (MVMCPA).

Concentrate most population growth close to existing towns and off of ridgetops.

Conserve natural resources and support local agriculture.

Recognize that open space and natural beauty are key to our quality of life—including recreation and tourism, which draw many visitors to our area.

I sincerely hope that the county will hire qualified professional help to draft the final Comp Plan and Environmental Impact Statement. This is too big and important a job to shortchange.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Leslee Goodman". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Leslee Goodman

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