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To: <rboxx@co.whatcom.wa.us>
Date: 2/11/2009 8:54 AM
Subject: Whatcom County Growth Projections

Dear Whatcom County Council and Planning Commission members:

I encourage you to adopt the lowest possible population projections, around 220,000, in guiding land use policy. As the report by Futurewise Whatcom points out, a lower projection will result in less urban sprawl for a variety of reasons.

I ask also that you consider the broader context. The realities of climate change argue for maintaining green spaces, which absorb carbon dioxide, rather than converting them to urban uses, which only contribute to the problem. And in light of global economic instability, it is imperative we protect our local agricultural capabilities.

These are times for wisdom and restraint. Please heed the public will, and protect against excessive development by revising past population projections downward to around 220,000.

Thank you very much,

Rob Lewis
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