

# MEMORANDUM

**To:** **Matt Aamot, Senior Planner**  
Whatcom County Planning and Development Services  
5280 Northwest Dr Bellingham, WA 98226

**From:** **Foothills Area Residents/Landowners**  
Russ Angus, Christopher Babin, Darin Barry, Rebecca Boonstra, Darrell K. Bornstein Jr., Phil Cloward, Richard Dawson, Linda Dorsett, Carolyn Ferrer, Gary Gehling, Jack Hovenier, Bill Isenhardt, Carole MacDonald, Norm Otto, Norma Otto, Lou Piotrowski, Joyce Sappington, Bill Snyder, Richard Banel, Rob Staveland, Kevein Zender

**Date:** 2/17/2009

**Re:** Whatcom County's 10 Year UGA Review – Preliminary EIS Scoping Comments

---

The following comments (See Document Index) pertaining to land use, population, economics and plans and policies are being submitted to ensure adequate review and incorporation of these issues as they pertain to the Columbia Valley Urban Growth Area.

It has been noted that the current land supply analysis suggests that this UGA in particular requires additional land to accommodate its historical share of population during this planning period.

The existing Draft Foothills Subarea Plan, although still pending adoption, anticipates growth at levels comparable to the historical share scenario and suggests policies and land use guidelines to accommodate this projected growth. This document should form the framework for any future allocation of growth to this UGA.

The Foothills Subarea Plan would reduce the size of this UGA and still accommodate the projected population increase of 3200 through infill and increased density, with an emphasis on planning strategies consistent with the principles of new urbanism and smart growth.

It has also been noted that in the preliminary public participation portion of the 2031 process, that a majority of Whatcom County residents preferred to

accommodate growth in the small cities and small unincorporated areas such as the Columbia Valley UGA to stimulate and strengthen economic development in these areas and reduce dependency upon Bellingham and the automobile for jobs and services.

There is a compelling level of support for additional growth and capital facilities investment in the Columbia Valley UGA as referenced in the public record citations and the Draft Foothills Subarea Plan Update (October 2007) which is incorporated herein by reference and currently pending adoption by the Whatcom County Council.

The EIS should study Whatcom County UGA's as they exist today in the current Whatcom County Comprehensive Plan.

Consideration of the Columbia Valley UGA as it currently exists or as envisioned in the Foothills Subarea Plan would be suitable under either scenario (No Action, X, or Y). There should be no inclusion of Alternatives contemplating the Rural Element as this is a separate issue and should remain outside of the scope of this EIS. The focus is on Urban Lands.

We support adopting the population projection adopted by the GMCC of 60,490 **minimum** new residents or 251,490 residents by the end of the planning period 2031.

We thank you for the opportunity to provide our comments and to participate in Whatcom County's 10 year UGA review process. The following public documents pertaining to the Columbia Valley and Foothills Subarea Plan are incorporated herein by reference as part of our public comment on this EIS scoping process

### Public Document Index

Date	Document	# Pages
January 29, 2009	Shabir Balolia / Mammoth Homes Inc. Comment	3
January 28, 2009	Gary Gehling Comment	1
January 28, 2009	Lou Piotrowski Citizen Comment	2
January 28, 2009	Tin Rock Development Comment	4
January 28, 2009	Phil Cloward Citizen Comment	1
January 27, 2009	Carole MacDonald Citizen Comment	2
January 27, 2009	Rebecca Boonstra Citizen Comment	1
January 26, 2009	Jack Hovenier Comment	1
January 25, 2009	Kevin Zender Comment	1
January 15, 2009	Irwin Land Consulting, LLC Comment	3
January 15, 2009	Jacob Hovenier Citizen Comment	2
January 15, 2009	Gary Gehling Citizen Comment	1

### Public Document Index Continued

January 15, 2009	Belcher Swanson Law Firm, PLLC Comment	2
January 15, 2009	Rebecca Boonstra Citizen Comment	2
January 15, 2009	**Foothills Residents/Landowners/Businesses (23 Signatories) FSAP Policy Review prepared for Planning Commission	38
January 15, 2009	Linda Dorsett Citizen Comment	1
January 15, 2009	Public Policy Perspectives Comment	1
January 15, 2009	Rob Staveland Comment	1
January 7, 2009	Mt. Baker Foothills Chamber of Commerce (Resolution 2008-001)	2
January 7, 2009	Whatcom County PDS Staff Report (File # CMP2007-00007)	19
November 18, 2008	**Foothills Residents/Landowners (45 Signatories) Services Memo	3
September 15, 2008	Kendall Watch Community Action Group	3
September 15, 2008	Mt. Baker Foothills Economic Development Association	1
September 15, 2008	Carole MacDonald Citizen Comment	2
September 15, 2008	Belcher Swanson Law Firm, PLLC	3
September 15, 2008	Phil Cloward Citizen Comment	2
September 15, 2008	Gary Gehling Citizen Comment	1
September 15, 2008	Carol Jansson Citizen Comment	1
September 15, 2008	Richard Banel Citizen Comment	1
September 15, 2008	Public Policy Perspectives FSAP DSEIS Comment	7
September 15, 2008	Russ & Maryann Angus Citizen Comment	1
September 14, 2008	Chester Scalf Citizen Comment	1
September 12, 2008	**Holly Assoc. LLC /S.C. Goshen, LLC	9
September 11, 2008	Rebecca Boonstra Citizen Comment	2
September 11, 2008	Carolyn M. Ferrer Citizen Comment	2
September 10, 2008	Envision Consulting Comment	2
September 9, 2008	Norma Otto Citizen Comment	3
September 6, 2008	Chris Babin Citizen Comment	1
September 4, 2008	Columbia Valley Community Assoc. GMCC Inquiry Letter	1
September 4, 2008	Lisa Cable Citizen Comment	1
August 18, 2008	**Foothills Residents /Landowners (22 Signatories) Foothills Subarea Plan DSEIS Comments	6
July 23, 2008	Foothills Residents /Landowners LAMIRD Memorandum	5
June 30, 2008	Carole S. Sharpe Citizen Comment	1
June 27, 2008	**Evergreen Water-Sewer District Resolution 03-2008	2
June 23, 2008	**Carolyn Ferrer, ARNP Citizen Comment	2
May 28, 2008	**Rebecca Lynn Boonstra Citizen Comment	2
May 17, 2008	Christopher Babib and Linda Dorsett	3
May 12, 2008	Judy Wilson Citizen Comment	1
May 9, 2008	Wendy Ulmer Citizen Comment	1
May 9, 2008	Tracy and Kenneth Rutan Citizen Comment	1
May 8, 2008	Shaun and Kristen Conley Citizen Comment	1
May 5, 2008	S. D. Wilson Citizen Comment	1
May 3, 2008	Joyce Sappington Citizen Comment	2
April 29, 2008	Patricia and David Beasley Citizen Comment	1
April 26, 2008	Carole MacDonald Citizen Comment	1
April 23, 2008	Darin Barry Citizen Comment	1
April 21, 2008	Charles and Alice Lee Citizen Comment	1
April 14, 2008	**Kendall Watch Public Declaration	1
April 14, 2007	**Citizens of Columbia Valley Position Paper Re Balfour Village	9
March 31, 2007	Richard & Susan Banel Letter Re Balfour Village	2
October 13, 2006	**Citizens of Columbia Valley - Balfour Petition (202 Signatories)	15