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Date: 8/31/2009 4:09 PM
Subject: UGA revision

I am greatly concerned that the public process demonstrated through the years of work by individuals, neighborhoods and others on the " Birch Bay Community Plan" is in jeopardy of being lost through the proposed reduction of 1000 acres from our UGA.

Tremendous thought, input and healthy debate went into our final recommendations and to disregard the results at this juncture will only discourage future public participation and harm the well thought out future plans for this unique community. To make such sweeping changes to our UGA will have immeasurable implications to a variety of factors within the plan and will likely breed apathy amongst our citizens to get involved when called upon again.

I strongly encourage you to reconsider any plans to change the UGA boundaries and allow Birch Bay to evolve into the community that its' citizens have already determined will best suit and support their Birch Bay.

We have always coveted the value of our neighbors input regarding our destiny and truly hope that the opportunity to be heard and valued from a council standpoint will not be lost. I distinctly remember on numerous occasions hearing both the County Executive Branch and Council applaud the work and cooperate spirit demonstrated by Birch Bay's citizenry on developing the plan and further ...that it serves as a model for other areas of Whatcom County to follow.

Again I urge you to please consider the years of effort by those most impacted by your actions when it comes to deciding what actions are to be taken on the UGA size.

Sincerely,

Mike Kent
Member Birch Bay Community plan Steering Committee(Birch Bay Village Reach)