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SEP 4 2008

LONG RANGE  
PLANNING DIVISION

September 4, 2008

Planning Department  
Public Hearing, Kendall Elementary School  
Kendall, WA 98244

Hard-Working Members of the Planning Department:

My name is Carl Steiner. Long-time resident of Glacier, born and raised here. I rode the school bus 12 years on these roads.

I've been looking at the documents regarding the impact of a Balfour Village development on local traffic. It looks to me like something is seriously amiss with the SEIS document regarding Traffic.

Let me explain.

1. Alkai Homes has done work on Traffic Count.

However, a later, independent study by the Tilghman Group in Feb and March 2008 said that:

*“The delta configuration of the SR-542/SR-547 junction creates three intersections. The analysis evaluates only the “T” intersection for operating quality. This seems a serious oversight, especially since the project adds over 700 vehicles to the southern intersection in the PM peak hour.”*

**Gentlemen, 700 vehicles in the peak hour!**

**Why isn't this independent study in the SEIS?**

2. Washington State Department of Transportation. In Dec 4, 2007 WSDOT mentioned a serious flaw:

*“There is no figure to show the existing traffic volumes. This information needs to be added for comparison.”*

Why isn't this information in the Planning Department SEIS document? The MB Hwy is extremely busy with seasonal traffic. Let's be up-to-date and in compliance.

3. **City of Bellingham**. The city, November 13, 2007, required 7 additional intersection counts. They asked PDS to:

*“Withhold the SEPA threshold determination until the traffic analysis has been revised to adequately address impacts to City intersections.”*

I don't see acknowledgement of the Bellingham requirement in the County's SEIS document.

Gentlemen, we must plan major changes to our Rural Area carefully.

I believe **the independent Tilghman study**, the **WSDOT concern** and the **City of Bellingham requirement** need to be in the SEIS study and duly considered so we don't wind up with a dangerous and confusing traffic mess on our Rural Highway system.

Thank you



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