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Date: 9/14/2008 12:00 PM
Subject: Foothills DSEIS comments

Mr. Aaamot and Mr. Stalheim:

Please accept the following comments in response to the Draft SEIS for the Foothills Subarea Plan:

- 1) I urge the County to adopt the population projections proposed in the Minority Report.
- 2) There is an alluvial fan located in the UGA - within the site of the proposed Balfour Village. The risks associated with building in/around an alluvial fan are not addressed in the Draft SEIS. As reflected in the current County CAO, the County is aware of these risks. The County went so far as to take out an ad in the Bellingham Herald in November 2006 setting forth said risks and recommending against building in alluvial fans. The previous plan for Balfour Village included the siting of 100 homes in the alluvial fan area. Please protect the public (and the Whatcom County taxpayers) by prohibiting building within the alluvial fan.
- 3) The source of funding for essential public services which will be required as a result of the increased population is not identified. Especially in light of the current cut-backs in the County funding, this needs to be addressed.
- 4) The issue of traffic needs to be better addressed. The population projections in the plan will result in an increase in traffic, as addressed in the Tilghman Traffic report and letters submitted to the County. The traffic report performed by the Transpo Group does not adequately address these impacts. Please consult the letters and report submitted by Tilghman and use that information in the traffic analysis.
- 5) Protection of fish bearing streams in the UGA must be addressed and provided, specifically Kendall Creek. Water quality will most definitely be affected by the increased population over the next 20 years.
- 6) The quantitative groundwater report should be mandatory and conducted prior to the issuance of the FSEIS.
- 7) I support Alternative No. 3 of the Draft SEIS and recommend that the County adopt same.

In summary, I request that the Draft SEIS be completely revised to reflect these concerns and to include this pertinent information. Thank you.

Karen Reich
Deming, WA

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