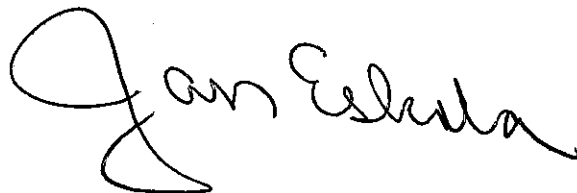


May 19, 2009

I believe that the Whatcom County Council, in their decision to limit population to 5,000, recognized that the Columbia Valley UGA was a bad decision when the UGA was originally adopted. However, it did not want to eliminate the UGA at this time. The decision to limit growth to 5,000 during the planning period was an attempt to cap population in the area and try to force the Columbia Valley to become a viable municipality with a concrete capital facilities plan, funding and implementation plan before more intense expansion.

This committee has chosen to ignore the Council's wishes in this matter and has chosen instead to perpetuate the growth of a residential area while not providing the necessary infrastructure to sustain the growth. In essence, this committee's plan is to just build more houses which have been the problem all along with the UGA.

This committee has also chosen an employment allocation that is so far out of line. A wish list does not provide substantiation of the numbers. It exceeds the projections of the County's own consultant by a huge margin and far exceeds any reasonable expectations based on the current employment numbers in Columbia Valley exclusive of the Kendall School. This doesn't even take into account the long term effect of the economic recession that we are now experiencing.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jan Eskola". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "J".