

From: [Thomas Robey](#)
To: [Kelly Bacon \(CD\)](#)
Subject: Comments on RZ-22-00005 and CP-22-00005 Mardee Lake
Date: Thursday, September 22, 2022 2:31:51 PM

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Dear County Planners,

I recently (last year) purchased property in Gold Creek Valley and enjoy with my family the recreational activity available there, including hiking, skiing, and trail running. We also support the diversifying use of the pass year round and patronize the local businesses there. I especially appreciate the opportunity to teach my school aged kids about wildlife, conservation and the balance between using land and protecting it.

I do not support the rezone request at the Gold Creek side of the exit 54 interchange for the following reasons:

Of the several areas at Snoqualmie Pass, the north side of exit 54 has the most immediately accessible areas to enjoy recreation. Extensive work has been done to preserve the area for wildlife and human use. There is plenty of space at the other pass exits for commercial activity. Places of business in Gold Creek will add congestion, waste and light to the area.

The winter access to our property is uniquely fragile. The 'snow park' consists of parking along the road, and though it is among the closest to the Seattle region, has trouble every year with plowing and access. Adding commercially zoned land there will further reduce access to the winter recreation (and make it harder for residents to access their property.)

My kids asked me why someone from Canada would get to decide what gets built in the Gold Creek Valley. We used that question to talk about property rights and zoning and how that affects other unseen things (like taxes and services). We think Kittitas County has the zoning right at this time. The land has a purpose and potential, and we can't expect an area at a highway interchange to have protected status, but the current designation makes uses more consistent with local benefit rather than distant profit.

Sincerely,

Tom Robey, along with Michael (11) and Fritz(8) Robey
76 Silver Fir Rd
-and-
Seattle, WA