

JUNE 28, 2019

Dear Sirs, Madams:

I am submitting this request as a Text Amendment to the Kittitas County Code on forms provided to me by the Department of Community Development. I have been advised by Staff that a complete application for Text Amendment does not require a SEPA checklist and checklist fee. I desire to have a timely and complete application. If completeness requires a SEPA checklist and Fee, I am willing to submit the required form. I am submitting this jointly to the Board of County Commissioners and the Department of Community Development.

The five Text Amendments are supported by provisions of the State Growth Management Act and Kittitas County Code. As submitted, the proposed Amendment is compatible with the Comprehensive Plan Goals, Policies, and requirements for update, review and consistency and internal consistency. The Amendments bear a substantial relation to the public welfare in that they do not abridge public protections for health or the environment. The proposed Amendments have merit and value for Kittitas County or its sub-areas in that it corrects code conflicts in the Urban Growth Areas that prevent the proper functioning of development process which otherwise pushes growth outside of Urban Growth Areas. The proposed Amendment is appropriate because no updating of codes has been done since original adoption as required by Kittitas County Code and State Growth Management Laws as growth has occurred.

The Amendments allow infill in the Urban Growth Areas and a process to achieve development within Urban Growth Areas. The Amendment is non project related, but will support process for development and infill within the existing boundaries of Urban Growth Areas. The Amendments are consistent with existing zoning and circumstances within the Urban Growth Areas. The Amendments will have no detrimental impacts on properties within the Urban Growth Areas, and to the contrary, will create process for property owners in the Urban Growth Areas to pursue infill based on feasible and economical terms. There will be no impact on irrigation waters or critical areas. The Amendment does not impact the ongoing operation of transfer of development rights (Chapter 17.13).

I understand the process of docketing and review. I ask, with respect, that these Text Amendments be docketed with the hope that all stakeholders, including but not limited to, Kittitas County Staff, City of Ellensburg Staff, Airport Advisory Committee, and the general public will have the opportunity to offer input. I understand that a final decision is appealable to the Eastern Washington Growth Hearings Board or Kittitas County Superior Court. I have twice successfully appealed County Ordinances to Eastern Washington Growth Management Hearings Board and once to Kittitas County Superior Court and Washington State Supreme Court. Obviously, I believe the need for these Amendments is critical to having functioning Urban Growth Areas in Kittitas County and that this method is appropriate to achieve the necessary code Amendments.

Thank you in advance for your consideration in docketing these items.

Respectfully,


Steve Willard

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