

From: [Emma Gell](#)
To: [Jamey Ayling](#)
Subject: Fowler Creek Guest Ranch (CU-23-00003)
Date: Friday, October 13, 2023 11:20:30 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the Kittitas County network. Do not click links, open attachments, fulfill requests, or follow guidance unless you recognize the sender and have verified the content is safe.

Date: October 13, 2023

To: Kittitas County Community Development Services

[411 Ruby St. Suite 2](#)
[Ellensburg, WA 98926](#)

Re: Fowler Creek Guest Ranch (CU-23-00003)

To Jamey and Kittitas County Planning Staff,

I write these comments in regard to CU-23-00003, Fowler Creek Guest Ranch.

Having recently been made aware of this proposal, I considered what could be the potential impact. Not being a resident of Kittitas, my comments come from the viewpoint of a visitor.

My partner and I regularly enjoy adventuring in the Central Cascades. She is a professional outdoor travel guide and I am an outdoor enthusiast. We have witnessed the changes in the cities along the I90 corridor over the last 1-2 decades, none quite as changed as the cities of Upper Kittitas.

One of the things that Kittitas County seems to have done well, is to centralize urban development while retaining areas of low density and abundant natural habitat. This development seems to go against these planning ideals.

I noticed in one of the proposal documents, the applicant discusses that there is an increased need for short-term rentals and campsites. While anecdotal, I can tell you that neither myself, my partner, nor her clients, have run into issues finding wonderful and available rental homes, campsites, or RV spaces in this area. It's not clear to me where the data to support this 'need' is derived from, but it does not seem to represent the actual reality as experienced by those of us spending recreational time here.

As an outsider looking in, I hope you continue to retain the more rural character of the surrounding neighborhoods and continue to maintain commercial activities where they belong - close to downtown. This area is under no shortage of rentable recreational facilities, but with this type of proposed development, will soon be short of reasons to frequent them.

Thank you for considering my comments in your review.

Warmly,
Emma Gell