

May 8, 2006

Kittitas County Board of Commissioners
205 West Fifth Ave, Suite 108
Ellensburg, WA 98926

Re: Recommendations from the Resource Lands Advisory Committee.

Dear Commissioners,

The purpose of this document is to forward to you the recommendations of the Resource Lands Advisory Committee (RLAC) regarding the update of the Kittitas County Comprehensive Plan. This recommendation represents a cumulative effort of hundreds of hours of individual committee members' time over the last three months. As a group we took our charge seriously and with considerable sense of the importance of this effort to the County for the next 20 to 100 years. We thank you for the opportunity and for your foresight in having this diverse group of people consider the future of Kittitas County and the ability to offer for your consideration our recommendations.

Our recommendations encompass three major categories. These are:

- Policy discussion and recommendations including a vision statement.
- Identification and discussion of the recommended land use policies
- Suggested text changes to the GPOs within the context of the existing comprehensive plan. (note: the RLAC is requesting one additional week to conclude the review of this element.)

The recommendations specific to each area are attached for your review.

The recommendations as forwarded represent consensus of the 10 member RLAC. There was much discussion and spirited debate on several issues. The RLAC met this challenge through consideration and respect of the varying points of view and perspectives. These discussions led to a better understanding of the varying points of view and perspectives and we sincerely hope this will serve as an example to the community how consideration and respect can translate into a successful effort.

We anticipate that, upon your review, you will forward these recommendations to the Planning Commission for public discussion. We also recommend a series of open houses prior to the Planning Commission hearings to provide the public a chance to become familiar with these recommendations allowing for discussion at the Planning Commission that is well informed. As a committee, we look forward to working closely with the Planning Commission to review these recommendations.

Once the overarching policy decisions are in place it is our request that the RLAC reconvene, hopefully in early fall, to review the development code that will implement

the adopted policies of the updated comprehensive plan. We recognize the importance of developing and adopting policies that reflect the vision of the community but also recognize the importance of the details contained within the Code that will implement these policies. We would like the opportunity to insure that these implementation codes reflect the vision and intent of the adopted policy direction and would look forward to this opportunity to assist in this review.

Finally, we would like to thank you for the commitment of staff time to assist us in this effort. We appreciate the effort and consideration that was extended by Community Development Services in support of the RLAC.

Respectfully Submitted,

Resource Lands Advisory Committee

Chad Bala
Charles Weidenbach
David Gerth
Fritz Glover
Jeff Jones
Jerry Martens
Karen Poulsen
Kelly Larimer
Pat Deneen
Scott Nicolai