

To whom it may concern:

I am writing this letter on behalf of the proposed Urban Growth Boundary area east of and adjacent to Kel-Lowry Road in Naches.

At 86 years of age I have the heritage, knowledge, experience, and interest in all things related to our Naches community. I am very aware of poor as well as exceptional development planning in our area. This was particularly true since I was the Naches Mayor when the Growth Management mandated legislation was thrust upon us by the State Legislature in 1993, and the Legislatures attempt to limit urban sprawl. Two areas of poor planning from the past would be: (1) The Highway #12 corridor passing through Naches with a confusing mixture of businesses and residents, and (2) the McDowell Addition subdivision housing development on the east end of town where many mistakes were made including the lack of sidewalks and irrigation water which were never installed creating a dilemma that continues to exist to today.

In contrast, exceptional planning and attention to detail would describe the Naches Meadows subdivision located at the west end of Naches as done by KNIK Development. The following was put in place prior to building construction: domestic and irrigation water lines, sewer, curbs, gutters, paving, underground utilities, and street lighting. To embrace our agricultural community KNIK designated the streets Cherry Lane, Apple Loop and Pear Court. Restrictive building covenants were put in place as lots were being sold. That included: density of lot; type and time of construction; setbacks; landscaping and curb appeal, fencing; ad infinitum. The requirements above had to be approved prior to construction by the Naches Meadows Architectural Committee thus allowing for a very attractive and healthy living environment. As a consequence Naches Meadows has "sold out". No more lots are available. (Nor are there any other lots available within our Town limits.) Occupants within this subdivision include retirees, former

Naches students, business people, bankers, teachers, firemen, policemen, salesmen, pastors, fruit executives, plus those wanting to live closer to outdoor recreational opportunities or just wanting to enjoy the pace of smaller community living.

Regarding the three parcels east of Kel-Lowery road, the property owner wants to be included in the Urban Growth Boundary area. To me, it's a "no brainer" NOT to allow the request to proceed especially due to the precedent set by the coordination between the Town of Naches and KNIK in the development of Naches Meadows. Community growth is inevitable and best protected by Urban Growth mandates. The mandates could help eliminate septic tank seepage that has the potential of contaminating shallow wells due to the type of soil in our Valley and certainly eliminate urban sprawl. For those local protesting individuals saying they want Naches to remain a "small town" is pure folly. Over the past few years be assured those same protestors have availed themselves and enjoy our: new Ace Hardware Store; new Post Office; new Fire Station; new Dollar Store; the recently restored Naches Depot, Depot Park, Restroom Facilities, and the Greenway Trail; the current huge upgrade to Cleman's View Sports Complex and Clubhouse; the new Elementary School; 3 lane left turn lanes on our main arterials; and, currently under construction, a six million dollar upgrade to our Wastewater Treatment Plant which will have the capacity to service many additional homes in Naches.

In conclusion, my hope is the Yakima County Commissioners will approve for the Town of Naches the Urban Growth Boundary request resulting in needed additional residential development for the many people wanting to live in our thriving community.

Respectfully,

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