

Board of Yakima County Commissioners

Yakima County Courthouse

128 N Second Street

Yakima WA 98901

Re: Proposed Naches Urban Growth Area

To Whom it may concern,

Thank you for the opportunity to express my support for the future of the Naches Community. I am a generational Naches Valley Guy. My Grandfather ran a general store near the twin bridges at Ramblers park in the 30s and 40s. My father graduated from Naches High School. My wife and I graduated from Naches High School in 1976. Our three children were all been blessed with the opportunity to grow up through the Naches Schools receiving an excellent education and enjoyed wonderful experiences that only smaller schools with strong community support can offer. I have served on the Naches Valley School Board, served on the initial board for the Clemans View Sports complex, we have been Young Life leaders for Naches Valley High School, Roz spent many years working in the classroom, and we have coached ever kind of youth sports offered. We are owners of an accounting firm and I am also a Real Estate Broker specializing in the Upper Valley. We feel blessed to have grown up here and to have had the opportunity to raise our family in "Mayberry". We have a continued deep love for the Naches Valley.

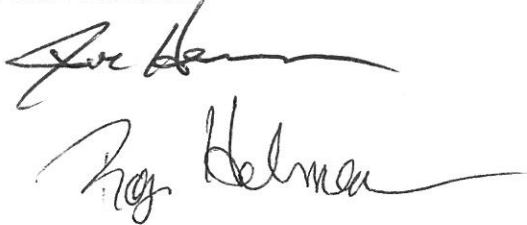
I believe it is extremely important to emphasize the fact that our school district is in an extremely difficult situation. As you well know enrollment directly effects funding. Enrollment is declining drastically and the beauty and strength of the Naches Valley School district is in dire jeopardy. The ability to continue the excellence in education and the overall experiences for the children in the Naches Valley will be impossible to maintain without a reversal of enrollment decline.

As a Realtor for over 20 years I can attest first hand that the demand for families to live in our community is very very strong. Simple fact there is no place to live. MLS records show in 2021 only 48 homes were sold in the Naches and Lower Naches area...in 2020 only 27. In comparison to other communities in our county reporting sales for 2021, Moxee 127, Zillah 72, Selah 257 even Tieton had more recorded sales at 49. We need housing in the Naches Valley with out it our schools and businesses are in trouble.

John and Earlene Diener property owners listed in the UGA are in favor of their property included in the expansion and potential annexation. I have been asked to represent them when the time comes as their Real Estate Broker to list the property on the MLS and sale it on the open market. Any other preconceived arrangements between the Dieners with any other party are completely false.

My families story of generational lives lived well in the Naches Valley is just one of many. Our dream for a better future for the Schools, businesses, the families and their children in the Naches Valley is in your hands. Our hope is that you see your way to ensuring the future of the Naches Valley is very bright.

Joe and Roz Holman

The image shows two handwritten signatures in black ink. The top signature is for Joe Holman, written in a cursive style. The bottom signature is for Roz Holman, also in cursive, and is slightly longer and more elaborate than the one above it.