

Linda Ann Kuller

From: Ingrid Gabriel
Sent: Thursday, March 2, 2017 9:51 AM
To: Comp Plan Update
Subject: FW: Comprehensive Plan Conversation

From: MARK MAYER [mailto:tmarkmayer@mac.com]
Sent: Monday, February 20, 2017 4:31 PM
To: Joe Symons <joesymons@me.com>
Cc: Jan Alderton <janetmalderton@gmail.com>; Lynn Bahrych <bahrych@rockisland.com>; Stephanie Buffum <stephanie@sanjuans.org>; Sandi Friel <sandi@rockisland.com>; Marguerite Greening <mgreening@orcasonline.com>; Jan Ehrlichman <janeln@mac.com>; Pete Moe <petemoe@gmail.com>; Toby Cooper <toby@tobycooper.net>; Frank Loudin <loudin@rockisland.com>; Brian Wiese <brian_wiese@outlook.com>; Alex Callen <alexcallen@gmail.com>; Emily McGerty <efairlight@yahoo.com>; Norris <sheyd@snet.net>; Lisa Seehof <lroseh1959@gmail.com>; Sarah Cooper <sarah@sarahcooper.com>; Ellen Winter <ellenbwinter@yahoo.com>; Maile Johnson <nohealani@rockisland.com>; Kyle Loring <kyle@sanjuans.org>; DL - Council <Council@sanjuanco.com>; Comp Plan Update <compplancomments@sanjuanco.com>; Erika Shook <erikas@sanjuanco.com>; Lynda Guernsey <LyndaG@sanjuanco.com>
Subject: Re: Comprehensive Plan Conversation

Joe,

I got your email a few minutes ago. SO SORRY you were not on the list! Here is what I sent. I called and left a message with Rick but have not heard back yet. I will keep all posted.

Thank you,

Mark Mayer
Environment Action Team Leader
Our Revolution San Juan County
tmarkmayer@mac.com

On Feb 20, 2017, at 2:49 PM, MARK MAYER <tmarkmayer@mac.com> wrote:

County Counsel Member Rick Hughes,

A group of Orcas Islanders, organized as the Environment Action Team of Our Revolution San Juan County, have been meeting and discussing the Comprehensive Plan as it relates to the upcoming review of the Growth Management Act.

In an effort to gain citizen acceptance of the upcoming GMA update of the Comprehensive Plan (CP), we ask that San Juan County address and fix, with

substantive public input, the major disconnects between the Vision Statement and the CP.

Prior to beginning the public process that was outlined in the January 30th 2017 County Council meeting by the Department of Community Planning & Development (DCD), the County needs to develop and disseminate a complete and easily digestible picture of what the existing CP says so that the general public has a clear understandable baseline upon which to meaningfully participate in the required update.

In October 2001, in response to a request for a “truth in planning” document, the Planning Commission stated:

Findings:

1. The data produced from these tasks and analyses are essential to making informed decisions regarding all aspects of planning in San Juan County. Therefore, these tasks and analyses are of the highest priority and all necessary resources should be made available to the Planning Department to accomplish them.
2. These tasks and analyses should be addressed immediately and pursued in earnest until completed.

(see attached Findings and Recommendations).

16 years have passed since this recommendation was made to, and ignored by, the then BOCC. Today, in 2017, the specifics of the recommendation need to be updated to reflect our current and projected status, not just through the 20 year planning horizon, but to ultimate buildout as defined by the existing CP; in addition, new information tools are available to enhance public understanding of this complex issue—these tools should be utilized.

Our community faces new environmental, social, financial and cultural challenges since the Comprehensive Plan was updated in 1999. These include:

- housing challenges such as new forms of residential uses (e.g. Airbnb);
- needs for [wildlife and](#) critical habitat for endangered species;
- greater consideration of open space and farmland preservation;
- the need for greater efficiency in the use of water;
- the construction of a Climate Action Plan;
- population pressures from a rapidly growing population in western Washington;
- the requirements for meeting a [multigenerational community](#);
- development and implementation of sustainability standards for our structures and infrastructure.

All of these are issues that must be addressed in our updated Comp Plan.

As recommended in the Planning Commission's October 2001 findings, a "citizen's committee selected for their relevant technical expertise should be created to assist the planning department with these tasks." For the best possible outcome, we recommend this committee include stakeholders with [the knowledge and expertise to incorporate the above guidelines](#).

Our shared goal is to craft a CP that implements our Vision Statement, stated on page one of the Introduction to the Comp Plan as "*the foundation upon which the entire Comprehensive Plan is based.*"

We know that you are on Orcas and have office hours at the Senior Center on Friday. We would like to schedule time with you on Friday the 24th to discuss these issues. Please let us know what time is best for you.

<SJC PC findings Oct 2001.pdf>

Thank you,

Mark Mayer
Environment Action Team Leader
Our Revolution San Juan County
tmarkmayer@mac.com