

Adam Zack

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Sent: Friday, June 28, 2019 6:57 PM
To: Comp Plan Update
Subject: Procedural Comments for LCA

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Dear Adam and team,

My comments address procedural issues, not the spread-sheet request on review of parcels, which was clearly stated in publications from earlier in June. These areas are:

- (1) Clarifying the Public Process time-frame and communicating to Orcas Residents to become informed appropriately to better facilitate the LCA process;
- (2) Interactive Map difficulties for the lay person trying to review parcels through the current link and possible alternate;
- (3) Alternate inter-departmental option for public input and
- (4) Inclusion of the 2018 adopted Vision elements informing this and other Comp Plan processes at the front end, not an add-on in the later policy setting stages when Vision becomes 'retrospect', not truly visionary.

(1) Public Process Timeframe

I understand the comment period for the LCA verification has been 'unofficially' extended at least until some time-frame post the EPRC next meeting from the original opening and Request for Comment June 6, 2019. This meeting is July 9, 2019, with the agenda focusing now on this area for public comment, with both you and Erica Shook being there to clarify and reply to questions. Thank you for this informal extension of the public comment.

I would respectfully request:

- (a) updating the website, formal notices going out to all on the SJC wider area email interested parties both clarifying the date for public comment, which I understand is significantly longer, given the extent of the project *and*
- (b) encouraging public attendance at this EPRC "workshop" that is really useful and necessary background for Orcas residents to understand this very complex, technical approach for those without advanced computer skills; also
- (c) an added public process workshop this summer (July?) based on my experience of going through parcel by parcel, like the EPRC review. This team has volunteered hours of clerical and informed help in verifying the parcel designations in that area of Orcas. Perhaps similar team/s via two or three different timeframe 2 hour windows at the Senior Center as a public outreach for these important (and not necessarily computer skilled) stakeholders, using a traditional personal "high touch" workshop to engage, promote this important project...? Spreading the word through this approach (plus cookies :) could go a long way to better community relations with SJC.

(2) Interactive Map suggestion

I found the current map linked to this project is difficult to read. I am fairly computer savvy, however, working with the color layers hides the actual on-the-ground information and then is more confusing than helpful. I was guided by an EPRC member to the Polaris version that can be accessed through another avenue that is also

associated with the LCA. That map was much easier to use! Please change the public comment link to the Polaris version. Thank you!

From my experiences in multi-generational users of maps (from paper to Polaris), retaining low-tech and straightforward options in this process for public inclusion could simplify, accommodate, add greater the PR-value *and* engagement with the public that can help accomplish this monumental and significant validation of the sophisticated program you have designed. There is *no* doubt of the value of the program being developed... but rather the validation process being practical, non-threatening and accessible to the stakeholders who need to verify data. It may sound "archaic" to include a paper and pencil comment form, but with the number of seniors that own parcels both in the UGB area, and the rural areas, is signification. It might prove useful to add that methodology back to the traditional mix of computer generated development.

(3) Alternate inter-departmental option for public input

Because not all impacted residents (full *or* part-time) of Orcas are computer savvy with GIS interactive skills. Is it possible to include the Assessors Office mailings to *all* tax parcels on Orcas (and Lopez?) with a simple, lay-person explanation of what to do *in writing* that does not pre-suppose even a small degree of computer fluency in mapping and planning? If this process is ongoing, a simple note attached to a currently scheduled Assessors Office mailing wouldn't add much --if anything-- to the cost. And, the information distributed and received by these key stakeholders of SJC could reinforce a straightforward, low-tech public process that has been effective for decades. It would also be nice to know, from a tax-payer perspective, that the SJC departments are not silos, but rather work together for efficient use of their (our!) tax dollars paid in.

(4) Vision informing the Plan update at the front end of the process

The adopted 2018 Vision Statement Update went through an extensive public, Commissioner and staff process. Organizing high-need projects in Planning by the elements of this Vision is fundamental to manifesting the SJC Comp Plan's update effectively, simply, practically. This supports the policy and goals process, so it wouldn't be silo'ed out as what appears to be considered a "requirement" rather than the Vision established by the key stakeholders of SJC.

If a front end process to consider *which* Vision elements and *how* are being served that the Comp Plan Elements impact, Stakeholders could more strategically understand the value of the Comp Plan projects. Without that connection, projects are often viewed by the public and especially tax-paying, working stakeholders as disjointed and necessity is likely to be questioned. This is not the current SJC process, but I would respectfully request that be considered. It is very useful from my experiences in other states and counties.

Thank you very much for your hard work, willingness to be open to suggestions that you have displayed and efforts on behalf of SJC's future being one of abundance and continuing to be a most remarkable and inspiring community.

With my best wishes for this Comp Plan project!

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