

February 5, 2008

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AHBL, INC.

City of Lake Stevens
1812 Main Street
Lake Stevens, Washington 98258

Attn: Mayor Vern Little
Council Chairman Neil Dooley
Councilmember Heather Coleman
Councilmember Mark Cross
Councilmember Karen Holder
Councilmember Suzan Quigley
Councilmember John Spencer
Councilmember Tom Hartwell

RE: South Lake Stevens "Visioning"

Dear Mayor Little, Council Chair Dooley and Councilmembers Quigley, Coleman, Holder, Hartwell, Spencer and Cross

I write to request that you enter this correspondence onto the record of both your "Visioning Process" and the LS-1 comprehensive plan amendment proposal currently being considered by the Snohomish County council as part of docket 12.

My family has owned property at 4415-87th Avenue SE in Snohomish, Washington since 1955.

Over the past 2 years, the city council of Lake Stevens has attempted to justify the expansion of its urban growth area south of its existing UGA boundary west of SR0, so as to encompass the entire area north of US2. I have attended many of your council meetings, as well as those of the City of Snohomish and County Council hearings on the LS-1 and the Sno-1 proposals, and have testified publicly on the issue.

What bothers me the most about your "Visioning Process" is that your full council has already heard the residences in this area on multiple occasions (before your council, before the Snohomish City Council and before the Snohomish County council). Each time the people who own property in this area state "for the record", verbally and in writing two simple facts: (i) that this area is a Snohomish neighborhood and always has been since the 1800's and (ii) that the people who live and own land in this area do not want to be governed by Lake Stevens.

But, since your mayor and administration does not like what you are being told, you ignore the opinions of the very people you wish to govern, and continue to attempt to justify your proposed UGA expansion, in hopes that it will somehow turn an opinion

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in your favor, or give you a justification to continue to attempt to prevent Snohomish from expanding north.

Your latest attempt is to buy an expensive consultant to hold a something called a "World Café" and to use it in an illusory "sleight of hand" trick to get people to talk about land uses and the to portray their discussion on land uses as acceptance of Lake Stevens' desire to govern this area, and in doing so, substitute "your vision" for "their vision".

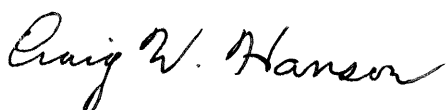
My family had a vision when my grandparents bought land here many years ago. It was to raise their children as part of the Snohomish community. We went to school, boy scouts and church there. While I now live in Marysville, my daughter and husband are living at the property address referenced above. They are raising their two children there with the oldest attending Riverview Elementary. I also attended Riverview after Fobes was closed. My roots are in Snohomish, and I have many friends in the area immediately north of US2, dating back to grade school. Many of their families have lived here for generations and some settled this area. They affiliate with Snohomish. Not Lake Stevens.

Continuing to attempt to ignore the property owners and voters in this area and force yourself on this area, simply to stop Snohomish from expanding north, is not responsible government and clearly does not endear your City's administration or governing elected officials to the people in this area. It only makes us more determined to stop Lake Stevens from what is clearly irresponsible growth and government.

In a recent council meeting, several of the more responsible Lake Stevens council members directed staff to ask hard questions as part of your "Vision" process to accurately determine the issues of whether the residents and property owners in this area wish to be governed by Lake Stevens, or affiliate with your community.

I sincerely hope that this correspondence plainly answers your question. And I request that you accept the fact that your "Vision" for this area is inconsistent with our sincere desire to remain a Snohomish neighborhood. This area has been referred to as "North Snohomish" long before you attempted to brand it "South Lake Stevens". Our "reality" is that this is a Snohomish neighborhood – always has been and always will be.

Sincerely,



Craig Hanson
7906-47th Ave N.W.
Marysville, Washington 98271

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cc: Snohomish County Council Chairman Dave Somers
Snohomish County Council Member Mike Cooper
Snohomish County Councilmember Dave Gossett
Snohomish County Councilmember John Koster
Snohomish County Councilmember Brian Sullivan
Snohomish County Planning Director Craig Ladiser
Brad Medford, AHBL