

Date: October 26, 2021

To: KC Council Mobility & Environment (M&E) Committee: <mailto:kcccomitt@kingcounty.gov>

cc: Leah Krekel-Zoppi, Principal Legis. Analyst, KC Council: leah.Krekel-Zoppi@kingcounty.gov
John Taylor, Director, KC Dept. of Local Services (DLS): John-Dir.Taylor@kingcounty.gov
David Daw, External Relations Manager, KC DLS: ddaw@kingcounty.gov
Ivan Miller, KCCP Manager: ivan.miller@kingcounty.gov
Rebecca Maskin, KC Demographer: rmaskin@kingcounty.gov

Subject: **Written Testimony—October 27, 2021 M&E Committee Meeting—Items 17 and 18**

Good morning. We represent seven King County (KC) Rural Area Unincorporated Area Councils (UACs), Associations (UAAs), and Organizations [*****] that span from the Snohomish County to the Pierce County lines.

For the past 18 months we worked on the **Countywide Planning Policies (CPP) Update** closely with CPP Manager (at the time) Karen Wolf, KCCP Manager Ivan Miller, and KC Demographer Rebecca Maskin. Throughout the process, we reviewed all the **Update's** versions and public drafts. We then prepared detailed comments on each and submitted same to Ms. Wolf and her CPP Update team, the King County Council, and the County's Growth Management Planning Council (GMPC).

Previously, in Written Testimony submitted for your last committee meeting held on August 25, we urged you to **REJECT** two proposed amendments:

1. Proposed new policy **FW-4**. As VISION 2040, the CPPs and the KCCP all state, urban services should not be sited in the Rural Area. In recognition of the many opportunities that currently exist for private enterprise to exist in ways that respect "*rural character*," we do not seek ways to increase rural development under the guise of "*fiscal sustainability*" in the Rural Area. Finally, Rural Area citizens have no desire for "*strategies to fund infrastructure and services in Rural Areas*" to "*support a defined rural level-of-service*."
2. Proposed changes to policies **H-4 n.** and **H-20**, which seek to impose no requirements—including infrastructure—on private investment, only on public investment, thus, resulting in members of the Public paying for everything.

Today, we urge you to **REJECT** proposals related to two issues that we were alarmed to hear raised during the committee's discussion at your August 25 meeting. We see no reason to tinker with either of these successful policies/programs (note we "*paraphrase*" below):

1. "*The recommendations of the **School Siting Task Force (SSTF)** are too stringent and forces rural kids to take long bus rides into urban areas.*" That is not true. If new schools were sited *outside* of the UGA, farther from the centers of population density, far more students, who live *inside* the cities, would have to endure longer rides. Also, please note all the School Districts

agreed to the solutions documented by the SSTF. We are very familiar with the SSTF, as representatives from several of our organizations served as members and helped draft, discuss, and finalize its recommendations.

2. *“The 4:1 Program is too stringent.”* That also is not true. Further, there was talk of going down to 2:1. The 4:1 Program is exactly that—4:1, and should remain so.

We urge you to please stand up for and represent Rural Area citizen concerns by *REJECTING* each of the proposals we discuss herein. Thank you.

Submitted by:

Peter Rimbos
Coordinator, Joint Rural Area UAC/UAA/Organization Team
Coordinator--KCCP, CPPs, and VISION 2050; GMVUAC
primbos@comcast.net

Approved by:

Tim O'Brien
obrien_timothy@hotmail.com
President, EPCA

Serena Glover
serena@allenglover.com
Executive Director, FoSV

Steve Hiester
steve.Hiester@oldcastle.com
Chair, GMVUAC

Andy Benedetti
andyb929@gmail.com
President, GV/LHA

Michael Tanksley
wmtanksley@comcast.net
President, HHA

Jeff Guddat
jeffguddat@yahoo.com
President, SCAR

Nancy Stafford
nm.staff@outlook.com
Chair, UBCUAC

Greg Wingard
gwingard@earthlink.net
Rural Resident/Tech Consultant

Ken Konigsmark
kenkonigsmark@yahoo.com
Rural Resident/Tech Consultant

Terry Lavender
tlavender2@frontier.com
Rural Resident/Tech Consultant

[] : EPCA: Enumclaw Plateau Assoc.; FoSV: Friends of Sammamish Valley; GMVUAC: Greater Maple Valley Area UAC; GV/LHA: Green Valley/Lake Holm Assoc.; HHA: Hollywood Hills Assoc.; SCAR: Soos Creek Area Response; and UBCUAC: Upper Bear Creek UAC.*