Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/26/2020 2:10:09 PM

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Title:

Comments: ,We are writing in response to the proposed 4000 pillows development at Mission Ridge and in support of the efforts and position El Sendero.

We have been skiing as a family at Mission Ridge, as seasons pass holders, for 22 years. It is a beautiful location, with dry snow, well amazing snow making and grooming, and spectacular views on a sunny day. However, over the past 5 years it become ever clearer that Mission Ridge has a number of issues that it needs to resolve before adding another 4000+ bodies to the mountain. For example, where is everyone going to park? How are the two lodges going to accommodate everyone? Even though you are replacing chair 2, a big reason for the slow down on chair two is the wind. Is there anything in the planning for a cement structure to protect the top of 2, or are you petitioning the Gods to only blow at certain times of the day? Is Mission going to arrange it that the road gets plowed more than half an hour before the first chair starts up on a powder day?

However, despite our questions above, let us address the following things that concern us the most:

- * REAL ESTATE: Will you be selling town houses and condos instead of increasing ski acres?
- * WATER RIGHTS: it's well documented that Squilchuck drainage is operating at a maximum and orchardists in the immediate vicinity have senior rights to that water and rely on that water to grow tree fruit. Taking away their water for an extra 4000 pillows is wrong, and I suspect it's illegal if it isn't, convince me.
- * STEMILT PARTNERSHIP MISSION: You know that your proposal violates the Stemilt Partnership Mission, to which the County is a member. You know very well the three central goals of this Partnership: to prevent stealing water from the upper watershed, to prevent urban development in the forest, and to prevent the over utilization of the lands surrounding your proposed development yet, you are going against all three. Why?
- * FIRE: We all know that most of the fires in our area are started by humans, but yet you are proposing to bring even more humans into a water stressed landscape. Why?
- * FIRE: Our fire codes require alternate fire escape routes. This means an alternate road for escape. With your one road in, one road out proposal plus a road without sufficient safety zones for fire fighters is absurd. Did Paradise CA teach you nothing? Fire danger is very real and with drier climates in the offing it will get worse...those of us long time Wenatchee residents have seen this first hand. It can get ugly very very quickly.
- * FOREST SERVICE: it was understood that the new road you recently built would be built within the proposed corridor. It wasn't. This needs to be remedied with Forest Service oversight.
- * ELK: Mission Ridge has been able to operate in an elk corridor because the elk simply are not around in the winter. However, they are around the rest of the year for mating, calving etc. Your 4000 pillow development will also be around then. The skiers will be mountain biking, hiking, camping, and impact the Elk in this natural corridor stressing the herd. Why?
- * RCW 36.70A.110. The 4000 pillows development seems to be in violation of the intent of this law concern with urban growth. Why?
- * SEWER: 4000 people is the size of the town of Cashmere but Cashmere has a waste water treatment facility. Your development with the same number of people proposes waste water disposal through sewers and on-site drain fields. If this water pollutes the irrigation water for the tree fruit growers and they cannot pass their water quality tests, who bares the financial responsibility for the growers loss of income an income that our valley depends on. After all we are the "apple growing capital of the world".

In closing we think that all these issues have not been adequately thought out. If they have please address the above and enlighten us. We would like to see the money that is to go to this 4000 pillow development be diverted to improving current conditions and the existing infra structure at the Mission Ridge Ski and Board area. We are not opposed to change at all, on the contrary. But over the past 5 years besides the snow grooming and snow making, the changes that have been made do not give us the confidence that your proposal is for the better of

our community: both natural and cultural.

Sincerely, KazAli