

Jack Venrick

From: <webmaster@metrokc.gov>
To: <jacksranch@qwest.net>
Sent: Monday, July 26, 2004 10:33 PM
Subject: Re: Metropolitan 2004 King County Council Critical Areas Ordinance testimony

Subject: 2004 Critical Areas Ordinance Testimony
 Posted on "07/26/2004" at "11:33PM"

Thank you for submitting your written testimony on the Critical Areas, Clearing & Grading, and Stormwater Ordinances. Your comments are now part of the official public record for review by the King County Council's Growth Management and Unincorporated Areas Committee. The County Council will continue deliberations on the Comprehensive Plan as it moves towards final adoption in the fall. You can keep track of all regular meetings of the County Council on King County Television. <p>For your reference, the following testimony was given on the proposed 2004 King County Critical Areas Ordinances:

Subject: NO Critical Areas Ordinance NO 65-10

Dear King County Council Members:

My name is John (Jack) R. Venrick. I live on 10 acres on the Enumclaw Plateau for the last 26 years. I am retired from Boeing on a fixed income and am 61 years old. My address is 41250 250th Ave SE, Enumclaw, WA 98022.

I have sent each of the K.C. Councilmembers an email expressing my dismay at the extreme control of private property proposed in the CAO.

The perspective from those of us who live on acreage and farms and who steward our own land is this CAO proposal together with the so called "1000 Friends of Washington" is so extreme there can be no talk of balance.

This proposal is so bazaar it is receiving national media attention as being the most extreme environmental control of any county in the nation.

If you go to Property Rights Foundation of America, Inc. at <http://www.prfamerica.org/PositionsIndex.html> you will see how court decisions are being made by cases brought by private groups organizing across America to fight this environmental and government over reaching into private property rights.

This ordinance cannot be enforced even if it passes. It is too unpopular! Plus it will be fought in the courts for years. It will waste private and public funds. You are wasting precious time and money! Just say NO to the environmental groups. They are no friends of the rural property owners!

I also have to ask you why this extreme environmental over reaction is following down party lines? If it was fair and balanced you would see both Republicans and Democrats on the council voting for it. This is clearly a political issue. Why have the Democrats chosen to push their political agenda over the rural property owners rights? I thought the Democrats were the people's party?

Also ask yourself why do most if not all of the people pushing this CAO live in the urban areas of King County?

This ordinance will artificially escalate property prices so much that it would drive people like myself on fixed incomes out because of the eventual excessive burden of property taxes. It would also drive low and middle income families off their farms and acreages to become exclusive properties for the upper income rich.

My property is not your playground. Please go play in your own back yard. King County has too many other more important problems to deal with than trying to entertain selfish environmental extreme groups.

Also ask yourself why the council including Ron Sims allowed the Muckleshoot Amphitheater to be built on private property? That is certainly more environmentally unfriendly than any farmer I know out here.

Sincerely,

John R. Venrick
41250 250th Ave SE
Enumclaw, WA 98022