

Larry Lonegan

Swift Creek - Public Meeting

See attached

November 5, 2019

Swift Creek Public Meeting Oct.9, 2019

Comments regarding such include, but are not necessarily limited to:

1. As an owner of property within the alluvial fan area and in close proximity to the watershed area, I am dismayed that **I did not receive any indication of the meeting, etc..** While mail is not delivered and I do not have a PO Box in Everson, my address is readily available in Whatcom assessor records. If the assessor can send me a tax bill, certainly I, and anyone in a similar situation, should receive a meeting notification.
2. As conveyed to Ian Fawley via phone conversation on Oct.25, 2019, it came to my attention that at least one member of the public did not receive notification until after the meeting. Ian indicated that he was aware that **some members of the public did not receive notification until after the meeting.**
3. In the copies of meeting notice that I received from Ian, there were two fact sheet attachments. One in English and one in Spanish. **The English fact sheet was six (6) pages long, and the Spanish fact sheet was only two (2) pages long.** At the 2010 census per Wikipedia, the Hispanic or Latino makeup of Everson was 28.9%, Nooksak was 17.9%, and Sumas was 15.8%. Why the Spanish fact sheet was only two (2) pages is beyond my comprehension, and obviously **those who speak Spanish as a primary language were not fully informed via the attached fact sheet.**
4. The public meeting was hosted “to provide information, answer questions, and collect comments”. In response to my inquiry, I was informed that **neither a transcript nor a recorded video was available. I was also informed that the meeting was not broadcast.** Many people can not physically attend public meetings for various reasons, including but not necessarily limited to: attending to their children, on vacation, out of town, physically unable to attend due to personal or family health issues, employment obligations, etc. **Those people that could not attend should have been accommodated** via a live broadcast, a video recording, live streaming with the ability to ask questions, and/or minimally a transcript of questions, answers thereto, and comments. **It appears that an effort to keep the public fully informed was/is lacking.**

In conclusion, and based upon the above, it appears that one might judge the public meeting, and communications thereof, to be inadequate, and that another meeting be held recifying, minimally, the above.

And also, as a result, the comments accepted time frame should be revised/extended.