

The Sentry

Kitsap Alliance of Property Owners

July 2009

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KAPO President’s comments

Tim Matthes
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Around the State

Much has happened this month. On Friday June 12, our editor, Jack Hamilton and Karl Duff, along with Bob Benze and myself attended a meeting in Seattle with leaders of Citizens Alliance for Property Rights (CAPR). We discussed whether we need a state property rights consortium. If we do, what should it look like, and who should head this up? KAPO’s own Jack Hamilton, along with CAPR’s Rod McFarland continue to work on these and other organizational questions. They will submit a report when they have finished their research on the subject. I would like to thank Karl, Bob, and Jack for spending their Friday nights away from home in support of property owners around the state.

KAPO has its day in court, again!

On Monday June 15, over a dozen KAPO members traveled to Tacoma to attend the oral arguments in Washington State Appellant Court, on our ongoing lawsuit challenging Kitsap County’s Critical Areas Ordinance. KAPO’s attorney, Brian Hoges did what I can only describe as a superior job of presenting our case. His answers to the questions that the judges asked were understandable and complete. In comparison, the answers that Kitsap County’s attorney provided were, quite frankly, not as good. Brian thinks that it might take as long as six months to receive a decision from this court. Thank you Brian for all your work, and also special thanks to all those members who made the trip.

KAPO and the PSRC Board Seats

The operations committee at Puget Sound Regional Coordinating Council has taken up the request for KAPO to be given a seat on the Transportation Policy Board, and one on the Growth Management Policy Board. Vivian and I attended a June 25th meeting in Seattle of the Operations and the Executive Committees. They decided to form a subcommittee to consider how non-voting members are selected /appointed, and how long their terms should be. I guess our request is on hold until this subcommittee reports back to them. We will continue to keep you informed of any actions taken.

KAPO Spreading the property rights message

On June 17, Directors Mike Gustavson and Bob Benze and myself gave a presentation to about 23 members of the Commercial Real Estate Brokers of Kitsap County in Silverdale. I can't thank Mike and Bob enough for their efforts creating our program. They answered questions, and showed by their presentations just how effective and informed our members are. Thank you Mike and Bob for representing KAPO so professionally.

Whisky's for drinkn', and water's for fightn' over"

The Kitsap County Planning Department may be hosting an open house/work shop to explain the new Washington State Storm Water Regulations. The implementations of these regulations are scheduled for Jan 1, 2010. This manual was created by the State Department of Ecology – with no public process. They haven't shown that there is a problem that needs to be fixed. Why didn't they ask for input and data from the affected counties or cities? I wonder if our elected county representatives know and support what the Department of Ecology is doing? The implementation of this new manual will add more costs to all projects, and drive more folks out of the market. In some cases it will make your building site unusable for a home or business. Is there any way to stop this insanity? Possibly we could all attend the state/county workshop in our area, and object to the lack of public process. It might be a good idea to personally invite your state representatives to come with you to this meeting.

Transportation 2040: I think that calling it *Transploitation* 2040 might be a better idea!

Director Bob Benze has written a masterful letter assessing the effects of Transportation 2040 on the poor and underprivileged. Check out his letter here in this month's Sentry.

Also, Vice President Chuck Shank attended a 2040 open house hosted by PSRC at the Eagle's Nest on June 25. Chuck will report to us at the July 7 board meeting. Jack Hamilton is working on a review of the complete PSRC Transportation 2040 report (700 pages in length). We will have more on that next month.

Attorney Richard Shattuck guest speaker

We had a full room at our Thursday night dinner at the AA China Buffet. Richard Shattuck, Attorney at Law, gave an informative and helpful presentation on property taxes and land use regulation in Kitsap County. Many thanks to him for the time he spent answering our questions.

Meeting notices for July

KAPO Board of Directors Meeting Tuesday July 7, 2009, 1 pm Homebuilders.

Port of Bremerton Candidates' Forum July 28, 2009, 7-9 pm Silverdale Community Center. See complete flyer in this Sentry.

KAPO dinner meeting. July 30, 2009, 5-8 PM AA China Buffet East Bremerton. We will have as our guest speaker Lieutenant John Bass, US Army Reserve. John will give us a report complete with pictures from his recent deployment in Iraq.

Have a great 4th of July!

Executive Director's Report

Vivian Henderson, Executive Director

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No report from Vivian this month. Have no fear she is still on the job attending more meetings than most of us can even imagine and spreading the gospel of property rights.

Testimony to the PSRC on Transportation 2040

Bob Benze

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President Clinton's 1994 Executive Order 12898 is a clarification of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Known as Environmental Justice, it prohibits federally funded programs affecting human health or the environment from using practices that discriminate on the basis of race, color, or natural origin.

The Puget Sound Regional Council would have people believe that their smart-growth land use and transportation policies, which receive federal funds, among other things benefit low income and disadvantaged people. But exactly the opposite is true.

PSRC policies force new development into tightly-packed urban areas to preserve the rural environment and they impose stringent, costly regulations on the development process. A UW study last year showed these policies severely limit the supply of housing and add \$200,000 to the price of the average Seattle house. The increase here in Kitsap is at least \$150,000. This makes home ownership unaffordable to an increasingly larger segment of the population. It also force landlords to raise rents. A Seattle University class study clearly showed how these policies are forcing minority and low-income populations out of the cities, using the Seattle Central Area as evidence.

People who sell real estate know that their customers, who can no longer afford to live close to where they work, will drive until they can afford to buy. But what this means is that many low income and disadvantaged people must now drive a lot further to get to their job--in some cases fifty miles or more.

So what does the PSRC Transportation 2040 plan do to help? The answer is “nothing”. In fact, rather than working to eliminate congestion, which involves an emphasis on new lane miles, PSRC is instead actively working to reduce vehicle miles traveled by purposely making it harder to drive to work. This has been the policy for several decades -- neglecting road building in favor of public transportation, with the somewhat ironic result that public ridership has actually gone down, from about 6% of trips to less than 3% in the last 20 years--because public transportation simply doesn't work for most people.

In short, there appears to be conclusive evidence that the land use and transportation policies of Vision 2040 and Transportation 2040 are discriminatory and racially biased – in clear violation of the law of the land.

Not all states have enacted smart-growth laws, like the Growth Management Act we have here in Washington that is the basis for the PSRC planning. The problems I have mentioned, by and large, do not exist where there are no such laws. Slick presentations can't mask these problems. The facts speak for themselves.

Environmental Insight With a Touch of Real Science Flora on Shoreline Restoration- “Do we want to go there?” Don Flora (a real scientist)

“Restoration” is mentioned in the state law that requires updates of local shoreline plans. The law says that people want shoreline utilization and restoration and attention should be paid to restoring places having “historic, cultural, scientific, and educational values.”

But does it mean your front yard? Shoreline planners seem to think so, if you live near the shore. Some (*planners and others*) want to return the shore to its “pre-settlement” (pre 1850) appearance. Here are some of the ways they want you to contribute to restoration, without compensation of course.

A formal buffer, declared with your deed, reaching from the top of the beach to as far as 200 feet inland. With signs and or fences declaring it a no-touch place. No-touch indeed, with owners allowed only a narrow path to the beach.

Mandated vegetation in the buffer including a designated number of trees. Never mind your view.

Only “Native” vegetation is allowed, tended by the owner, who would otherwise be discouraged from recreating in the buffer. Failed plantings are to be replaced in kind by the owner, presumably to fail again.

Within the buffer the owner may never cut down a tree without the okay of a certified arborist. But be sure to replace it. The tree!

A tastefully crafted stairway from the path would be okay, but no tree houses.

The buffer would wrap around most homes, of course. Back yard, drain field, the works.

A bulkhead? The law allows it, but the planners can layer on so many “mitigation” provisions that you can’t abide them.

One local proposal would allow repair of bulkheads but only 25 percent per decade.

Residential docks would be actively discouraged too.

Your house would be a goner in time. It could be repaired if less than half is harmed by, say, fire or fallen trees. It could be expanded upward to perhaps three stories, but not outward, in one set of proposals. The underlying intent is to get rid of structures within 200 feet of the shore. While it stands, your house would be formally “nonconforming.” Tell that to a future buyer.

Meanwhile, don’t touch the beach. Nobody really knows what a pristine beach looked like at your specific place, but you must restore it and maintain it.

Gary Tripp, a Kitsap neighbor, remarks that the current surges in chum and Chinook salmon are obviously not caused by any of these shoreline mandates.

Next month I’ll suggest reasons why re-creating the conditions of centuries ago is probably not feasible. Meanwhile, reflect on the condition of folks who lived along Puget Sound shores in those “pre-settlement” times. Do we want to replicate that?

Kitsap County Planning Commission Activity Report

Mike Gustavson

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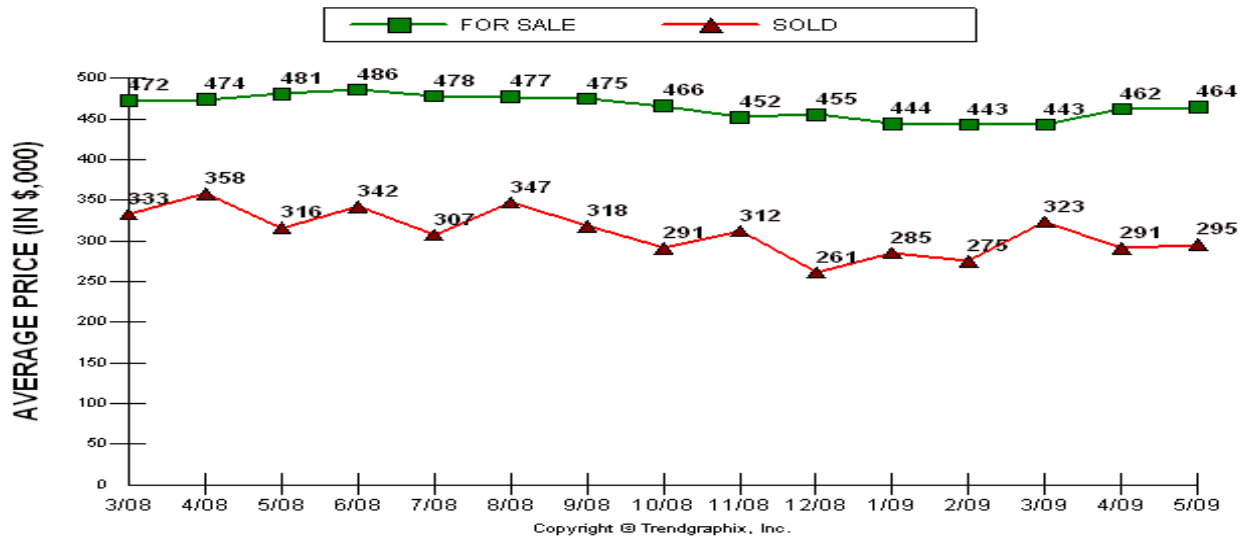
Mike took off for a month. Vivian is trying to figure out how that works.

Real Estate Roundup

John Taylor

(Don Flora got email before John)

Here is some comparative information about the housing market in Kitsap County. The data is raw,(without analysis of underlying contributors or other factors). However, the basic data appears to be consistent with the published information concerning the overall market and price of housing



	1 year			15 months		
	May 08	May 09	% Change	Mar 08	May 09	% Change
Avg. Active Price	211	187	-11.4% ↓	205	187	-8.8% ↓
Avg. Sold Price	225	332	47.6% ↑	260	332	27.7% ↑

Date	5/08	7/08	10/08	01/09	05/09
# for sale	2458	2589	2231	1755	1806
# sold	238	232	236	114	187
# days on market	103	96	110	96	97
Average sqft price	\$175	\$164	\$154	\$151	\$148
Median Price	\$280,000	\$260,000	\$251,000	\$234,000	\$243,000

You should have received your assessment for tax year 2010. A drop in assessment does not mean a drop in taxes. Are you getting what you are paying for?

An Island Perspective
 Bainbridge Shoreline Homeowners
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How Government Destroyed Science in Columbia River Dam Decision Making

(Ed. – This edition of a presentation by James Buchal was extracted from the BSH web site. It is reprinted with Buchal's permission, Buchal is the author of "The Great Salmon Hoax" and has made a presentation on that subject to a KAPO sponsored event. The charts that Buchal refers to in his presentation did not replicate properly and are not included. The description of the material in the charts allows understanding of the points being made.)

Before I begin discussing the use of science in Columbia River decision making, I think it is important to have a definition of what science is, and I am going to choose a definition that will make it clear that science is not really used at all any more.

What is science? Since this is a law school, I will cite the Supreme Court's Daubert case, which determined how federal courts should decide whether to accept scientific expert testimony. In that case, the Court actually managed at one point to stumble right on it: "Scientific methodology today is based on generating hypotheses and testing them to see if they can be falsified; indeed, this methodology is what distinguishes science from other fields of human inquiry...."

I will argue that the essence of science is that there are things that are out there that are true, and while we can all speculate about the truth is, we can test our speculation against the truth. This is usually done by taking measurements in an experiment. And when our hypothesis is falsified, that is, contrary to the truth as revealed by the evidence we gather, we have to discard or refine that hypothesis. I would also argue that measurement or quantification is another very important aspect of science. As a famous physicist, Lord Kelvin once observed,

"When you can measure what you are speaking about, and express it in numbers, you know something about it; but when you cannot measure it, when you cannot express it in numbers, your knowledge is of a meager and unsatisfactory kind: it may be the beginning of knowledge, but you have scarcely, in your thoughts, advanced to the stage of science."

What Lord Kelvin did not say is that if you *really* have a scientific understanding of something, you can also use that scientific knowledge to predict what will happen under a certain set of initial conditions (at least outside the quantum context).

Since this is a law school, you might think that the courts are on the job policing the matter and making sure governmental policy has some relationship to science. Unfortunately, that is false. There are a number of what I would call vectors of decay in modern law that decisively falsify that idea.

1. Federal courts will not decide the truth in scientific questions. Indeed, they are fundamentally disinterested in whether government decisions are true or not; the standard of review is "arbitrary and capricious," not right or wrong. A corollary of this rule, by the way, is that the Daubert test for reliability of expert scientific evidence is completely inapplicable in the context of judicial review of agency action.

2. Federal courts will not require the government to release its files containing scientific information if the government wants to keep them secret. The Federal courts have invented a presumption that the quality of administrative decision making will be improved if citizens are not able to see anything going on during the decision making process, which might "chill" the process or "embarrass" the participants.

3. Federal courts will not permit people who disagree with government science and file law suits about it to get any discovery of the scientists involved, or their papers. As a practical matter, judicial review is limited to the record that the government gets to assemble to justify whatever decision it has made. And so if something doesn't help, and the Justice Department has assigned what we might call effective lawyers to the case, well, they just leave it out of the record.

4. Federal courts will not even permit people who disagree with the

government decisions to question to the government's scientific witnesses in court, even when they rely on their affidavit testimony to make decisions. Cross-examination has been called the greatest engine for the discovery of truth ever invented, but it is almost never used in cases concerning government scientists.

So other than the occasional activist judge who ignores administrative law, the judicial branch has abandoned any effort to discern scientific truth. Indeed, one usually hears a pitiful sort of whining from the judges along the lines of "it's not my job" or "it's too hard".

So we are left with the integrity of the individual scientists themselves. How is that working for us? Unfortunately, it is a very rare kind of integrity that is required; it takes real open-mindedness to hold a hypothesis, and when it has been falsified, to modify or discard the hypothesis, and try again. People who call themselves scientists often pretend to have this open-mindedness, but they are just people after all, and those who have studied the history of science can see that nearly all scientists can't achieve this state of mind.

Our other panelist, Dr. Haeseker, just suggested that a test of "endurance" for scientific truth, but falsity is pretty durable too. Michael Crichton gave a horrible example in a speech a few years ago [at Caltech](#):

"In past centuries, the greatest killer of women was fever following childbirth. One woman in six died of this fever. In 1795, Alexander Gordon of Aberdeen suggested that the fevers were infectious processes, and he was able to cure them. The consensus said no. In 1843, Oliver Wendell Holmes claimed puerperal fever was contagious, and presented compelling evidence. The consensus said no. In 1849, Semmelweiss demonstrated that sanitary techniques virtually eliminated puerperal fever in hospitals under his management. The consensus said he was a Jew, ignored him, and dismissed him from his post. There was in fact no agreement on puerperal fever until the start of the twentieth century. Thus the consensus took one hundred and twenty five years to arrive at the right conclusion despite the efforts of the prominent "skeptics" around the world, skeptics who were demeaned and ignored. And despite the constant ongoing deaths of women." And we can see this thing over and over in science: most of the scientists just don't care enough about the truth to listen to a minority, or a single skeptic, who has good evidence inconsistent with what they believe.

People like to believe what everyone else around them believes, even if it is plainly wrong. Indeed, consensus is the enemy of science, because consensus is invoked to maintain the conventional view. And maintaining the conventional view means we do not advance our understanding. So when you hear politicians say they are ensuring good science through peer review, it is a lie like nearly everything else politicians say, because peer review is the enforcement of consensus.

Just to try and liven things up here, I'd like to give an example, that Dr. Haeseker has just talked about. You may recall he showed a slide with some people in an inner tube drinking beer and floating down the river. And he said that because of the dams, the Lower Granite to Bonneville float time, which he equated with fish travel time, has gone from 1.7 days to 18.7 days. But it is easy to falsify the hypothesis that within the wide range of river flows we observe now, that fish travel time changes much at all. Now it is a basic fact about the Columbia River that its flow varies widely from year to year. Here is a chart of Columbia River flows in the last decade, and I will call your attention to the blue line at the bottom which represents the low flows of 2001, and you can see that in many years, the River's flow is nearly triple this year.

Now all of these variations in flow generate a lot of data. And early on, scientists tried to measure salmon survival, and back in the 1970s, some of them noticed that salmon seemed to survive better in years of higher flow. And you can see that during the 1970s, when they first gathered the data, there seemed to be a relationship between river flow and salmon survival. Now later on, it turned out that there was something wrong with these two data points (1973 and 1977), and the data got a lot flatter, even in 2001, but we don't have time to go into that. The important point is that from these fairly rudimentary observations, an enduring policy prescription has emerged for helping salmon. It's a simple syllogism really: (1) we can move the river faster, (2) that moves the salmon faster, and (3) if they move faster, they spend less time in the reservoir death zone and their survival will be higher.

Each of these statements can be tested for truth. Starting with the third one, by 1993, when the first accurate measurements of salmon survival in reservoirs were obtained, the results were so utterly contrary to the death zone theory that the experiments had to be done over and over and over and over again before biologists would believe them. The reservoirs were not death zones at all. Young salmon die at higher rates both above the dams and below them. But this had absolutely no effect on salmon policy. You have probably heard the old expression there are lies, damned lies, and statistics. The modern version of that probably ought to go: there are lies, there are damned lies, there are statistics, and then . . . there are computer models. And we began to see what has become an epidemic of fraudulent computer models on this issue and many others. Now fraud is a serious charge, and I do not make it lightly. One important feature of computer models is what factors are taken into consideration in the model. Here is a graph of salmon survival versus flow over hundreds of observations.

If I may digress again, imagine that salmon scientists were engineers selling you a car, and if we press on the accelerator (analogizing to more flow), this haze of dots would represent that with this salmon engineer car, sometimes it goes backwards, and sometimes forwards. What I want to focus on is these few points down here with low flow and low survival. They all are represented by circles, and all come from the low flow year of 2001. And they all have one thing in common: high river temperatures. And young salmon die a lot more rapidly with higher river temperatures, because the things in the river are cold blooded things, and when the water warms up, they get hungrier and eat more salmon.

But if you build computer models, and just leave temperature out of them, you can take the effects that arise from temperature, and pretend that they arise from flow. So some scientists built models with temperature, and some without. Models with temperature have an interesting characteristic: they actually fit reality; they have predictive power. Here for example is a model developed by Professor Anderson, who labored in this field for about a decade, figured it out, published his model. The model was ignored, just like Oliver Wendell Holmes and all the other doctors, and Dr. Anderson has moved on to other things, but it is a remarkable achievement. Models that just use flow have a harder time, since there is very little correlation between flow and survival. The cloud of dots slide I just showed you pretty much proves that; here is some additional data disaggregated by year, and you can see sometimes flow is positively associated with survival, and sometimes negatively associated. So no matter what kind of model we run this data through, there is really nothing there.

Now let's look at another premise of the "more flow" theory: we can make fish move down the river faster by making the river move faster. Nature runs that experiment for us every year with natural flow variations, and the remarkable thing is that over enormous flow variations, the fish tend to arrive down at the bottom of the river at the same time every year. Here is a chart that the State of Oregon prepared last month to try and explain their flow theory: The 50% column represents the date half the fish get to the bottom of the River. You can see that in the year 2001, with less than half the flow of most years, the fish were only about 0.6 days later (the median passage date). Yet on the very same page, Oregon is pointing out that its models show an estimated fish travel time (FTT) from its computer models showing fish should have taken almost twice as long to get there in 2001. Clearly, fish are nothing like people floating in inner tubes, drinking beer, contrary to Dr. Haeseker's presentation.

Over the years I have seen the government scientists use fudge factors with negative survival to try and make their models fit the actual data. By now, though, the whole idea of testing the models against reality just got shoved under the rug. Policy is made by having the person with the most power hold up something they call science, whether or not it fits reality. And the disconnect between reality and policy grows stronger and stronger.

I want to speculate a little bit about how so many people can be so blind, and I think the root of the problem, like the root of so many other public problems, is the federal government. You may have heard that our federal government is a government of limited powers, but that is no longer true, because the same federal courts that refuse to address the problem of truth in government decision making also decided, notwithstanding that quaint idea of a Constitution, that the federal government has the powers to (1) print paper money; and (2) spend that paper on whatever it wants. And after WWII, [the Cold Warriors decided, that "science is the responsibility of government because new scientific knowledge vitally affects our health, our jobs, and our national security"](#). And so rivers of federal money flowed out of Washington, a mighty army of federally-funded scientists has arisen to get that money.

One version of the Golden Rule, the non-Biblical one, is that he who has the gold, rules. And that is true in science. When those in charge of the purse strings are funding science, they can shape that science to support their political positions. This is not just a problem with salmon science; there is a lot of literature in the area of medical research, for example, showing how NIH committees wind up funding the same wrong ideas over and over and over again. And the people involved just seem to lose their capacity to discern scientific truth. Again, this is not a particularly unusual phenomenon. Upton Sinclair once remarked: "It is difficult to get a man to understand something when his salary depends on his not understanding it." And here in the Northwest, we have literally billions of dollars in salaries going out to an army of scientists who just can't seem to understand ecological problems and solve them, because if they understood them, they'd have to find new work.

And there is really only one antidote for this. We have to recover their ability to distinguish between facts and opinions. When people stand up in front of you like Dr. Haesker, and wave a bottle of vodka and a hot dog around to show how big the fish tags were in Dr. Welch's study [presented by a previous panelist, John McKern], this is not science. This is an attempt to distract you from the science. Because Dr. Welch compared fish in the Columbia (eight dams) and the Fraser (no dams) that had the same size tags. Even if the tags are so big that some fish die, the Columbia River fish are still enjoying higher survival than the Fraser fish, which calls into question the whole idea that the dams are hurting the fish, an idea that pays Dr. Haeseker's salary and the

salaries of thousands of others.

Years ago, Thomas Jefferson said: "The general spread of the light of science has already laid open to every view the palpable truth, that the mass of mankind has not been born with saddles on their back, nor a favored few, booted and spurred, ready to ride them." You all are going to have to work a lot harder to figure out what the truth is, and hold your leaders to pursue things that are true, or your future is going to get darker and darker because the light of science is not spreading any more. It is dimming.

© James Buchal, January 31, 2009

The presentation was not a success. Though Dr. Haeseker had called Dr. Welch's research "shameful", and moved another panelist to describe his presentation as a violation of American Fisheries Society and federal ethical standards, most of the students just nodded numbly for him. I was regarded as not operating in the "realitybased community". Of course fish need more water. With that, the proceedings moved on to a presentation by Gore acolyte Bill Bradbury on the threat of climate change, a highly-polished presentation that carefully omits any proof whatsoever that anything that mankind does has any measurable effect on the climate.

Legislative Update

Jack Hamilton

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In the other Washington

It appears that no amount of common sense and hard science will deter dedicated politicians from forwarding an agenda. The rule of unintended consequences has carried the day one more time and allowing science illiterates like our current members of the House to continue in office has brought us a potential "cap and trade" bill that will essentially destroy the free market system and devastate the American economy. A reminder, one more time, that noting in the legislation passed by the House will reduce one gram of any "greenhouse" gas released into the atmosphere in the US and certainly will have no restrictive impact on any other country in the world. To the contrary, emissions will continue at current levels in the US at a much higher cost of goods sold to the American people with a resultant significant reduction in our standard of living. The first to feel the crunch will be the low to moderate income families. The rest of the world will continue as they are today and continue to produce goods at lower cost and out compete the US in the global market. This is not going to be fun if the Senate also adopts this bill.

In the State and Region

Bob Benze offered some insight with respect to the negative impact of PSRC Transportation 2040 from the aspect of implementing "social justice" In addition the rest of us are in for a very rough time if the plan is adopted. Although the plan contains five Alternates, the only one that has a chance of acceptance is the one that limits new lane miles, converts HOV and other lanes to toll lanes, and transfers road funds to mass transit. Transportation 2040 argues that it simply provides the means to implement the transportation policies in Vision 2040. In reality, transportation and a "car free Washington" are the controlling agenda for all land use decisions. Of note, other than to identify parts of Highway 16 as a toll road, Transportation 2040 hardly

mentions Kitsap. There are certainly no benefits to Kitsap in any of the Alternates. KAPO has a detailed review and comments to submit on this PSRC dream document.

Here in Kitsap

The fun is starting over again. The Commissioners are tired of being the bad guys and having to enforce the regulations they passed so they have come up with a process to mediate appeals to permits and the hearing examiner. Let's see, they have a 4 day work week and they need more relief. Go figure.

Using the primary criteria of "Shovel ready in 90 days" to decide how to best (?????) spend your federal stimulus (Read tax) dollars, Poulsbo is now embarking on rebuilding Viking Way at Poulsbo Junction. The Gov was in town to kick the project off and was overflowing about the economic impact this was going to have. Lets see, a road crew stays at work for about 6 months even though they would be kept at work regardless of the project selected. The upgrade is going to bring major economic improvement to an area that just lost nearly every revenue producing business on the street. Have heart, bike lanes will be available from the south end of the project to the Junction intersection. Let's all go buy bikes to take advantage of this great project. (Can anyone say Bethel Corridor or Bucklin Hill Road?) Great choice Gov!!!

The Commissioners have decided that water is a natural resource. I wonder who gave them the first clue. Apparently none of them bothered to review the carnival that was the WRIA study that ended as a costly nothing. Apparently the Commissioners just figured out that there is no real understanding of the actual water presence in the County or the status of the aquifers that are our only source of water. If they did some homework they might find that the very same county employees who were involved in the WRIA debacle are now raising concerns. Too bad they didn't do the job that cost us over \$750,000 in the first place. Have heart, we may finally be able to get a rain barrel without a water right. Oh, sure!!!

This year has been a lot of fun watching county road projects in full swing (as in hammock). It took longer to install a simple turn pocket on Anderson Hill than it did to complete the rebuild of the Hood Canal Bridge. ("But they planned the bridge project well in advance" – County employee). We may see a replacement bridge over Chico Creek some time this year. Interesting that the county was able to complete the "restoration" project through the golf course without disturbing the migrating salmon. But there is even money that the Chico project will finish before the Waaga Way extension. Of course that was held up to complete a master plan for the possible development adjacent to the road and perhaps a short time to allow the naming contest to complete. I'll bet it came as a surprise that the developers for the projects north of the road were not happy with the master plan and indicated that continuance with the master plan would probably kill the projects. Nothing like working with businesses and developers to facilitate economic development. I am sure that landscaped boulevards, and bike lanes were right at the top of the list of needs for the developers and that they were happy to delay their projects for six months to get that kind of "help"

Sometime in the near future, in order to meet the PSRC mandated (hey we don't listen to them, do we??) deadline, the County will begin to rework the County-wide Planning Policies to come in line with the policies in Vision 2040. If you thought the planners were out for blood in the past standby for this round. Not only are we going to hear "But GMA requires that" we are also going to hear "Its required by Vision 2040 and federal regulations covering the RTPO". Please remember that the other side is not constrained by fact, law, truth or logic. This is going to be fun.

Washington Property Owners

Jack Hamilton

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Tim mentioned in his remarks that I was working with Rodney McFarland from CAPR to try to find common ground that would allow us to move forward quickly to establish a strong and sustainable state wide organization of property owners. Like KAPO we are striving to build an organization that has only one interest; protecting property rights. How we get there and what the end result will look like is still up in the air. Effort like this are normally carried out by strong type A personalities and compromise on strongly held beliefs is not easy. We will work this project to completion and do our very best to achieve the common objective.

Historical Almanac

July 1, 1863	Three day Battle of Gettysburg commences
July 1, 1898	Rough Riders charge up San Juan Hill
July 2, 1776	Continental Congress votes for Independence
July 2, 1964	Civil Rights Act of 1964 signed by Lyndon Johnson
July 4, 1776	Continental Congress adopts the Declaration of Independence
July 4, 1802	US Military Academy at West Point , NY enters service
July 4, 1826	John Adams and Thomas Jefferson both die on this day
July 9, 1955	“Rock Around the Clock” is number one on the Billboard Charts
July 10, 1962	TELSTAR I the first commercial communications satellite launched
July 12, 1862	Congress creates “US Army Medal of Honor”
July 12, 2003	USS Ronald Reagan commissioned
July 16, 1969	Apollo II lifts off for first manned mission to the moon
July 20, 1969	Neil Armstrong walks on the moon
July 22, 1933	Wiley Post completes the first solo flight around the world
July 24, 1911	“Machu Picchu” discovered by Hiram Bingham
July 26, 1775	Benjamin Franklin is first Postmaster General
July 30, 1956	“In God We Trust’ becomes official national motto

July 31, 1790

First US Patent issued

**From the plaque left behind by the Apollo II Astronauts
On the completion of the first mission to the Moon**

**Here Men From The Planet Earth
First Set Foot Upon The Moon
July 1969, AD
We Came In Peace For All Mankind**