



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF BELLINGHAM-WHATCOM COUNTY**

July 4, 2016

To: Whatcom County Council
311 Grand Avenue
Suite 105
Bellingham, WA 98225

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Re: Proposed Amendments to Chapter 2 of the Comprehensive Plan

The League of Women Voters of Bellingham and Whatcom County, supports the amendments to Chapter 2 of the County Comprehensive Plan proposed by Carl Weimer. The vision and rationality of these proposed revisions is a remarkable testament to the ability of government to identify and integrate the needs and desires of different segments of the population while simultaneously steering our county toward a viable future for our children and grandchildren.

Importantly, the Lummi Nation's cultural heritage and treaty rights are critical components of our identity as a county, and they too must be not only acknowledged but protected.

Recent decisions by the Corp of Engineers and the DNR make it clear that additional piers at Cherry Point will not be permitted, and it would be financially irresponsible for our County to allow pursuit of such construction. Therefore, requirement for pre-application correspondence as proposed is responsible government policy.

The amendments support existing industries, cities, fishing and farming by preventing new water-intensive industries from impacting an already overtaxed water supply system.

We urge you to adopt the proposed amendments,

Thank you,

Judy Hopkinson,

Co-President, LWVBWC

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