

**From:** [Yahoo!](#)  
**To:** [Participate](#)  
**Cc:** [Mark Dee](#); [Greg Foley](#)  
**Subject:** KURA public comment  
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I logged on to speak at today's KURA meeting but was informed there would be no public comment taken today.

In today's packet we have one memo to to you where they say KURA shouldn't make any funding commitments to private developments until Washington lot is done. Yet this the project creates much needed office space for the city that will contribute to economic diversity away from the City Council's support of tourist industry development. Indeed, the City Planner submitted a memo to the P&Z for this week saying the city needs more commercial office space. This is a project the city needs, in a location that makes sense. Why does the memo finesse the sidewalk request? Instead of telling you that it's not eligible, the memo just ignores it. Aren't sidewalks a key part of what KURA invests in? Don't we want them heated? This is exactly the kind of project that KURA should be supporting—re-read your mission on your website.

Tabling a project like this show lack of understanding on KURA's part on how projects are financed. For future requests you might invite the developer to the meeting.

In another memo, staff are asking you for another \$8500 for Bluebird, another private project, that because of its income caps, will have the distinction of being able to house almost no current Ketchum workers, and encourages employers to depress wages below the prevailing local wage so their employees can qualify for it.

This is a display of how the planning department picks and choose favorites without regard as to what benefits Ketchum. This kind of arbitrary approach to city planning based on who they like is small town government at its worst.

As another example of piggy banking—IPC pays a franchise fee to the City—the intent was for that money to pay for undergrounding of power. The City has banked about \$1mm of that. Yet they turned to you to pay for half of the undergrounding for the Castellano project.

It is fascinating to watch how the conflicts of interest in having the city planner as your executive director work out. The MOU for KURA funding will be the City Planner negotiating with the KURA Exec Director—the same person. It makes no sense.

I hope you will assert your independence and manage KURA staff rather than be managed by the staff,

Perry Boyle  
Ketchum