

**From:** [Participate](#)  
**To:** [Suzanne Frick](#)  
**Cc:** [Tara Fenwick](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Public comment for Ketchum Urban Renewal Agency  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 19, 2022 11:08:35 AM

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Sending this your way to add to their next agenda.

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-----Original Message-----

From: HP Boyle <boylehp@yahoo.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 5:18 PM  
To: Participate <participate@ketchumidaho.org>  
Cc: Greg Foley <gfoley@mtexpress.com>  
Subject: Public comment for Ketchum Urban Renewal Agency

At a previous meeting, a commissioner pushed back on my assertion that KURA is not an independent agency.

If the Commissioners had the will, KURA could be an independent agency. However, facts and actions indicate that KURA is not an independent agency.

KURA reaffirmed that today, when the Mayor opened the meeting with his statement of how much KURA will be doing this year. The Executive Director is the City Planner, The Treasurer is the City Treasurer. The Secretary is a City employee. The agenda is produced by the City Planner, who guides the meetings. KURA's housing consultant is the City's housing consultant. KURA is a channel for taxpayer dollars to for profit developers outside of the City budgetary process.

As one example, at the request of the developer to the City, the City Planner asked KURA to provide demolition funding to Bluebird. This money will then offset the debt KURA owes the City, Thus taxpayer money, not independent KURA money, has been "washed" outside of the legal budgeting process for the City of Ketchum. Would that be legal for a private company? KURA has not requested the budget for Bluebird, yet it was told by the City Planner that the developer will be coming back to it for additional money. You are treated as a piggy bank by the City.

The question you have to ask yourselves: how you can be independent when your staff and the information flow to you, and spending requests from you, are not controlled by you, but are controlled by people paid for by the City (with its own agenda)?

Good luck!

Perry. Boyle  
Ketchum