

DATE: September 12, 2022

TO: CITY OF LYNDEN – Planning Department
Attn: Heidi Gudde, Planning Director
300 4th St.
Lynden, WA 98264

FROM: GLEN TROMP
7682 Terrace St.
Ferndale, WA 98248-9715

RE: **Comment on DNS
Comment on Comprehensive Plan Amendment/Rezone
2122 Front Street, Lynden, from CSR & IBZ to ID zoning designation**

COMMENT(S): I own the property identified as Whatcom County APN 4002242041940000, PID 125570, and commonly known as 300 Tromp Road, Lynden. My 40 acre agricultural parcel lies to the immediate West of the parcel for which a rezone has been requested (the Barga Property).

A presently undefined line through the subject property determines whether surface and ground waters on the Barga Property drain to the East (ultimately to Duffner Ditch>Fishtrap Creek>Nooksack River) or to the West (ultimately to Bertrand Creek>Nooksack River). The City has already mishandled drainage issues during the permit process for the development of the Preferred Freezer Property to the North and West. In that permit process the City summarily ignored my and other comments and chose to succumb to facially “expert” opinion that the proposed Preferred Freezer drainage provisions would accommodate that huge project (and its immediate expansion).

The “experts” were wrong.

I was (and remain) right.

As a result, my property now suffers the incursion of seasonal excess surface drainage and water table upsurge directly and indirectly encroaching from the Preferred Freezer property. These additional waters substantially interfere with the agricultural utility of my farm, and also impact its appeal as future development property, not only on account of the seasonal inundation, but also by reason that the sequential approval of projects without a comprehensive drainage solution leaves to its victims the cost of future design and implementation of retro facilities with no apparent expectation of financial contribution from the very properties that sent the drainage deficit into crisis mode.

Comment(s) of Glen Tromp re 2122 Front Street Rezone

I write today to remind the City that, while the actual rezone under consideration does not of itself exacerbate area drainage issues, it sets the stage for physical development on property clearly positioned to do so, and the Comprehensive Plan aspect of the instant application is and remains woefully inadequate if it does not.

Present drainage facilities westward from the Bergen Property are insufficient to handle surface and ground waters from currently improved properties. Since at many times the water table can at or near the ground surface level, any artificially exacerbated upsurge in ground water negatively affects my property in much the same manner as does its inundation by neighboring surface waters, the City must not permit additional westward drainage from the Bergen Property without simultaneously and comprehensively ensuring the capacity of the destination drainage facilities to handle such waters.

Please take this opportunity to make the Comprehensive Plan a bit more comprehensive.

Glen I. Tromp