

May 1, 2006

Dear Blaine City Council Members,

After attending last Thursdays meeting, I am writing in support of Holly Kirkwood's request that our half of the 1500 block Madison, be included with the RO zoning , rather than included with the SF 1. There are only three properties that are involved or impacted by this change, the Burke's, the Kirkwood's, and Ron Cyr, and we are all in agreement that Holly's request makes the most sense for our block. It seems logical to have the boundaries follow Georgia from Mitchell street and down Madison rather than penalize us by slicing our block in zig-zag fashion through the middle. We have kept our property for 32 years and only built on three of our seven lots because we were planning on the remainder being a big part of our retirement as well as leaving something for our grandkids as Arnie's parents have done for our kids. When the sewer lines were installed in our neighborhood, our LID was thousands of dollars higher than our neighbor's because we had the capability of putting six more units on our property.

I am all in favor of maintaining the Salishan neighborhood as a single family area, but I am confused as to how we became a part of Salishan. We are the Brickyard neighborhood, were when my in-laws bought this acreage in 1953 and do not have any historical homes to protect. My only regret is that my son sold his property at 860 Georgia St. This has been a terrific area to raise our family and, now, our grandchildren. Dennis Olason stated at the meeting that they had polled the area about the zoning proposal. Evidently he only polled people he knew would be in favor of lumping us together with Salishan, or, he assumed that we would be part of the RO zoning that abuts us on two sides.

Somehow I don't think so!

We are very concerned about our property values deflating due to the building of condos on the rest of the block, the loss of our view, and the possibility that we will not have the opportunity to retain the same zoning as the three condo buildings (existing, and in the works). Please approve Holly's request to move the zoning boundary by half a block, so that we may retain our values and possibly a view for our properties. As I stated before, only three households are affected by her proposal and it would not have any impact on the rest of the area.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Yours truly,

Sandy and Arnie Burke
1541 Madison Ave.
Blaine