

To:
Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: Fw: Public Comment: Transportation Mailin - RE: Dirty Dan Harris Steakhouse/TC Resolution

----- Forwarded by Heather J Higgins/pw/cob on 03/05/2012 10:35 AM -----

From: Mark A Smith/itsd/cob
To: Brent L Baldwin/pw/cob@cob, Heather J Higgins/pw/cob@cob, Susan H Hodges/pwa/cob@cob
Date: 03/03/2012 02:24 PM
Subject: Transportation Mailin - RE: Dirty Dan Harris Steakhouse/TC Resolution



RE: Dirty Dan Harris Steakhouse/TC Resolution

Steve Papadakis, transportation@cob.org,
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To the Transportation Commission

My wife and I own the Bellingham Tennis Club. I support all of Mr. Papadakis' comments.

Simply put—What on earth were you thinking? The impact upon traffic, commerce, parking and future development that street closures bring are exceedingly complex. Without an exhaustive study (which we all know has never occurred), proposing such an idea questions the functionality of the commission.

It is now incumbent upon the commission to fully disclose the genesis of this idea: who proposed it, upon what information was it based, and the foundation upon which the TC felt it was within their purview given the extensive planning process for Fairhaven to date. Answers to these questions will help address the very real concerns about the TC's ability to be unbiased and professional in this planning process.

Douglas K. Robertson

Bellingham Tennis Club LLC

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From: Steve Papadakis [mailto:stevepapadakis@comcast.net]

Sent: Saturday, March 03, 2012 12:54 PM

To: transportation@cob.org; mccabejr@earthlink.net; felixian@comcast.net; balten@gmail.com; richardmsale@comcast.net

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Subject: Dirty Dan Harris Steakhouse/TC Resolution

To Whom it may concern:

I have read the Draft Resolution by the Bellingham Transportation Commission regarding the update of the Fairhaven Neighborhood and Urban Village Plan. I am alarmed by the

Commissions comments and recommendations. As a long time business owner and anchor merchant in Fairhaven, I question any recommendation to vacate core commercial streets. I can only surmise that the Commission did an exhaustive and comprehensive study regarding not only the aesthetics of pedestrian only walkways, but the financial impact to merchants by vacating parking around businesses. The Commission's recommendations are to "create a pedestrian-only zone at 10th/Mill to Village Green and around the entire block at 11th to Harris". Were all of the Merchants to be affected by this recommendation consulted? Were half of these merchants consulted?

These TC Resolutions are not well thought out. It is hard for me to believe that the individuals on the Transportation Commission provided genuine objectivity when drafting these recommendations. There is either (1) tremendous bias, (2) a failure to consider the needs of the Merchant stakeholders, or (3) passivity by some members of the TC Commission in allowing these comments and recommendations to become public. These are complex issues that require critical thinking. Before one can recommend a pedestrian friendly environment, one has to have good transportation alternatives, planned parking, and infrastructure development.

Sincerely,

Steve Papadakis

Dirty Dan Harris Steakhouse

Historic Fairhaven District

Bellingham, WA

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