

FW: Project Planner Long Range Planning Division Yakima County Public Services

Long Range Planning <longrangeplanning@co.yakima.wa.us>

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To: Olivia Story <olivia.story@co.yakima.wa.us>

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From: Pepper Fewel <cherrywoodbbandb@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, February 25, 2022 3:15 PM

To: Long Range Planning <longrangeplanning@co.yakima.wa.us>

Subject: Project Planner Long Range Planning Division Yakima County Public Services

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To whom this may concern,

I am not sure where to start or basically how to respond. I was part of the advisory group for the Yakima County Agritourism changes. I feel we wasted our time and efforts with this.

My first point - I want to make is that the meetings were an effort in futility. We asked about how many complaints, how often and what would be the new fees the small businesses had to pay. These two questions were redirected and never answered - EVER. I was assured that fees were not the reasons for these changes. After reading the new draft, that was clearly not the case.

- All of the group's comments and ideas were clearly dismissed.
- A \$10,000.00 bond for each business is absolutely alarming.

This county has lost it's perspective about the small business's that fund their tax base. You don't realize small business is what the Valley needs. Being a farmer and a small business person myself, I know you are wrong with the new rules and regulations. We need less rules and permit fees - not more.

I feel the advisory group was to appease the small businesses, so you could march forward on your own agenda. Our government is bloated with rules and regulations.

Taking away 12 units and going down to 6 is also insane. I have 6 units for our B&B and it does not generate enough business to sustain a living for anyone. We are seasonal in this region, so we must have the 12 units to provide enough revenue to sustain.

Please - I ask the Commission, if you have not run a small business to have consideration for the people that pay your wages and taxes to this county. If you have run a small business then you must know that this is wrong and help your fellow small business owners so there will be future growth.

Pepper Fewel
Cherrywoodbbandb

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Pepper
cherrywoodbbandb.com