

OUR READERS' OPINIONS

Large development puts lives at risk **UB 4-15-19**

I've lived in this Valley long enough to realize that someday the Bachtold property would be developed. I'm sure that most of the people living in the surrounding neighborhoods probably feel the same.

But the density of the proposed development is a horrible idea. It is simply too many homes!

One item that hasn't been mentioned previously is the difficulty that farm equipment and large vehicles already have with negotiating traffic, cyclists, pedestrians and animals in the area.

Kendall Road and Cottonwood Road are essential access roads for wheat and pea farmers, vineyard operators and vegetable and grain processors located in the southeastern portion of the Valley. If we lose these roads to increased traffic, the options to moving equipment and trucks will continue to dwindle.

Equipment continues to get larger, heavier and more burdensome. Safety issues are huge! Our access roads on this side of the Valley have not kept up with the times. Why is that?

Kendall Road is a classic example. It's a narrow road with an obscured hill, deep ditches and landscaping right up to the asphalt. Options are few to avoid tragedy.

The agriculture community needs these roads to be safe. They are our access to town and the other side of the valley. Increased traffic is the absolute worst thing that can happen to insure safe passage.

I cannot ask the City Council to rebuild the roads. I will ask Council members to understand how this decision will put people at risk.

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