

OUR READERS' OPINIONS

UB 7-22-19

How do we want Walla Walla to grow?

The Walla Walla City Council will soon decide if Hayden Homes can build 372 single-family houses, including 84 tiny kit houses, on undeveloped farmland south of the Walla Walla city limits.

Reports prepared for Hayden Homes by PBS Engineering contain information that our elected officials should consider before making their decision on the Cottonwood Annexation.

Preliminary plats show that gently rolling farmland will be leveled, dramatically changing the landscape.

Traffic impact analysis shows no public transit service to the area. Traffic will enter into and out of the development onto Cottonwood Road, Kendall Road and Eagle Crest Drive through the Table Rock subdivision. Sidewalks on Cottonwood and Kendall are inadequate.

The intersection of Kendall Road and Valley Vista has inadequate sight distance to enter safely. Engineers recommend widening Cottonwood; completing sidewalks; improving bike lanes; installing left turn lanes at Howard and Abbot and Howard and Prospect; removing parking on Howard in front of Prospect Point Elementary School and making existing bike lanes narrower.

Hayden Homes does not use local labor, building materials or real estate agents.

Walla Walla is growing. Is this how we

want to grow? Write to your elected officials with your concerns before the Aug. 12 deadline!

Jim McNett
Walla Walla

Ted Koehler is impressive candidate

I regret that I no longer reside within the Walla Walla City limits and cannot vote for Ted Koehler, Council Ward 4, but I hope you will!

Ted impresses me with his integrity, pragmatism and common sense. He has demonstrated compassion for his neighbors and concern for his community every day for decades through resourceful leadership and dedicated volunteerism.

Ted has broad experience in project planning and construction, approaching both with regulatory and construction expertise. Ted considers affordable housing a high priority, keeping families in their homes through repair and weatherization, and responsibly developing new residences.

His family has called this Valley home for generations. His extended family honors veterans and active service members by putting up the yellow ribbon Christmas tree in Land Title Plaza every year.

I believe Ted is an excellent choice for Council.

Cindy Widmer
College Place