

August 12, 2008

Margaret Fleek, Planning Director & Charles Bennett, Skagit County Dike District No. 12 Commissioner
Burlington City Hall
833 S. Spruce Street
Burlington, WA 98233

RE: City of Burlington and Dike District #12 Determination of Significance

Dear Ms. Fleek and Mr. Bennett:

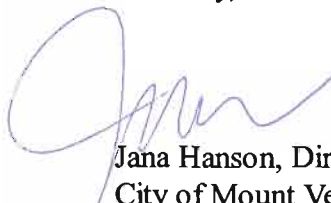
Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the scope of the EIS for the modification and construction of flood protection measures and UGA expansion. First of all, on behalf of the City of Mount Vernon administration, I applaud your initiative to begin the process to plan for and implement certified flood protection measures to protect Burlington in the event of a 100-year flood and preserve the City's economic interests through stabilizing the base flood elevations.

The City of Mount Vernon is also impacted by Skagit River flooding and concerned with the future changes in base flood elevations resulting from the revised Flood Insurance Rate Maps. It is extremely important for the cities of Mount Vernon and Burlington and the dike districts to continue to work closely together on proposed flood protection measures and ensuring that the correct hydraulic modeling and data are utilized for the purpose of analyzing flood protection measures and for determining base flood elevations in a 100-year flood event.

To ensure that any proposed actions will not negatively impact the City of Mount Vernon, the scope of the EIS should include any and all probable adverse effects to the Mount Vernon built and natural environment. The City of Mount Vernon staff will be happy to assist with any scoping meetings and or study sessions with the City of Burlington, Dike District No. 12 and your consultants.

We look forward to continuing to work with the City of Burlington and Dike District No. 12 to achieve the desperately needed solutions to flooding from the Skagit River.

Sincerely,



Jana Hanson, Director
City of Mount Vernon
Community & Economic Development

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PLANNING DEPT.