

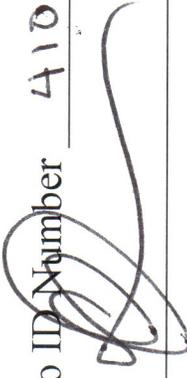
ULID 35 OBJECTION FORM

Name Daniel and Kimberli Shea

Address 531 Allan St Blaine, WA 98230

Property Subject to ULID 35 531 Allan St Blaine, WA 98230

Parcel/Geo ID Number 4101321280600000

Signature  Date 5/23/16

Signature  Date 5/23/16

Comments (Additional space provided on back of form)  
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City Meeting May 23 2016

Hello my name is Dan Shea at 531 Allan St. Blaine I am a resident and business owner.

I would like to touch on a few issues that I have with the Vista Terrace ULID the city has imposed to install sewer to this neighborhood. As I have said before the neighbors have not had any say in the way the city intends to pay for the improvement, yet in the end it will be our money that pays for this. The city has been confrontational and dismissive from the start. ~~The original proposal from the city was more favorable to the residents, taking a bit of the burden off of the citizens, and therefore faced little opposition.~~ Though when I asked if this could be disputed at the first meeting I attended I was told that the time for dispute had passed, this was a lie. Conveniently this meeting was not recorded and there is no record of this. I have been told several things by the city that have not been true. For instance we have been promised city power for 8 years now, we were told the city would help us with easements to accommodate gravity flow for us that need it, and that an address change on Allan would not cause any complications and it has been nothing but complicated for me. I believed the city planning has not been completely candid with us and knowingly been vague with the information. A lot of the residents knew nothing of this until late in the process due to poor communication from the city. The only certified letter we have received was to announce this meeting at the very end of the process and not the beginning. I feel this was done to avoid resistance at the early stages. There is an 800 pound gorilla in the room that the city will not acknowledge, the fact that the city overspent on a sewer treatment plant. I have been in the construction trade for over 30 years and I consider myself an expert. This plant has the most impractical and expensive design I can imagine. I believe this could have been built for a fraction of the cost. The city overspent on this with no consideration for future infrastructure and zero regard for spending the tax payer's money wisely. Where is the accountability for this? It seems to me that we are paying for the bad decisions made by the city. We were told this was formed because of massive failures in the septic systems. Out of almost 70 homes there where at last count 4 that have failed, this does not seem massive to me. Raven explained at the last meeting that ULID's are common practice in Blaine, this one is #35, may be this is one of the reasons Blaine has had abysmal growth while other towns in the county are growing. This city codes are stricter than necessary and the GFF's and utilities and licenses are as high as anywhere in the county. Generally speaking it is difficult and expensive to build in Blaine, not to mention the roads are a mess, projects like H St. left unfinished, lack of infrastructure throughout the annexed areas, and city hall is a bank building. This does not lead anybody to believe that Blaine is on the path to prosperity! Why would anybody buy or build in a city that has a history of such practices? Word of this behavior travels fast. ~~I am still waiting for the decision of my deferral because the city can't even keep straight the fact that they changed my address, which has been nothing but a nightmare for me, I still have to give out old and new addresses for directions to my house for people to find and makes ME look like a fool. This neighborhood has been paying taxes to the city of Blaine since 1996, and have zero improvements done until now over 20 years later, and we have to foot the bill! From my point of view this seems unfair. The city claims they have done everything required for this ULID, but I argue that they could have been a bit more forthcoming to avoid this from becoming so contentious. We see projects like the sewer through Lincoln park and city power go in on Harvey Rd. on the city's dime. Honestly it is insulting to me. I feel like our neighborhood is the red headed step child of Blaine. I have wasted countless hours on meetings and empty promises, and undue stress on my life; this has been an enormous burden on my family. This does not increase my property value in fact my assessed value has dropped again. This ULID puts me at a net loss of~~ <sup>It took over 3 weeks</sup>

approximately \$22,000 on my home including my physical costs of hooking up, but as long as the city gets what they want it doesn't seem like they really care if the citizens go backwards on their investment. There is no benefit to me. Some may lose their homes. This leaves me with no confidence that the city even cares for the citizens that they represent or they have no idea what the hell they are doing.

Now since the original proposal the city has changed the rules by reinstating the GFF's. I believe that we should have had a chance to dispute the ULID when this happened because the deal had changed, we were not granted that. Other projects started in 2010-2013, prior to the GFF reinstatement, were grandfathered in, but not ours. I believe the city could help bridge the chasm by paying down the ULID with the grant money for the GFF's. The city attorney has stated this is legal, once those funds are put into the City Sewer fund.

Moving forward I would like the city for come up with a comprehensive plan for our neighborhood I believe with proper planning we can form a plan to resurface the road, install city power, add sidewalks, storm drains, and street lights. We should enjoy all the benefits of living in Blaine as all the rest of the residents as we pay taxes too. This would at least help us gain some value back in our properties and help build back the lost confidence in our leadership.