

Virgil Amick

From: Planning
Sent: Friday, May 8, 2026 11:59 AM
To: Virgil Amick
Subject: FW: Habitat ROW Vacation



-----Original Message-----

From: Shanna Morarity <shannarandana@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 8, 2026 7:29 AM
To: Planning <planning@cleelum.gov>
Subject: Habitat ROW Vacation

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5/5/2006

Dear City Council Members and Planning Commission and All Concerned,

We, Jim and Shanna Morarity, are the owners of the home at 902 East 3rd Street. We are writing to you concerning the proposed Habitat ROW Vacation Project. We are not naive enough to think that the vacant property next to us would never be developed, but we are opposed to the proposed changes which will dramatically impact our property. We are not opposed to the land in question being vacated, but we are strongly opposed to the proposed new dedication of a street/alley/lane that will connect to our alley. The traffic noise and the lights that will be created by the connection will decrease our privacy and value of our property. We also oppose any high-density housing which would devalue our property.

We would like to add that when we purchased our property, we specifically sought out property that was not in a flood plain. We have owned and lived in property that is designated as flood plain and lived through one dramatic flood. "Never again", we said! Suspiciously, a few years ago, the property at 902 E 3rd street was changed by FEMA to indicate that our backyard now lies in the 100 yr flood plain. In addition, less of the property on the proposed project site is now in the flood plain. To be clear, FEMA moved the flood plain designation off the project site and onto our property. We went to Ellensburg to discuss this change, but got no better understanding of how land that has water running through it lies higher than our land. We understand how floodplain regulations work and know that those changes certainly made projects for development on the land less complicated and less costly.

Again, we do not oppose a development, but we DO oppose high density housing and any development that shifts traffic flow onto the alley next to our property and/or decreases the value of our property. We know affordable housing is not easy to find in Cle Elum and are thankful that we bought when we did. However, there is no denying that low-income housing will affect our property value. If adding affordable housing is the goal, it should not be done as single family, low impact housing and not at the expense of the current homeowners.

PS We have been improving our property for years and are looking forward to our retirement. As we are now on the doorstep of retirement, we are concerned about these changes.

PSS This is important to us, please let us know that you received this email.

Sincerely yours,

Jim and Shanna Morarity
902 E 3rd Street
Cle Elum, WA

