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**LETTER TO THE EDITOR: Possible developments may be ignoring Merritt's OCP | Merritt Herald**

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**Marise Sasges**

More developing/development needs to stop until our city infrastructure can support a healthy city. Let the developers plan and make sure that every square foot of the plan will have costs added to ensure adequate healthcare, water, sewage, electricity(unless solar)at the sole cost of the developers. Transportation etc is to be at no cost to existing residents.

Thoughtful development that provides for the added costs of increased service needs and, increasing parks and pathways truly need to be revisited with a survey that does not mirror the 'Kelowna' survey we were offered.

Much needs to be done. I applaud the council members who listen and bravely support thoughtful development. Those that see only \$ \$signs, need to reassess their values.

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A note about the Lindley Creek Rd development- Rezoning residential to high density on land that was mined for coal is not sound. Put on hold until enhancement of land use BECOMES A BY-LAW

WHY?

An example-

Reckless approval of a zoning change at 1330 Pine Street (from Local Agricultural/future development to R-2, November 2019). This property has become a dumping ground for various types of fill- dumped on the river side of the riparian boundary. In other words, right on the environmental protection zone not

within the R2 buildable zone. There is no approved development plan. Nor, is there a Dumping bylaw in place to control unscrupulous dumping has occurred.

The current OCP section 3.5 p 27 **Handling New Development in Merritt**

Objective 2: To make sure its done right.

“...Council is committing to ensuring that development is carried out in a manner that:

- Is consistent with the spirit and intent of this OCP (bullet one)
- Meets sound engineering practices and planning principles (bullet two)

The other bullets in this section echo these two.

A moratorium on any zoning changes until a Bylaw on dumping and stricter controls of land use is in place will certainly improve our image and allow responsible development to flourish. Next will be renewing the OCP.

Sincerely,

Marise Sasges

1418 Pine Street