



Pend Oreille County

Board of Commissioners

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January 13, 2017

Ray Pierre, Vice Chair
Kalispel Tribe of Indians
PO Box 39
Usk, WA 99180

RE: Cusick/Usk Urban Growth Area Plan

Dear Ray:

On behalf of the Board of County Commissioners, I would like to formally invite you or your designee to represent the Kalispel Tribe of Indians to serve on the Steering Committee to guide the preparation of a sub-area plan for the Cusick/Usk Urban Growth Area. In addition, I would greatly appreciate it if you or your designee would join me, former Cusick Mayor Bob Spencer, and Colin Willenbrock of the Pend Oreille County PUD as members of the Executive Committee for this project.

Through this planning process we hope to support existing home and business owners, as well as to identify and ready those areas that are most suitable for future development, while protecting those areas that are not suitable for development. The recent interest expressed by HiTest Sand in developing an industrial facility of statewide significance adjacent to the Ponderay Newsprint Company mill has highlighted the economic development potential of this area while underscoring the importance of protecting the environment and the quality of life for our community. As a result, the preparation of a more detailed plan to facilitate desired future development is of critical importance to our community.

The first meeting of the Steering Committee will be on Friday, January 27th from 10 am to noon at the Port of Pend Oreille Offices located at 1981 Black Road. At this first meeting, we will review the draft Work Program for this planning project, establish a schedule for future meetings, and review some of the key background information. Given the Tribe's sovereign interests, the proximity to the reservation, your interest in protecting the natural environment and your cultural heritage, as well as the recent acquisition of property in the vicinity of Usk,

all make the Tribe's participation in this project of critical importance. I am also pleased to note that we have set aside up to \$15,000 to offset costs that the Tribe may incur in support of this project.

Your interest and support of our community and this planning project is greatly appreciated and I can't thank you enough. If you could call me at 509-671-1434 to confirm who will be attending to represent the Tribe that would be most helpful. For your information, I have included a list of the other participants on the Steering Committee. I look forward to working with you in partnership on this most important project.

Sincerely,



Mike Manus, Commissioner

Steering Committee:

- Mike Manus, County Commissioner (Steering Committee/Executive Committee Chair)
- Glen Nenema, Chair/Ray Pierre, Vice Chair (or designee)-Kalispel Tribe of Indians (Executive Committee)
- Bob Spencer-Town of Cusick (Executive Committee)
- Colin Willenbrock, General Manager-Pend Oreille PUD (Executive Committee)
- Kurtis Vaagen- Vaagen Brothers Lumber
- Kelly Driver, Manager-Port of Pend Oreille
- Jamie Wyrobek, Director-Pend Oreille County Economic Development Council
- Judy Ashton, Vice Chair-Pend Oreille County Planning Commission
- Paul Edgren-Pend Oreille County Planning Commission
- Myron Johnson, General Manager-Ponderay Newsprint Company
- TBD-At-Large Representative
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