August 28, 2013

Dear Council Members,

Thank you for your consideration and direction given to staff regarding the terminology used in the designation of areas in our flood plain and flood ways. As you are aware the designation “frequently flooded” is viewed much differently than being in a 50, 100 or 500 year flood plan or flood way. According to the County FIRM maps we have a large amount of industrial land that lies in the 100 year flood plain including the City’s property on Dolarway. Although these properties will still fall under the critical areas review the terminology that is used to designate these areas is important to consider. Since we are on the valley floor when I am conducting a site visit or assisting a prospective business with available sites one of their first questions is if the property floods and what designation it has. In most cases, if you tell them the AO designation and that the property is in a 100 year flood plain, they are ok with that. They understand that the building will have to be elevated to the proper height and that this in turn will solve the potential for flooding.

Respectfully,

[Signature]
Ron Cridlebaugh
Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce