

**Washington Mom Lost 47 lbs Following 1 rule!**

I Cut Down 47 lbs of Stomach Fat In A Month
By Obeying This 1 Old Rule [Explore Now...](#)

**Washington Residents: Make \$63/Hr Part-Time!**

\$63/hr part-time jobs open. Requirements:
Just a computer. [Explore Now...](#)

[RSS FEEDS](#) [MOBILE EDITION](#) [NEWSLETTERS](#) [SUBSCRIBE NOW](#) [PAY BILL](#) [PLACE AN AD](#) [CONTACT CUSTOMER SERVICE](#) [CONTACT US](#)

« [An error](#)

[‘Barnstorming’ candidate forums add Bellingham candidates](#) »

THE BELLINGHAM HERALD

Bellingham Council has hearing on infill

[toolkit tonight](#) [local blogs](#) [Dems react](#)

[NEWS](#) [SPORTS](#) [OPINION](#) [ENTERTAINMENT](#) [COMMUNITY](#) [PHOTOS](#) [OBITUARIES](#) [WHEELS](#) [JOBS](#)

[LOCAL](#) [BUSINESS](#) [ON PATROL](#) [NORTHWEST](#) [NATION AND WORLD](#) [BLOGS](#) [TRAFFIC CAMS](#) [FORUMS](#)

Growth and Transportation reporter Jared Paben is on vacation today and so I've offered to cover tonight's public hearing on Bellingham's infill toolkit.

While we wait for that meeting to happen, here is, so far, some local blog and political party reaction to the proposal (Check out Jared's last article on it, [right here](#)). You can also read public comments in the council agenda packet, starting on page 95 of [this PDF over here](#).

Says Elisabeth Britt over at **Latte Republic**:

We've yet to have the hearing and City Planning Department spokesperson Nicole Oliver is already voicing concerns about the proposed 25 foot building height limit ...

... But a number of studies conducted by respected conservative think tanks like the Reason Foundation and CATO Institute have found that smart growth, such as that proposed by the Infill Housing Toolkit is actually resulting in higher housing costs in other regions of similar density and size.

Full post, titled "Smart Growth Snake Oil," [over here](#).

Zonemaven, aka, Dick Conoboy says:

This piece of legislation has been mashed through a so-called public process that has been controlled totally by the city from its inception with Planning Academy I. The Infill ToolKit had little, if any, grass roots origins. Grass roots efforts have been mainly mounted to oppose the ToolKit in part and to ask for a delay in further consideration until the city can figure out the manner in which it will enforce rules on these creations once they are built.

Full post, [right here](#).

The Whatcom Democratic Party has also reacted rather harshly to the toolkit proposal in their newsletter:

The Bellingham City Council will hear testimony TONIGHT concerning an ordinance that will effectively end single family zoning in most of the city. The purpose of the In-Fill Toolkit is to allow a variety of higher-density housing types to be built to absorb the future population growth inside the city limits. PLEASE ATTEND and voice your opinion.

While the ordinance currently applies to multi-family-zoned areas of the city, it provides a mechanism for granting approval for this "in-fill" housing in single-family-zoned areas. This would end the ban on multi-family housing in single-family-zoned areas, and streamlined the process for requesting and approving zoning changes to multi-family.

The Mayor's Neighborhood Advisory Commission voted 15 neighborhoods to 3 neighborhoods opposing the use of the "In-Fill housing tool kit" in the single-family-zoned areas of their neighborhoods. These older

neighborhoods of Bellingham have embraced in-fill and the Urban village concept in current zones for multi-family and mixed commercial. In all cases they are advocating far higher density than the In-Fill toolkit allows, as proposed. So their opposition to in-fill in single-family-zones can not be characterized as anti-infill.

This entry was posted on Monday, June 29th, 2009 at 1:05 pm and is filed under [Bellingham](#). You can follow any responses to this entry through the RSS 2.0 feed. You can [leave a response](#), or [trackback](#) from your own site.

4 Responses to “Bellingham Council has hearing on infill toolkit tonight, local blogs, Dems react”

1.  *AFY* Says:

June 29th, 2009 at 2:04 pm

If you like crime, congestion and proverty, you are gonna luv “smart growth”!

<http://www.ncpa.org/pub/ba473>

AFY!!! (formally known as AFY!!)

2.  *Brian Schend* Says:

June 30th, 2009 at 7:49 am

I love how they say “Market forces” create suburban development. Bull. It is city codes requiring 5-acre parking lots that create suburban development. In the 1800s, there were no parking codes and “market forces” didn’t create sprawl.

3.  *Brian Schend* Says:

June 30th, 2009 at 7:52 am

Oooh, they say they promote “free-market”, and “reducing government regulation.” Would they endorse reducing government regulations that force the construction of low-density suburbs?

4.  *Brian Schend* Says:

June 30th, 2009 at 8:03 am

“...smart growth, such as that proposed by the Infill Housing Toolkit is actually resulting in higher housing costs in other regions of similar density and size.”

Three things:

1 - So far this development has generally only been permitted in large central cities, that already have high housing prices, so if they are basing this on national averages, this statement would mean nothing.

2 - Most cities required large amounts of parking. For an attempt to build smart-growth types of developments, this means parking garages, and parking garages are extremely expensive. I’d be curious to see how housing prices compare if you subtracted the parking garage from the construction costs and then compared it.

3 - Maybe, just maybe, you free-marketers at Cato and Reason, this housing is expensive partially because the supply less than the demand. In that case, the real problem are the city codes that force the construction of suburban development - that is, regulation is preventing smart growth, and the government is forcing the supply to be too low.

Leave a Reply

Name (required)

Mail (will not be published) (required)

Website

Click the "Preview" button to preview your comment here.

Politics blog



By Sam Taylor

Sam Taylor has covered government and politics since coming to The Bellingham Herald in 2006. He is a graduate of the University of Idaho School of Journalism and Mass Media, and interned at four other newspapers prior to moving to Western Washington with his wife, Kathryn.

Have a news tip or want to chat? Send him e-mail [by clicking here](#) or call him directly at 715-2263.

The Politics Blog has one rule as of now: **be civil**. You know that Golden Rule you tell your children about? Yeah, there you go.

Please provide a valid e-mail address on your comments. It will not be visible to other commenters.

SEARCH

- Search for:

Be a Hero.
Life Insurance Can
 Protect Your Family's
 Financial Future.

	age	male
10-Yr Level Term Life Insurance	40	\$20.56
\$500,000 Policy (Monthly Premiums)	45	\$31.06
	50	\$45.06
	55	\$77.00

Get a FREE Quote Today!

ACCUQUOTE
Getting Your Money For Life

**Buying Life Insurance Online**

Faced with the hassle of finding an agent, a carrier... [Read More.](#)

More Articles

- [Computer Slowing Down? What to Do About It](#)
- [The Secret to Getting Highly Discounted Cruise Tickets](#)
- [Career stimulus brings over \\$4 million in full scholarships](#)
- [Credit Checks that Could Hurt You](#)

™

Advertising provided by: ARALifestyle.com

• Election 2009

- [Candidate Web sites](#)
- [Herald candidate blogs](#)

• Categories**• Recent Comments**

- Sam Taylor on [This happened last night in Bellingham](#)
- 36chambers on [This happened last night in Bellingham](#)
- Sam Taylor on [This happened last night in Bellingham](#)
- Sam Taylor on [Want to follow this evening's infill toolkit hearing?](#)
- 36chambers on [This happened last night in Bellingham](#)

• LOCAL BLOGS

- [Adventures o'a Bhammer](#)
- [Against The Leviathan](#)
- [B'ham/Whatcom Chamber of Commerce Blog](#)
- [Birch Bay Blog](#)
- [Brown Eyed Girl](#)
- [Clearly Conservative](#)
- [Eye on Whatcom](#)
- [FourthCorner](#)
- [HamsterTalk](#)
- [Hangin' in the 'Ham](#)
- [Latte Republic](#)
- [Meneltarma](#)
- [Neighborhood Schools Coalition](#)
- [NorwestReview](#)
- [NWCitizen](#)
- [The Parkenfarker Group](#)
- [Transcendental Floss](#)
- [Twilight Zoning](#)
- [Wally Wonders Why](#)
- [Washington Outsiders](#)

• LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

- B'ham TEA Party
- League of Women Voters
- No Leaky Buckets
- Washington Eagle Forum
- Whatcom County Democrats
- Whatcom County Republicans

• OLD BLOG ARCHIVE

- [CLICK HERE](#)

• OPEN GOVERNMENT

- Local Open Government
- Open-Government Blog
- Unredacted
- Washington Coalition for Open Government

• OTHER WASHINGTON MEDIA BLOGS

- Adam Wilson Blog - The Olympian
- Capitol Record - TVW
- Eye on Olympia - The Spokesman-Review
- Political Buzz - Tacoma News Tribune
- Politics Northwest - The Seattle Times
- Publicola
- SeattlePostGlobe
- Slog
- Spin Control - Spokesman-Review
- Strange Bedfellows - Seattle Post-Intelligencer

• WASHINGTON POLITICS SITES

- Ridenbaugh Press
- Washington Votes



[Terms of Use](#) [Privacy Policy](#) [Copyright](#) [About Bellingham Herald](#) [About the McClatchy Company](#)