



8402 Benotho Place
Mercer Island, Wa.
August 15, 1983

Department of Community Development
City of Mercer Island
3505 88th S.E.
Mercer Island, Wa.

Reference: Application for Variance by Mr. and Mrs. John Smock,
8440 Benotho Place

Dear sirs:

We are the owners of a home situated at 8402 Benotho Place, and have resided there for 27 years. Our property is located nine lots to the south of that for which the reference variance is being requested. It is part of the Benotho Beach plat developed in the 1920's by Ben Lindgren and Otho Cochran. During those times lot sizes and lot widths were smaller than today, and prior to the Bridge these lots were slanted toward summer recreational cottages. Subsequently the character of the plat became a substantial year-round community with most homes covering more than one lot. At the time of incorporation of the City of Mercer Island in 1960, the homes and the population in the Benotho Beach plat were substantially the same as today. The Comprehensive Plan, as recommended by the Planning Commission and adopted by the City Council, seeks to maintain the character of the neighborhood and to avoid an excessive population density that would overcrowd the land and over-tax the shoreline facilities.

It is our strong conviction that the granting of the reference variance would immediately cause an overcrowding of our Benotho Beach community and, by its precedent, would cause in the long run still further increases in population density and erosion of our quality of life and property values.

Yours truly,

Mr. & Mrs. Sam Fry

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AUG 17 1983

CC: DAVID GUILLEN

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[Faint signature]

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AUG 17 1983

Mr. & Mrs. Sam Fry

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Dave: I will be unable to be at the August 26 hearing because I will be in New Mexico on company business. I thought the staff analysis of the variance request was very perceptive and closely followed the principles, expressed and developed by Islandev during my 9 years on the Planning Commission and still earlier my 4 years on the City Council when the Comprehensive Plan was being formulated. Sam