

293 disc 33
377 19-377 194

DISTRIBUTED TO

JUL 29 2019

ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS
WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL

24 July 2019

Whatcom County Council
311 Grand Avenue, Suite 105
Bellingham, WA 98225

My name is Art Hyatt, I spoke to the Council regarding the Lake Whatcom stormwater tax. I believe that addressing my government is my fundamental right and responsibility as an American. Although my comments may not always welcome, they have been tolerated.

I have followed issues concerning Lake Whatcom for over 30 years and have spoken before the council many times. Never have I been challenged from the dais as happened at the July 23rd council meeting. Mr. Byrd's outburst directed at me could only be seen as an attempt to suppress public participation. Council protocol doesn't accommodate a response. Please accept my response for the record. Mr. Byrd's attack belies his claim that he wants a dialog. A dialog should be to his advantage. It could afford him the insight to know what he is talking about. He knows nothing about my situation and apparently little about the history of Lake Whatcom politics.

I am not a doctor or lawyer so I do not live on the lake. I live in a 700 square foot cabin on four acres. My property abuts one of the large forested parcels the City of Bellingham has acquired to protect water quality. I too value the trees not only for their majesty but also for their function, and have left my land in a natural state.

Thank you for your consideration,

Art Hyatt
2318 Northshore Road
Bellingham, WA 98226

360-734-0526