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*Building
houses,
building
hope*

June 19, 2007

The Honorable Larry Gossett
Chair, King County Council
Room 1200
COURTHOUSE

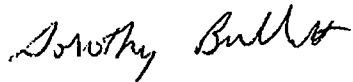
Dear Councilmember Gossett:

As you know, Habitat for Humanity of Seattle/South King County offers homeownership opportunities to low income families who are living in substandard housing and unable to obtain conventional house financing. Each year we must turn away fifty or more qualified families due to a lack of available and affordable building sites. Every time we must turn away a family we grow more keenly aware of the lack of decent affordable housing and homeownership options in King County. Escalating land and construction cost have priced many of our working families out of the housing market.

We have been meeting with Yarrow Bay Group to develop a long-term strategy that would provide increased affordable housing opportunities in King County. Through our collective efforts, we hope to leverage existing State legislation to support more affordable housing options at the local level. Master Planned communities provide the greatest opportunity for Habitat and a local developer to partner, thereby providing families more homeownership options. It is my understanding that Yarrow Bay, as part of the Summit Pit transaction, has committed to partnering with an affordable housing provider to create affordable and workforce housing as part of the future development of the site. While Habitat is not directly involved in the Summit Pit transaction, we gladly support any effort that will forward affordable housing options in Southeast King County. We applaud the King County Executive for being a champion of affordable housing and look forward to partnering in the creation of affordable homeownership opportunities in the future.

Providing housing options to a broad spectrum of families requires extraordinary creativity in today's economy. Habitat supports the creation of housing for all economic segments of the population through public/private partnerships as a creative solution to this problem.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dorothy Bullitt".

Dorothy Bullitt
Executive Director
Habitat of Humanity of Seattle/South King County