

TO: City of Bothell and Councilmembers

RE: Wayne Golf Course Rezone For Future Development

My name is Christopher Villa and I am the Executive Director and CEO of i9 Sports in the Puget Sound region. Our organization has serviced over 28,000 families in the Puget Sound Region ranging from Bothell to the Maple Valley area and everything in between and has done so experiencing strong growth since 2007. In particular, we have been an active provider of youth sports programs in Bothell and the surrounding community since 2010 growing at a rate of 50% annually. However, our growth has begun to slow as we are quickly reaching capacity. Simply put, we are running out of space and we still have higher than ever demand.

I am writing to you to express my full objection to rezoning the Wayne Golf Course to create Townhomes in favor of creating field space open to community organizations like us. We provide a high value for the families in the area and we are noticing some of these families are now going south to Redmond and Bellevue to participate with us due to lack of programming and space. To date, we have used primarily school venues, but there simply is not enough to capacitate the growth happening in Bothell and the surrounding communities.

In consideration for creating more community space (as opposed to more housing), I would like you to consider the following mutual benefits.

## **Primary Benefits for Youth Organizations**

- ✓ More space to meet demand (~3,000 active families with capacity for only 900).
- ✓ More opportunity to expand our sports programs.
- ✓ Become a "destination organization" in Bothell as we are in other communities.

## Primary benefits for the City of Bothell

- ✓ Create a higher level of competition that raises the value of programs being offered.
- ✓ Attracts organizations like i9 Sports that with growth are able to expand additional community outreach programs that are FREE for the youth in the area.
- ✓ Strong and sustainable rental revenue.
- ✓ Outsourcing more programs that the City cannot provide due to tax base restrictions (we are non-dependent on the tax base, but service it 100%).
- ✓ Provide infrastructure more attractive to families which results in more sustainable community growth (Contrary, townhomes drive transient residents).

Thank you for considering our petition

Christopher J. Villa

Executive Director/CEO

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