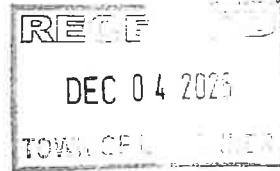
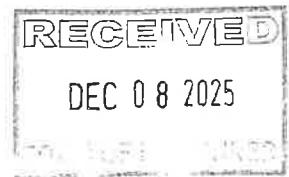


Linda R. Clark  
5 December 2025



Town of La Conner  
Town Council Members  
Planning Commission Members



Re: Unit Lot Subdivisions - SB 5258/ESB 5559

Dear Town Council Members:

RCW 58.17.060 is a result of SB 5258 2023-24 “**Increasing the supply and affordability of condominium units and townhouses as an option for homeownership**” as well as the updated version under ESB 5559 in 2025.<sup>1, 2</sup>

The realtor organizations, e.g. Spokane realtors are celebrating this legislation as a means for doing just what its title states:

**“Increasing the Supply & Affordability of Condominiums SB 5258**  
Condominiums are the most affordable type of home ownership, but the supply of new condominiums in Washington is among the worst in the country. This bill improves the condominium market by ... streamlining[es] the process for construction of smaller condominium projects. Signed into law”<sup>3</sup> [Changes added]

Please ensure that whatever “wording” you install into La Conner’s municipal code cannot be overridden by someone who attempts to build a “unit lot subdivision” based on the original intent of SB 5258, e.g. to increase the supply of condominiums. Also ensure that renters are covered in this code change, especially since there will likely be additional HOA costs and restrictions involved.:

“Portions of the parent lot not subdivided for individual unit lots shall be owned in common by the owners of the individual unit lots, or by a homeowners’ association comprised of the owners of the individual unit lots.”<sup>2</sup>

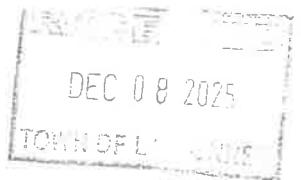
In addition, I ask that you educate yourselves as to the ramifications of such state legislation – aside from denying town residents their right to object to what happens in their neighborhoods.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> <https://mrsc.org/stay-informed/mrsc-insight/june-2025/subdivision-legislation>

<sup>2</sup> <https://lawfilesextract.leg.wa.gov/biennium/2023-24/Pdf/Bills/Senate%20Bills/5258-S2.pdf#page=1>,  
<https://lawfilesextract.leg.wa.gov/biennium/2025-26/Pdf/Bills/Senate%20Passed%20Legislature/5559.PL.pdf?q=20250507122031>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.spokanerealtors.com/govt-affairs-brief/wa-legislature-2023/>

<sup>4</sup> [https://www.reddit.com/r/SeattleWA/comments/13cho16/washington\\_passes\\_bill\\_to\\_override\\_local\\_zoning/](https://www.reddit.com/r/SeattleWA/comments/13cho16/washington_passes_bill_to_override_local_zoning/)



Sec. 2. RCW 58.17.060 and 2023 c 337 s 11 are each amended to read as follows:

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(b) These procedures shall also:

(i) **Not require any public predecision meeting or hearing, nor any design review other than administrative design review, except for those required to comply with state law, including chapter 90.58 RCW.** [Emphasis added.]

A city must ensure that the community and property owners within 250 feet of the unit lot to be subdivided are provided notice consistent with RCW 36.70B.110 of how to provide written comments to the administrative decision maker, including through notice posted on the closest public sidewalk or roadway;

(ii) **Apply only clear and objective design and development standards;**

(iii) Be logically integrated with the application, review, and approval procedures that apply to the underlying unit lot housing development project to the greatest extent feasible; and

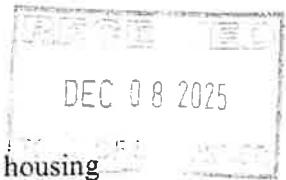
(iv) Be specifically subject to the maximum time period for local government actions as set forth in RCW 36.70B.080, unless extended pursuant to project-specific mutual agreement as permitted by RCW 36.70B.080. [Emphasis added.]

This legislation and any Unit Lot Subdivisions which may result from developer shortsightedness will likely impact the town residents in a extremely negative way. It is intended for urban areas and the only reason La Conner is required to adhere is because it is covered under Skagit County's GMA requirements.

We are already getting a first-hand experience of a developer changing the landscape of the Town and charging significantly above market rates for a 1 bedroom condominium. Please see my earlier emails of on or about November 6, December 2nd & 3rd as well as the letter to Mr. Scott Thomas dated on or about November 25, 2025 which have been placed in the file for the 306 Centre Street project.

**Property taxes in the Town of La Conner were impacted significantly with the development of Hedlin Field and Snap Dragon Hill. They surely will be again with the completion of the 306 Centre Street project. New home owners must also plan ahead for increased insurance rates, especially on a flood plain.** Refer to my earlier letters concerning the increase in property values and taxes since at or about 2021, e.g. on or about August 7, 2025.

I encourage you to visit other communities in Washington which are already experiencing changes due to this legislation. I understand from speaking recently with a resident of the older neighborhoods in West Seattle that their area would be a great field trip. Developers are badgering long-term residents with large parcels of land to sell so they can benefit from the reduced municipal oversight and resulting increased profits for these projects. These are people who have been in their homes for over 20 years. The developers also are NOT building next to



original single family homes. They are tearing those down in favor of multiple other housing units. What are families supposed to do as they grow? Our single family housing neighborhoods will surely become extinct as will the quality of life which goes along with them.

In addition, the visual aspects of these neighborhoods are being impacted because square and modern is significantly less expensive to build than homes with visual character. Lastly, the materials used in new homes are ordinarily of cheaper and lesser quality than homes built in the past. This means that new home owners will likely face high maintenance and replacement costs. **I encourage you to do a survey focusing on the Hedlin Field development by Landed Gentry before changing the La Conner code. Ask the home owners about the quality of the craftsmanship, the warranty of the builder and the success in filing claims, noise, smells, privacy, parking, etc.** I would suggest you include the homes built in the Snap Dragon Hill area, but only one of the two built has been sold. The other was rented recently.

Also look at resources available concerning poor building policies in other pacific northwest communities.<sup>5,6</sup>

State legislatures have been sued numerous times in the past for unconstitutional legislation. Just because they passed SB 5258 does not mean it's constitutional and, if it isn't, the Town of La Conner should serve the best interests of its residents and not comply.

### **Treat Property Taken through Regulation the Same as Property Taken through Physical Seizure<sup>7</sup>**

The importance of passing a unified and uniform takings resolution cannot be overstated. Today, we have one law for "full takings," "physical seizures," "condemnations"—call them what you will—and another for "partial takings," "regulatory seizures," or "condemnations of uses." Yet there is overlap too. Thus, as noted earlier, the Supreme Court has said that if regulations take *all* uses, compensation is due—perhaps because eliminating all uses comes to the same thing, in effect, as a "physical seizure," whereas eliminating most but not all uses seems not to come to that.

That appearance is deceptive, of course. In fact, the truth is much simpler—but only if we go about discovering it from first principles. If "property" signifies not only the underlying estate but all legitimate uses that by right can be made of it, then any government action that takes any one of those uses or rights is, by definition, a taking—requiring compensation for any financial losses the owner may suffer as a result. The issue is really no more complicated than that. There is

<sup>5,6</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D1LlUVvXnxA> , <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4HU8ex69rnE> , [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xZ6dgt\\_efIA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xZ6dgt_efIA) , <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nTYJ3jlWtk>

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.cato.org/cato-handbook-policymakers/cato-handbook-policymakers-9th-edition-2022/property-rights-constitution#treat-property-taken-through-regulation-same-property-taken-through-physical-seizure>



no need to distinguish “full” and “partial” takings: *every* condemnation, whether full or partial, is a taking. Indeed, the use taken is taken “in full.” Imagine that the property were converted to dollars—100 dollars, say. Would we say that if the government took all 100 dollars that there was a taking, but if it took only 50 of the 100 dollars that there was not a taking? Of course not. Yet that is what we say under the Court’s modern regulatory takings doctrine: as Justice Antonin Scalia put it in his opinion for the Court in the *Lucas* decision, “Takings law is full of these ‘all-or-nothing’ situations.”

That confusion must end. Through a resolution specifying the rights of property owners, Congress needs to make it clear that compensation is required whenever government eliminates common-law property rights and an owner suffers a financial loss as a consequence—whether the elimination results from regulation or from outright condemnation.

\*\*\*\*

Under the Fourteenth Amendment, properly understood and applied, those governments have no more right to violate the constitutional rights of citizens than the federal government has to intrude on the legitimate powers of state and local governments. Federalism is not a shield for local tyranny. Properly read, it is a brake on tyranny, whatever its source.

\*\*\*\*

But if regulations that provide the public with benefits continue to grow, unchecked by the need to compensate those who bear the costs, we will gradually slide to that point—and in the process we will pay an increasingly heavy price for the uncertainty and inefficiency we create. The most important price, however, will be to our system of law and justice. Owners are asking simply that their government obey the law—both the common law and the law of the Constitution. Reduced to its essence, they are simply saying this: stop stealing our property; if you must take it, do it the right way—pay for it. That hardly seems too much to ask.

It is the responsibility of the town attorney to research whether SB 5258/ESB 5559 are constitutional. Unfortunately, since the town attorney still serves in the capacity of the town administrator he is burdened by a conflict of interest. Therefore, engage a third party who does not serve the town in any capacity. If SB 5258/ESB 5559 are found to be constitutional, then the Town of La Conner must ensure that the best interests of its residents are preserved.

Best regards,

Linda R. Clark

Enclosures

<a href="#">11 6 25 Email to Town of La...</a> 66 KB	<a href="#">11 6 25 Email to Town of La...</a> 124 KB	<a href="#">12 2 25 Email to Town of La...</a> 2 MB	<a href="#">12 3 25 Email to Town of La...</a> 2 MB
<a href="#">La Conner Community News ...</a> 35 KB	<a href="#">11 25 25 Letter to Scott Tho...</a> 43 KB	<a href="#">cata-handbook-9th-edition-...</a> 151 KB	<a href="#">12 5 2025 Town Letter FINAL...</a> 148 KB

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From: Linda Clark

Sent: Monday, December 8, 2025 8:04 AM

To: financedirector@townoflaconner.org <financedirector@townoflaconner.org>

Cc: council\_3@townoflaconner.org <council\_3@townoflaconner.org>; council\_4@townoflaconner.org <council\_4@townoflaconner.org>;

council\_4@townoflaconner.org <council\_4@townoflaconner.org>; council\_3@townoflaconner.org <council\_3@townoflaconner.org>; council\_3@townoflaconner.org <council\_3@townoflaconner.org>; council\_3@townoflaconner.org <council\_3@townoflaconner.org>

Subject: Unit Lot Subdivisions

Maria or other staff member. Please consult with the town council before posting the 11 6 25 letter attachment to the town website, not Scott Thomas. See my letter to Scott Thomas dated on or before November 25, 2025.

Thank you.

Should have  
gone to all  
5 council members

## PROPERTY RIGHTS AND THE CONSTITUTION

Congress should

- pass either a joint resolution or a sense of the Congress resolution to guide federal agencies and influence courts, one that specifies the rights of property owners under the Constitution's Takings and Due Process Clauses;
- follow the traditional common law in defining "private property," "public use," and "just compensation";
- treat property taken through regulation the same as property taken through physical seizure; and
- provide a single forum in which property owners may seek injunctive relief and just compensation promptly.

America's Founders understood clearly that private property is the foundation not only of prosperity but of freedom itself. Thus, through the common law, state law, and the Constitution, they protected property rights—the rights of people to freely acquire, use, and dispose of property. With the growth of government, however, those rights have been seriously compromised. Unfortunately, the Supreme Court has yet to develop a principled, much less comprehensive, theory for remedying those violations. That failure has led to a property rights movement in state after state. It's time now for Congress to step in—to correct the federal government's own violations and to set out a standard that courts might notice as they adjudicate complaints about state violations.

In brief, state constitutions protect property rights in various ways. The U.S. Constitution does so through the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments' Due Process Clauses, which prohibit governments from taking private property without due process of law, and, more directly, through the Fifth Amendment's Takings Clause: "nor shall private property be taken for public use without just compensation." Government can take property in two basic ways: (1) outright, by condemning the property through its power of eminent domain, taking title, and paying the owner just compensation; and (2) through regulations



Outlook

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## 306 Centre Street Project

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**From** Linda Clark <itstuliptime@hotmail.com>  
**Date** Thu 11/6/2025 10:15 AM  
**To** Linda Clark <itstuliptime@hotmail.com>  
**Cc** financedirector@townoflaconner.org <financedirector@townoflaconner.org>; mayor@townoflaconner.org <mayor@townoflaconner.org>

Please forward to the Town Council Members. Thank you.

\*\*\*

Dear Town Council Members:

Since the [REDACTED] is underway, please ensure the following is included in an appropriate file for the [REDACTED] and posted as a letter on the Town's Website.

**As stated in at least one earlier email, since I was born seventh generation Mormon and raised in a predominantly Mormon community, my indications CANNOT be considered prejudice.** My research into my ancestry and this organization validates my intention for providing this information to the La Conner Town Council and La Conner community.

\*\*\*

As the below reddit post can attest, members of this organization are poisonous to a non-Mormon community because they think they are FAR SUPERIOR to the non-Mormons because the Mormons belong to the "One True Church".

The post is a great summary of why they were finally forced out of U.S. Territory in 1846. I have not confirmed all of its accuracy, but from what I have learned its tenor is 100% accurate.

[Https://www.reddit.com/r/AskHistorians/comments/6zzki0/why\\_were\\_the\\_mormons\\_driven\\_out\\_west\\_and\\_why\\_did/](https://www.reddit.com/r/AskHistorians/comments/6zzki0/why_were_the_mormons_driven_out_west_and_why_did/)

**Concerning the below 2025 news reports:** Alan Bassett lived directly across the street from my family. I knew about Alan Bassett in 1990 because the Mormon Bishop informed my parents. Law enforcement knew about him at least by 1993 because I informed them about Alan Bassett when his daughter was arrested for possible arson. No one with state authority did anything for nearly 35 years. I learned of two additional Mormon perpetrators in this neighborhood last month. That makes a total of 6 that I know of.

September 12, 2025 News article from KSL.com:

[Https://www.ksl.com/article/51373931/judge-denies-dismissal-request-in-fruit-heights-sexual-abuse-case](https://www.ksl.com/article/51373931/judge-denies-dismissal-request-in-fruit-heights-sexual-abuse-case)

At or about March 7, 2025 News report from Fox News:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NGeMC-pAcqw>

<https://utlm.org/abuse/>

<https://www.hurley-law.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/>

INSTANCES OF CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE ALLEGEDLY PERPETRATED BY MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH  
OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS-2017-06.pdf

Thank you.

L Clark

This is not entirely complete, but it is good enough. There are likely errors which are unintentional.

# of Kids	Personal Info.	Name	Place of Birth	Place of Death
	B. 9.20.1812 D. 8.25.1879 Baptized. 4.22.1853 Arrived SLC. 9.10/11.1853	[REDACTED]	Sackville, New Brunswick, British North America	Bountiful, UT
17 kids	B. 10.9.1809 D. 1904 M. 12.16.1833	[REDACTED]	St. John's, Westmoreland County, New Brunswick, Canada	Bountiful, UT
9 kids	B. 3.1.1847 D. 4.27.1925 M. 11.15.1862 (15 yo)	[REDACTED] (polygamous wife)	England	Wood Cross, UT
	B. 4.10.1864 D. 4.30.1905 M. 2.7.1884	[REDACTED]	Bountiful, UT	Francis Summit, UT
7 kids	B. 2.28.1861 D. 2.21.1940 M. 2.7.1884 (23 yo)	[REDACTED]	Bountiful, UT	Francis Summit, UT
	B. 4.26.1892 D. 2.16.1942 M. 6.14.1916	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]	Francis Summit, UT	Francis Summit, UT
9 kids	B. 12.11.1895 D. 1.20.1990 M. 6.14.1916 (21 yo)	[REDACTED]	Kamas, UT	Provo, UT
	B. 9.30.1920 D. 11.14.1984 M. 12.9.1941 Divorced: at or before 1954	[REDACTED]	Francis Summit, UT	Clearfield, UT
3 kids	B. 6.17.1925 D. 8.8.2007 M. 12.9.1941 (16 yo) Divorced at or before 1954	[REDACTED]	Kamas, UT	Lehi, UT
11 kids	B. 1942 D. N/A M. B. 1942	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]		

	D. N/A M.			
	B. 1968 M.			
6 kids	B. 1968 M			
	B. 10.10.1803 D. 10.5.1876 M. 9.30.1824 M. 1.31.1846 Baptized. 12.30.1845 Arrived SLC. 9.24.1848	Putnam, GA	Missouri	
12 kids	B. 9.11.1805 D. 4.5.1862 M. 9.30.1824 (19 yo)		Ohio, KY	Provo, UT
	B. 1.7.1799 D. 12.14.1880 M. 1.31.1846 (47 yo)	(polygamous wife)	Cumberland, NC	Wanship, UT
11 kids (1st husband)	B. 11.18.1819 D. 2.14.1896 M. 3.12.1839 – England M. 6.6.1862 Baptized. 1.11.1849 Arrived SLC. 9.17.1853		England	Brigham City, UT
11 kids	B. 2.17.1821 D. 1.14.1862 M. 3.12.1839 – England (18yo) Baptized. 1.11.1849 Arrived SLC. 9.17.1853		England	Bountiful, UT
13 kids	B. 3.16.1842 D. 8.2.1909 M. 6.6.1862 (20 yo)	(not polygamous)	England	Brigham City, UT
	B. 6.15.1813 D. 5.18.1867 M. 6.17.1836 - England Baptized. Before 1855			Bountiful, UT

12 kids	Arrived SLC. 9.7.1855 B. 10.8.1815 D. 3.28.1889 M. 6.27.1836 (21 yo)	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]	England	Bountiful, UT
0 kids with [REDACTED]	B. 7.4.1818 D. 3.20.1888 M. 3.1.1826	[REDACTED] (may have just been sealed)	England	Salt Lake City, UT
7 (first husband) 4 (second husband)	B. 6.15.1818 D. 1.18.1851 M. 7.10.1841 – Channel Is Baptized. Before 1851	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]	Channel Islands	Channel Islands
16 kids	B. 10.10.1816 D. 2.18.1877 M. 7.10.1841 Baptized. Before 1851 Arrived SLC. 1854	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]	Channel Islands	Kamas, UT?
3 kids (1st husband) 5 kids (2nd husband)	B. 2.9.1832 D. 6.18.1907 M. 3.25.1852 Baptized. 1840 Arrived SLC. 1850	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]	Tennessee	Orem, UT
7 kids	B. 1.10.1831 D. 1.16.1910 M. 3.25.1852 (21 yo)	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] (polygamous wife)	Knox, IL	Provo, UT
11 kids	B. 9.1.1844 D. 5.23.1896 M. 5.3.1877	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]	Nauvoo, IL	St. George, UT
	B. 3.24.1835 D. 7.28.1914 M. 4.23.1858 Baptized. 4.13.1851 Arrived SLC. 11.11.1852 Arrested 1888 for polygamy	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]	England	Marion Summit, UT
	B. 11.1.1840 D. 3.16.1919 M. 4.23.1858 (17 yo) Baptized. Likely before 1851 Arrived SLC. 1852	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]	New Hampshire	Marion Summit, UT
	B. 2.15.1844	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]	Channel Islands	Marion Summit, UT

	D. 3.5.1926 M. 2.15.1863 Arrived SLC. 1854	[REDACTED] (polygamous wife)		
	B. 5.21.1854 D. 7.24.1908 M. 10.27.1873 M. 11.25.1880 Baptized.	[REDACTED]	Provo, UT	Woodland Summit, UT
2 kids	B. 6.7.1857 D. 6.20.1945 M. 10.27.1873 Divorced. 1876	[REDACTED]	Florence, NE	Woodland Summit, UT
13 kids	B. 3.31.1859 D. 3.10.1940 M. 11.25.1880	[REDACTED]	Columbia, PA	Columbia, PA
	B. 6.4.1856 D. 11.16.1913 M. 1874 - PA	[REDACTED]	Luzerne, PA	Columbia, PA
9 kids	B. 4.22.1855 D. 6.7.1928 M. 1874 (19 yo)	[REDACTED]		
	B. 1.20.1864 D. 9.5.1943 M. 1.15.1890	[REDACTED]	Salt Lake City, UT	Salt Lake City, UT
10 kids	B. 5.28.1870 D. 5.25.1944 M. 1.15.1890 (20 yo)	[REDACTED]	Marion Summit, UT	Francis Summit, UT
	B. 7.28.1879 D. 1.4.1927 M. 7.30.1904	[REDACTED]	Columbia, PA	Woodland Summit, UT
5 kids	B. 3.3.1886 D. 12.26.1951 M. 7.30.1904 (18 yo)	[REDACTED]	Kamas Summit, UT	Coalville, UT
	B. 3.8.1905 D. 8.12.1984 M. 8.20.1924	[REDACTED]	Park City, UT	Salt Lake City, UT
6 kids	B. 1.17.1908	[REDACTED]	Francis Summit, UT	Draper, UT

D. 11.20.1994 M. 8.20.1924 (16 yo)		

November 25, 2025

Dear Mr. Thomas:

I am in receipt of your second email concerning my recent email of on or about November 6, 2025 to the La Conner Town Council Members pertaining to the [REDACTED]. I have not read this email, nor will I. Your continued refusal to step down from one of your positions with the Town of La Conner (administrator or town attorney) deems any correspondence from you in this matter tainted by a conflict of interest.

However, since the email and attachments have not yet posted to the Town website I am comfortable in expecting it to say you are not going to post it for one reason or another. Thus, please see below:

First, this email and its attachment (included herewith) were addressed to the Town Council Members, not you.

Second, this document will confirm that the Town of La Conner has been put on notice again concerning the [REDACTED] and their association with the Mormon organization (The Corporation of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints) and its members. The independent resources provided substantiate these concerns.

Third, any refusal to post the aforementioned email and attachment must be done in conjunction with review of the article published about me by *The La Conner Weekly News* in or about November 2021 with information provided by one or more representatives from the Town of La Conner (the article of which I still have not, nor will I ever read.) [In this regard, I was informed personally by a former town representative last year that this article should have been corrected and contradicted by the Town of La Conner due to information possessed by town representatives that was not available to the general public].

Lastly, if the Town Council Members have questions or concerns about my Nov. 6th email and attachment, they can address them directly with me. If they don't want this email and attachment posted on the Town website then they need to provide written notice to the [REDACTED] that it has been presented to the Town and placed in the file for the [REDACTED]. This written notice should appear on formal Town letterhead with delivery via a confirmed source (e.g. certified mail with return receipt or hand delivery with a sworn and notarized declaration by the person who delivered it). A copy of this letter and delivery confirmation can then be emailed to me.

Best regards,

Linda R. Clark

P.S. I also do not see my letter dated August 7, 2025 posted to the Town website. A copy is provided herewith.



## 306 Centre Street Project

**From** Linda Clark <itsstuliptime@hotmail.com>

**Date** Tue 12/2/2025 1:35 PM

**To** financedirector@townoflaconner.org <financedirector@townoflaconner.org>

**Cc** mayor@townoflaconner.org <mayor@townoflaconner.org>

Please also include this email in the file for the [REDACTED] Thank you.

For sale by owner

Welcome to your dream condo in the heart of charming La Conner! This beautifully appointed residence offers the perfect blend of style, convenience, and location. Enjoy effortless living with an elevator for easy access, covered parking, and a covered balcony ideal for relaxing year-round.

Step inside to discover high-surface countertops, stainless steel appliances, and tiled bathrooms with elegant glass shower walls. The walk-in closet in the master suite provides ample storage, while the in-unit laundry adds everyday convenience.

Located just moments from downtown, you'll love being close to charming shops, delicious restaurants, and a well-stocked grocery store. Whether you're looking for a weekend getaway or a full-time residence, this condo offers the best of La Conner living.

**\$499,999**  
306 Center St, La Conner, WA 98257

1 beds 1 baths 842 sqft

Contact owner

See all 3 photos

Price: \$555,000 (10/2025)

**\$555,000**  
516 Myrtle Street, La Conner, WA 98257

3 beds 2 baths 1,540 sqft

Request a tour  
As early as today at 1:30 PM

Contact agent

See all 27 photos



Outlook

## 306 Centre Street Project

**From** Linda Clark <itsstuliptime@hotmail.com>

**Date** Wed 12/3/2025 8:01 AM

**To** financedirector@townoflaconner.org <financedirector@townoflaconner.org>

**Cc** mayor@townoflaconner.org <mayor@townoflaconner.org>; Scott Thomas <administrator@townoflaconner.org>; Ajah Eills, Planner <planner@townoflaconner.org>

In addition to my emails of on or about November 6 and December 2, 2025, please place this email and information in the file for [REDACTED].

Thank you.

For sale by owner

Welcome to your dream condo in the heart of picturesque La Conner! This beautifully appointed residence offers the perfect blend of style, convenience, and location. Enjoy stress-free living with an elevator for easy access, covered parking, and a covered balcony ideal for relaxing year-round.

Step inside to discover hard surface coverings, stainless steel appliances, and tiled bathrooms with elegant vessel shower heads. The main entrance to the master suite provides ample storage, while the in-unit laundry adds everyday convenience.

Located just moments from downtown, you'll love being close to charming shops, delicious restaurants, and a well-stocked grocery store. Whether you're looking for a weekend getaway or a full-time residence, this condo offers the best of La Conner living.

**\$499,999**  
306 Center St, La Conner, WA 98257

1 beds   1 baths   842 sqft

Contact owner

>Listed by: Reber Chamberlain Windermere RE Ancora Prop., Reber Westlund, Windermere RE Ancora Prop.

**\$650,000**  
524 Myrtle Street #C + D, La Conner, WA 98257

4 beds   2 baths   1,872 sqft

Contact agent

See all 38 photos

Linda R. Clark  
La Conner, Washington

November 24, 2025

Dear La Conner Community News:

This is in response to your article titled: "Experts call for more housing, smarter growth in Skagit".

I recently spent six weeks traveling around Nevada, Utah, and Idaho. I got a first-hand glimpse at the "more housing, smarter growth" mindset in these states. What I didn't see during my travels was anything benefitting the residents of the communities who lived there before the elected officials approved growth targeting the same issues mentioned in this article. The residents loved their communities until their elected officials decided they needed to be changed for the benefit of others.

It had been 12 years since I had driven through Davis County, Utah where I grew up and where my ancestors settled in 1848. Davis County is named after my fourth great-grandfather. I also visited the Salt Lake City area where I have also lived. What I saw in terms of growth during my travels two months ago was beyond belief.

I first drove through Davis County and I am extremely glad I did so at night. The quaint, humble towns I once knew were gone. The beautiful mountain views in my old neighborhood along Highway 89 are now hidden by sound barrier walls.

New retail spaces with garbage strewn on the ground lined the once open space street of the town that "rolled up the sidewalks on Friday nights" when everyone went to the high school football game. The growth I saw had clearly been done keeping in mind profit to the developers and not the residents of the community they were impacting with the growth and change.

In places like Sugarhouse, Utah which used to be a "bungalow community", I saw apartment complexes and concrete surfaces sprawling where there once were trees, green spaces, and people out walking. Too dangerous to walk there now.

My next stop was Holladay, Utah. My favorite place to live in Utah. Holladay has always been a more expensive place to buy a home in Utah. But there were also apartments allowing people who couldn't afford to live in those homes to live in the area. The elected officials who approved these apartments decades ago did so keeping the atmosphere of the community in mind.

Ten years ago or so the elected officials of Holladay approved three story high-density housing complexes in the heart of Holladay. They not only have impacted the view of the mountains, but the whole atmosphere of the city; and everyone I talked to about them hated them and wished they hadn't been built. Even more recently, Holladay community members had to take their "leaders" to court to put a vote on the ballot to stop an insane development.

One of my friends who has lived in Holladay since about 2000 explained the increased home costs and raw land costs, and the dangers of the high density housing - the traffic that came with them which is exacerbated by the significant increase in drug use. She no longer feels comfortable driving in her own community.

I did a search online about living in Utah shortly after returning to La Conner. Nearly every thread that I read suggested people look elsewhere because despite the raging building boom they are still subjected to - expensive rents, expensive home costs, air pollution year round, water scarcity, and traffic congestion that had significantly worsened in the past ten years. The same could be said for the Boise, Idaho area and Reno, Nevada.

To the residents of Skagit County, especially the smaller communities, I caution you about the North Star organization. I looked at their website. All I see is hyperbole.

Their website states "For too long, communities have tried to tackle issues on their own. It isn't working and too many people are suffering. It's time to shift from

managing this crisis to solving it, and the only way we can do that is by working together."

However, if you look at the leaders of North Star they are: Bill Aslett - Mayor, City of Burlington; Peter Browning - Commissioner, Skagit County; Peter Donovan - Mayor, City of Mount Vernon; Lisa Janicki - Commissioner, Skagit County; Julia Johnson - Mayor, City of Sedro-Woolley; Matt Miller - Mayor, City of Anacortes; Ron Wesen - Commissioner, Skagit County. The very people who haven't been able to tackle these focused issues in their own communities are now trying to work together.. Hmm.

This organization gives all of these elected officials significant power to impact the Skagit Valley. A place whose population has exploded considerably over the past five years due to unchecked growth.

Any other members of this organization are in an advisory capacity only according to the North Star website. And the members with advisory capacity, e.g. law enforcement, have had the tools for at least decades to aid in solving these societal issues yet refuse to do so because the people with these issues fuel the systems which provide their livelihoods.

Before this organization is allowed to impact any further growth or changes in Skagit County they should be required to look at the systems which feed off of these societal insecurities as well as other states which have implemented massive building in housing to accommodate growth and "affordable housing issues" in the past five years, e.g. what was the inventory built, who were the buyers (where did they come from, were they permanent residents or seasonal, what was their reason for purchasing; how long after they purchased did they decide to sell); how many of these buildings are now vacant.

Many communities which built extensively to accommodate the post-COVID residents wishing to work from homes in less congested communities are experiencing significant issues with an overage of housing inventory due to the fact that most of these people are no longer able to work remotely; and their elected officials failed to exercise restraint in approving building permits.

If your readers have not seen the massive amounts of apartments built in Burlington in the past 3 or 4 years near the Honda dealership and Costco I encourage them to go look. This is likely what the North Star organization wants to build in everyone's communities. It is highly unlikely that regular population growth can account for this massive influx of people. Where are they coming from? What responsibility is it of the currently existing community residents to accommodate such a massive influx?

This response likely makes me seem heartless. But I have seen first hand what happens when elected officials get a "building itch" and instead of waiting to see if it will go away on its own they scratch and scratch at it until a community is no longer recognizable.

Building houses will not fix the ever persistent societal problems of homelessness, mental health issues, addiction, etc. People need to be able to pay for their housing in order for it to be a solution. People need to also be able to pay for the extremely high insurance rates for mortgage and rental insurance. And the increased property taxes that will surely follow.

Let's focus on healing our communities from the effects of trauma [COVID] which is a precursor to homelessness, mental health issues, addiction; and which makes it significantly less likely a person can keep a job long-term.

Also focus on teaching kids in school about "money, self-care, self-discipline on when and how often to use technology". Help them focus on "spending time in nature, nutrition, social interactions". If our communities focus on these things, the societal issues North Star's mission is aimed at are more likely to improve than if people are compressed into high density housing developments with no access to parks, nature, or recreation. And I dare say these issues in Skagit County will increase because those who lived here before the changes will feel betrayed by those who were elected to serve them.

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- By 2025
- Government & Community Links
- Neighborhoods
- Town of La Conner Strategic Plan 2024-2028
- La Conner Citizen's Handbook to Local Government
- Town Administrator / Public Records Officer
- Town Facilities
- Town History

- [Dan O'Regan Letter 2.3.25 \(PDF\)](#)
- [J. Wharton Letter 7.10.25 \(PDF\)](#)
- [K. Shiner Letter 2.12.25 \(PDF\)](#)
- [L. Clark Letter 12.2.25 \(PDF\)](#)
- [L. Clark Letter 3.25.25 \(PDF\)](#)
- [L. Clark Letter 6.30.25](#)
- [L. Clark Letter 7.30.25](#)
- [L. Clark Letter 8.7.25](#)
- [L. Talman Letter 2.10.25 \(PDF\)](#)
- [L. Talman Letter 2.24.25 \(PDF\)](#)
- [L. Talman Letter 3.3.25 \(PDF\)](#)
- [L. Talman Letter 6.5.25 \(PDF\)](#)
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