Flawed plan

Dear Editor:

I’m addressing the people of Okanogan County who have a lot at stake in the general election. Land use and water policy done carelessly by ignoring state laws and guidelines will cost you a lot of money, like it did us here in Kittitas County.

I know what I am talking about as a former land use planner now retired. Our commissioners back in 2006 were David Bowen, Alan Crankovich and Perry Huston, your current planning director. They voted to approve a comprehensive plan that was non-compliant with state laws and regulations. Our county spent hundreds of thousands of dollars and other public resources and after seven years lost over 90 percent of what they were defending. They lost to citizen groups in partnership with Futurewise. Do you want this for your county?

Ask those running for county commissioner and the incumbent not running this year to rethink their support for your current county comprehensive plan. High densities in rural lands, lack of water resources physically available and legal to supply development and policies that don’t adequately protect water quality won’t survive legal challenge.

If Okanogan County goes forward with this flawed plan, it’s going to cost you dearly.

Jan Sharar, Ellensburg