

From: [publiccomment](#)
To: [Gary Medvigy](#); [Glen Yung](#); [Michelle Belkot](#); [Karen Bowerman](#); [Sue Marshall](#)
Cc: [Oliver Orjiako](#); [Jose Alvarez](#); [Jeffrey Delapena](#)
Subject: FW: Council Hearing Public Comment
Date: Monday, June 24, 2024 8:59:04 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Please see the below comments re: the contract w/Berk Consulting, under Sep. Business #2.
Thank you,



Rebecca Messinger
Clerk to the Council
COUNTY MANAGER'S OFFICE

564-397-4305



From: Clark County <webmaster@clark.wa.gov>
Sent: Saturday, June 22, 2024 7:22 PM
To: publiccomment <publiccomment@clark.wa.gov>
Subject: Council Hearing Public Comment

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Submitted on Sat, 06/22/2024 - 7:22 PM

Name

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Subject

FRDU Consultant

Date of Hearing

Tue, 06/25/2024

Comment

To the Council:

Under consideration today is whether or not to hire BERK Consulting to implement SB5517. This action would cost taxpayers \$100,000. There has been significant opposition to implementing any part of SB5517 in Clark County and that opposition is growing. Currently the city of Battle Ground has passed a resolution claiming the city wants nothing to do with the FRDU and its expansion. Local opposition from neighborhood associations (FOCC, FOCV, CSLM and the Sierra Club) towards any expansion of the rail line is gaining momentum. Even the RRAB has not recommended going forward until the issues with the current operator are resolved. There is no CBA to point to any county-wide benefit of expanding the line. Adding a heavy industrial overlay to the full length of the line has also been met with firm opposition from just about everyone, with the exception of the operator.

Hiring a consultant to begin implementation of SB 5517 is ludicrous, given that the current operator of the train is under investigation by several federal agencies.

This kind of action should be tabled until all litigation involving the operator is resolved and a cost benefit analysis has been done to honestly assess whether or not any action to implement SB5517 would offer any benefits to the residents of Clark County. Hiring BERK Consulting (or any consultant) is a waste of money at this time. There are too many questions on the table.

I urge you to table this motion until the above mentioned issues are resolved.

Regards,

Kim O'Hara