

# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **1,227 Voices Supporting Commonsense Regulations at the Planning Commission Hearing**

On Tuesday, November 5<sup>th</sup> at the public hearing sponsored by the Jefferson County Planning Commission, the Tarboo Ridge Coalition delivered a petition with 1,227 signatures—almost 4% of the total population. The petition was directed to the Board of County Commissioners and endorsed six specific “bright line” regulations on commercial gun ranges that the Planning Commissioners proposed in November 2018.

Although the six recommendations were ignored in ordinances passed by the County Commissioners in December 2018, those ordinances were recently invalidated because they lacked sufficient environmental review. The Planning Commission is now reviewing new draft ordinances, and will be receiving public comment until Friday, November 8<sup>th</sup>. After further deliberations, the Planning Commissioners will submit a report to the County Commissioners on December 4<sup>th</sup>.

The six recommendations include: no military training, no aircraft, 500-yard setbacks from public lakes and other shorelines, no night shooting, security fencing, and sound barriers. Many or most of these “bright line” regulations are contained in a 2014 Kitsap County ordinance that has survived court challenges.

As TRC supporter Lela Hilton presented the petitions to the Planning Commission, she called out neighborhoods represented by signatories. In response, people in the audience from Tarboo Valley, Quilcene, the Coyle Peninsula, Chimacum, Marrowstone Island, Hadlock, Irondale, Discovery Bay, Gardiner, and Port Townsend raised signs identifying their community and showing broad support for commonsense regulations from across Jefferson County.

*“Based on thousands of conversations members and friends of the Tarboo Ridge Coalition have had with our neighbors here in the county, and on the signatures gathered here,”* Hilton said, *“we believe these six bright line regulations are what the majority of Jefferson County residents want as well.”*

She concluded by noting that, *“We support safe, well-regulated, and small-scale shooting facilities like the Jefferson County Sportsman’s Association.”*

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