

I am writing in response to the Wallace Cottages.

I have been a resident of of The Courtyards on Madison for 17 years. My husband and I left the congestion and hassles of the one-time cozy community of Kirkland that changed into a city on steroids. Our choice to move to Bainbridge was because it had a special village-feel about it with easy access to the humming metropolis of Seattle.

Over the prevailing years we have witnessed thoughtful growth until the last few years when development plans spouted up like weeds along the Madison corridor, the area in which we reside. The accumulative effects which will have an negative impact are as follows:

- Traffic - The addition of cars on Madison is already challenging, especially during the school year. It becomes more and more difficult to exit Sadie Lane unto Madison, and really difficult to turn left, or north out of our condo association. The Wallace Cottages with two garages per cottage, has the potential of adding 170 weekday car trip onto Madison.
- Impact on BI's aquifers - For years the concern regarding our supply of water has been worrisome. I understand that the water table is currently lower then optimal levels. With each of the several new proposed developments in the pipeline (pun intended), isn't it the City's responsibility to protect our most important resource - water?
- Natural landscape - My concern that the green landscape will be chipped away until the a few remaining lonely trees will be a sad reminder of a green-space that once existed.
- Infrastructure - It's been noted that an already compromised sewer system could be overwhelmed by addition sanitary sewage and stormwater runoff.
- Setbacks - The Wallace Cottages have appear to have been given permission to have five foot setback as opposed to the usual 10 feet. Why is that? Given this cozy arrangement, our condo homes to the north will have an opportunity to view the intimate daily lives of Wallace Cottage residents. Unless there is a voyeur amongst us, this is not beneficial to either community!

In closing, I want to say I am not a NIBY, I love my community. Please consider the quality of life for we residents - both established and new. Without thoughtful management and stewardship of this island's growth, I fear Bainbridge could morph from a village into micro-metropolitan mess!

Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Sheryl and Chuck Todd