

**COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES  
KITTTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON  
PUBLIC HEARING**

**TUESDAY**

**4:00 P.M.**

**AUGUST 31, 2004**

Board members present: Chairman Perry D. Huston; Vice-Chairman Bruce Coe and Commissioner Max Golladay.

Others: Paul Bennett, Public Works Director; Joy Potter, Public Works Staff; Julie Kjorsvik, Clerk of the Board and approximately 3 members of the public.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**S. THORP HIGHWAY RIGHT-OF-WAY**

**PUBLIC WORKS**

At 4:00 p.m. **CHAIRMAN HUSTON** opened the public hearing to consider vacating to the City of Ellensburg of Ellensburg, a portion of South Thorp Highway right-of-way located near the Yakima River Bridge in Section 33 of Township 18N, Range 18E, in accordance with RCW. 36.87.130.

**PAUL BENNETT, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR** reviewed an Engineer's Report, stating the right-of-way had not been used for the county's transportation system since 1967, but had been used to access private property and public lands. There are currently concrete blocks and jersey barriers currently blocking public access. The City of Ellensburg has been exploring the possibility of creating a public park in the vicinity, and they currently have an access easement. He said there are no future plans for the road in the county road system, and the public would benefit to have access to the city property identified for future access. He recommended transferring the property to the City of Ellensburg, at no cost, as the right-of-way could be annexed into the City with no compensation to the County and the uses of the right-of-way in the City would be the same as in the County.

**THOSE PRESENT & TESTIFYING:** **GORDAN BLOSSOM** was in favor of public access to the river. **DOLORES GONZALEZ representing Kittitas County Off Leash** spoke in favor of the request. **JOHN AKERS, REPRESENTING THE CITY OF ELLENSBUG,** concurred with Mr. Bennett's recommendation and said the City may eventually develop a parking area for the public in the vicinity. **THERE BEING NO FURTHER TESTIMONY, THE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE HEARING WAS CLOSED.**

**RESOLUTION 2004-97 ORDERING VACATION OF RIGHT-OF-WAY PUBLIC WORKS**

**COMMISSIONER GOLLADAY** moved to approve Resolution No. 2004-97, ordering the vacation of a portion of the public right-of-way, known as Old South Thorp Highway, to the City of Ellensburg, at no cost, and to authorize signatures of the real estate documents necessary to deed the right-of-way. **COMMISSIONER COE** seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

**CLERK OF THE BOARD**

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

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**Julie A. Kjorsvik**

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**Perry D. Huston, Chairman**