

Save Our Sequim Press Release  
January 12, 2021

Save Our Sequim (SOS) was formed because the Citizens of Sequim needed a voice. Without SOS, who among us could stand as an individual against the powerful and wealthy Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe? Their plan, to place a large regional methadone clinic in the heart of Sequim, will forever compromise the rural character of the Sequim we love. SOS is a voice for those citizens who rightfully oppose the location of this project.

During our research SOS discovered that the city of Sequim, who should have been advocating for the citizens of Sequim, was in fact advocating for the Developer. This is confirmed by emails written between City staff and the Tribe months before the project application was ever submitted. If the city will not advocate for the citizens of Sequim, SOS will.

On Monday, January 11, there was a meeting between the attorneys and the Judge in our latest appeal at Superior Court of Clallam County. It was our understanding that this was a private discussion between the Judge and the attorneys. Out of respect for the Judge, SOS did not publicize this information and left it as a private discussion. Imagine our surprise when we were notified that the Judge had concerns about a Facebook post that encouraged the entire community to "Stand up and FIGHT for what we believe in!" and to participate in the upcoming hearing on January 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM in Clallam County Superior Court.

The SOS Facebook post, a flyer of sorts, was written to inspire and encourage citizens to participate. Much like cheerleaders at a football game, we hoped to inspire the community to support the legal process. We are astonished to think someone could ever confuse this motivational language as a call to arms or a call to violence. To conflate SOS with what happened in Washington DC on January 6, is completely out of context.

SOS has never broken or stretched the law. We have utmost respect for the law and wish for the full text of the law to be followed in our case. In this we wholeheartedly agree with the Judge. It is our duty and our right to inform the citizens we represent and to encourage their involvement in this process, which is based on the rule of law. Their contributions have earned them the right to participate.

The irony is that those who have opposed SOS have been far more aggressive towards us than we could ever imagine being toward them. For example, this opposing group has made six (6) frivolous claims against SOS to the Washington State Attorney General and encourages their supporters to report SOS to a multitude of government agencies as a means to harass us. They have provided contact information to these agencies and suggested topics to report. Not one complaint against SOS has ever been validated.

The Chair of SOS has been reported to the FBI as a domestic terrorist and has had two credible death threats made against her. One of our supporters has experienced similar chilling and threatening language. Businesses who support SOS have been threatened, have had their employees threatened and have been boycotted. Vehicles with SOS bumper stickers have been keyed, SOS yard signs have been stolen and supporter's properties have been vandalized. SOS has never conducted itself in this manner, other than some rowdy Facebook posts by upset citizens, which we have condemned and removed from our site to the best of our abilities. We have remained steadfast, respectable, and worthy of the trust our supporters.

Our educational goal is to faithfully and accurately provide factual information to the public about this project and its dangers to Sequim, and to keep the public informed through fact-based research. Our legal goal is to ensure that the full municipal code of Sequim is adhered to and not selectively applied or ignored.

SOS will continue to advocate for the citizens of Sequim, who have placed their trust in us since July of 2019.

The Board of Directors, SOS