1 2 3 4 5 6 HEARING EXAMINER DAVID SPOHR 7 BEFORE THE OFFICE OF THE 8 KING COUNTY HEARING EXAMINER 9 In re the matter of the Appeal by Tenhulzen **CODE ENFORCEMENT APPEAL** Construction, LLC, Tenhulzen Design, LLC, 10 Tenhulzen Remodeling, Tenhulzen Residential NO. ENFR21-0765 LLC, and TM Squared LLC, 11 12 and PETITION FOR INTERVENTION 13 Good Brewing, and Kevin King, 14 Appellants 15 VS. 16 KING COUNTY, 17 Respondent 18 19 20 Serena Glover on behalf of Friends of Sammamish Valley (FoSV), a Washington 21 nonprofit corporation, and Michael Tanksley individually and on behalf of the Hollywood Hill 22 Association (HHA), a Washington nonprofit corporation (hereinafter collectively referred to

as Petitioners), hereby petition the Hearing Examiner for the entry of an order granting intervention by the Petitioners in all issues raised in the above-captioned appeals.

#### I. **PETITIONERS**

PETITION FOR INTERVENTION - 1

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A. Friends of Sammamish Valley (FoSV). FoSV was formed in 2018 for the purposes of protecting the Sammamish Valley Agricultural Production District (APD) and the Sammamish River watershed, preserving the surrounding Rural Area (RA) that buffers the APD, and protecting the environment in accordance with the goals of the Growth Management Act and coordinate laws and regulations. FoSV has been endorsed by hundreds of individuals, farmers, businesses, environmental organizations, and homeowner associations. *See* Declaration of Serena Glover in Support of Petition for Intervention ("Glover Declaration") Para. 3. Petitioner FoSV together with its intervention co- Petitioner HHA, as well as Futurewise, farmers, and others successfully appealed King County Ordinance 19030 (Adult Beverage Ordinance) on State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) and Growth Management Act (GMA) grounds to the Growth Management Hearings Board (GMHB), which invalidated it. Glover Dec. Paras. 7, 8. Additional information regarding FoSV and its interests is provided in the Glover Declaration, attached and incorporated here by reference in its entirety.

**B.** Hollywood Hill Association (HHA). HHA was formed in 1976 for the purposes of preserving the rural character of Hollywood Hill, which abuts the Sammamish Valley, and the agricultural lands of the Sammamish Valley. HHA members live on Hollywood Hill, a residential area located in the RA that includes approximately 1350 households. In addition to the current GMA litigation with King County, HHA was also one of the petitioners to the GMHB successfully challenging King County zoning code and comprehensive plan amendments that would have allowed conversion of designated and protected Sammamish Valley agricultural land to development for active recreation in violation of the GMA. The Washington Supreme Court upheld the GMHB decision invalidating the amendments. See, King County v Central Puget Sound Growth Management Hearings Board, 142 Wn.2d 543;14 P.3d 133 (2000). Additional information regarding HHA

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and its interests is provided in the Declaration of Michael Tanksley in Support of Petition for Intervention ("Tanksley Declaration"), attached and incorporated here in its entirety by reference.

C. Michael Tanksley. Michael Tanksley is the former president and now vice president of the HHA. He also serves as a member of the board of directors of FoSV. He has been involved in issues affecting the Rural Area and the agricultural lands of the Sammamish Valley for the last quarter century, including in code enforcement issues. Additional information regarding Mr. Tanksley and his interests is provided in the Tanksley Declaration.

## D. Contact Information for Petitioners.

## Friends of Sammamish Valley

Mailing Address: 14241 NE Woodinville Duvall Rd, #428

Woodinville, WA 98072

Email Address: serena@friendsofsammamishvalley.org

Telephone Number: (425) 985-2992

## **Hollywood Hill Association**

Mailing Address: PO Box 404

Woodinville, WA 98072

Email Address: c/o wmtanksley@comcast.net

Telephone Number: N/A

#### **Michael Tanksley**

Mailing Address: 14551 166<sup>th</sup> Ave NE

Woodinville, WA 98072

Email Address: wmtanksley@comcast.net

Telephone Number: (425) 483-2529

#### II. PROCEDURE & LEGAL FRAMEWORK

## A. Intervention rules and legal standard

This Petition for Intervention is made pursuant to Rule X.B.1.a. of the Rules of Procedure and Mediation for the Office of the Hearing Examiner (Hearing Examiner Rules) which provides for intervention as a matter of right, and Rule X.B.1.b. which provides for intervention pursuant to the discretion of the Hearing Examiner. Specifically, Rule X.B.1 provides:

#### B. Intervention

## 1. Purpose

## a. Intervention as a Matter of Right

The examiner shall allow intervention where the law confers an unconditional right to intervene or when a non-party demonstrates a substantial interest in the proceeding's subject matter, that such interest is likely to be directly affected by the proceeding's result and will not be adequately represented by existing parties, and that intervention will not impair the orderly and prompt conduct of proceedings.

## b. Discretionary Intervention

The examiner may allow intervention where the law confers a conditional right to intervene or when the intervenor's participation as a party would advance the public interest, and where intervention will not impair the orderly and prompt conduct of proceedings.

Rule X.B.1 is closely analogous to Civil Rule (CR) 24 which governs intervention of right and permissive intervention in Washington courts. Accordingly, case law interpreting and applying CR 24 is instructive. CR 24 is to be "liberally construed to favor intervention." *Fritz v. Gorton*, 8 Wn. App. 658, 660, 509 P.2d 83 (Div. II 1973); *see Crosby v. County of Spokane*, 137 Wn.2d 296, 304, 971 P.2d 32 (1999); *Loveless v. Yantis*, 82 Wn.2d 754, 758, 513 P.2d 1023 (1973) (granting neighboring landowners' association intervenor status as a matter of right); *cf. Nelson v. Pacific County*, 36 Wn. App. 17 (Div. II 1983), *rev. denied*, 100 Wn.2d 1037

(1984) (affirming intervention of group of neighboring property owners in action to quiet title to nearby property).

"CR 24(a) allows intervention as of right unless it would work a hardship on one of the original parties." *Columbia Gorge Audubon Society v. Klickitat County, et al.*, 98 Wn. App. 618, 623, 989 P.2d 1260 (Div. III 1999).

Washington courts have always held that a motion to intervene is timely if it is filed before the commencement of trial. *Columbia Gorge*, *supra*, 98 Wn. App. at 623; *American Discount Corp. v. Saratoga West, Inc.*, 81 Wn.2d 34, 43, 499 P.2d 869 (1972).

The term "interest" must be broadly rather than narrowly construed in determining whether intervention is appropriate. *Vashon Island Committee for Self Government v. Washington State Boundary Review Board for King County*, 127 Wn.2d 759, 765, 903 P.2d 953 (1995). In keeping with this principle, the Court of Appeals in *Columbia Gorge, supra,* reversed the trial court and ordered grant of intervention for the Yakama Nation, even though the Tribe was "simply another voice asking for the same result as the Audubon Society, only for different reasons." *Columbia Gorge, supra,* 98 Wn. App. at 628. As the *Columbia Gorge* Court said: "Not much of a showing is required, however, to establish an interest. And insufficient interest should not be used as a factor for denying intervention." *Id.* at 629.

As the Washington Supreme Court held in *Loveless v. Yantis*:

[w]ith the members of the association here all residents of the area affected, the association has a direct enough interest ...

82 Wn.2d at 758; see Crosby v. County of Spokane, supra, at n.4; cf. Nelson v. Pacific County, 36 Wn. App. 17 (1983), rev. denied, 100 Wn.2d 1037 (1984).

Further, a difference of interests between named parties and an intervenor is <u>not</u> a prerequisite to intervention:

It is not necessary that the intervenor's interests be in direct conflict with those of the existing parties. It is only necessary that the interests may not be adequately articulated and addressed [citation omitted]. When in doubt, intervention should be granted.

Columbia Gorge, supra, 98 Wn. App. at 630. As the court stated, "the intervenor need make only a minimal showing that its interests may not be adequately represented." *Id.* at 629-30 (citations omitted); see also Fritz, supra, 8 Wn. App. at 662 (burden on petitioner to show that its interest will not be adequately represented "should be treated as minimal").

The facts and circumstances set out in the Glover and Tanksley Declarations, incorporated here by reference, far exceed the showing required for intervention.

# **B.** Petition for Intervention is Timely

Rule X.B.2.a.1 of the Hearing Examiner Rules requires that a petition to intervene as a matter of right be submitted orally or in writing before or at the pre-hearing conference. The pre-hearing conference is scheduled for July 6, 2022. This Petition therefore complies with Rule X.B.2.a.1. The Hearing Examiner may also grant a petition for discretionary intervention as provided in Rule X.B.2.a.3, which is not subject to a specific time limit.

#### III. BASES FOR INTERVENTION<sup>1</sup>

# A. Petitioner's Interests (Intervention as a Matter of Right)

The issues raised by Appellants in this appeal have a direct impact on the interests of Petitioners. As explained in the Tanksley Declaration:

5. HHA has a long history of actively participating in formation of King County land use policies and regulations to address these issues, including participation in the King County Sammamish Valley Winery and Beverage Study and the legislative process which culminated in adoption by King County of Ordinance 19030. HHA joined with other petitioners, including FoSV, Futurewise, local farmers, and others in

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> To avoid needless repetition, Petitioners have not included in the arguments below all of the information set out in the detailed Declarations of Serena Glover and Michael Tanksley. Accordingly, Petitioners respectfully request that the Hearing Examiner closely review the Declarations in their entirety.

challenging the County's adoption of Ordinance 19030 as violative of the Growth Management Act. GMHB invalidation of Ordinance 19030 affirmed the critical interests of the HHA in protection of the Sammamish Valley farmland and the character and environment of the Rural Area. HHA continues as a co-petitioner party during the GMHB's compliance process, and as a co-Respondent in King County's appeal of the GMHB decision currently pending in the Court of Appeals Division 1.

- 6. Throughout these processes, HHA and I have advocated vigorously to uphold and rigorously enforce policies and regulations, including SEPA, GMA, Countywide Planning Policies, King County Comprehensive Plan Policies, and zoning regulations that prohibit or restrict the operation of commercial businesses such as winery tasting rooms on Agriculture and Rural zoned land. If Appellants succeed in their apparent arguments that King County has no legal authority to enforce zoning laws that conflict with a lease of real property entered into between private parties, or because of a purported "settlement agreement" issued by King County in violation of its obligations to enforce law, the interests that HHA and I have worked for decades to defend will be adversely affected.
- 7. The outcome of the appeals here is important to our local residents and to legally sited businesses located nearby within the City of Woodinville that operate within the law, including the GMA. The degree to which local land use regulations are or are not enforced will influence actions by landowners, investors and business operators in the Sammamish Valley and surrounding Rural Area.

Through intervention Petitioners seek a decision rejecting Appellants' claims that existing illegal adult beverage businesses should be allowed because of a tenant lease(s) and/or "Settlement Agreement", that the existing adult beverage businesses should be "grandfathered" despite the fact that such uses were never legal, that the existing commercial uses should be allowed as a home occupation and other claims not supported by law.

As noted above, Washington courts have held that an intervention petitioner need not establish a direct conflict with, or an actual inadequacy in, a potentially aligned party's (here, the County's) approach. Nonetheless, Petitioners' request for intervention as a matter of right is supported by their ongoing, deep, and substantial interests that are likely to be directly affected by the result of this proceeding and on which the County's and Petitioners' approaches could diverge as the proceeding progresses. In light of the history of litigation

between the County<sup>2</sup>, which is subject to various pushes and pulls, and Petitioners<sup>3</sup>, the County will neither adequately represent Petitioners' positions nor, as further explained below, the greater public interest.

## **B.** Public Interest (Discretionary Intervention).

In the event that Petitioners are not granted intervention as a matter of right, Petitioners request discretionary intervention on all issues because Petitioner's participation would advance the public interest as demonstrated in Petitioners' Declarations. *See, e.g.,* Glover Dec. paras. 9, 10, 11, 12, 13; Tanksley Dec. paras. 5,6,7,8. Conversely, denial of intervention would deprive the proceeding of an important public interest perspective that is not always aligned with the County's calculations.

Petitioners represent the positions of a broad spectrum of individuals, farmers, businesses, environmental organizations, and homeowner associations. They oppose the location of urban commercial development, including Appellants' various remodeling, design and related businesses, and tasting rooms that sell alcohol and function as bars in the Rural Area because such uses violate the GMA. The importance of having broad public participation in support of these positions in these Appeals cannot be overstated. It will promote public confidence in the openness and fairness of these proceedings.

Moreover, although decisions by the King County Hearing Examiner may not at the outset constitute binding legal precedent, rulings by the Examiner may have implications beyond the pending appeals. Whatever ruling the Hearing Examiner makes, the ultimate decisions may be taken up in subsequent judicial review, resulting in legal precedent affecting similar businesses throughout King County. When such stakes are present, it is in the public

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See, e.g., Glover Dec. paras. 7,8.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See, e.g. Glover Dec. at para. 11.

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interest to allow discretionary intervention by knowledgeable parties to ensure as complete and informed a record as possible for subsequent review.

Finally, Petitioners' participation will not impair the orderly and prompt conduct of the proceedings in this matter and will be governed by the Hearing Examiner's Rules, the Pre-Hearing Conference Order to be issued by the Hearing Examiner, and any subsequent orders or rulings entered by the Hearing Examiner.

#### IV. CONCLUSION: OUTCOME AND RELIEF REQUESTED

Petitioners request that the Hearing Examiner issue an order granting Petitioners' request to intervene in all issues raised by Appellants' appeals as a matter of right, or alternatively, as a matter of discretion, with full procedural rights. Petitioners ultimately seek denial and rejection of the appeals.

The Petitioners have read the Petition for Intervention and believe the contents to be true.

Dated this 5<sup>th</sup> day of July 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

Friends of Sammamish Valley

By Serena Glover

Hollywood Hill Association and Michael Tansley

By

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2	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
3	The undersigned certifies that on this 5 <sup>th</sup> day of July, 2022, the undersigned caused the following documents to be served on the persons listed below in the manner shown: (1)
4	PETITION FOR INTERVENTION, (2) DECLARATION OF SERENA GLOVER IN SUPPORT OF PETITION FOR INTERVENTION, and (3) DECLARATION OF
5	MICHAEL TANKSLEY IN SUPPORT OF PETITION FOR INTERVENTION
6 7 8 9	By United States Mail, postage prepaid and properly addressed By Legal Messenger or Hand Delivery By Facsimile By Federal Express or Overnight Mail prepaid  By United States Mail, postage prepaid and properly addressed By Legal Messenger or Hand Delivery By Facsimile By Federal Express or Overnight Mail prepaid
11	X By Email: Tenhulzen, et al, and TM X By Email: Good Brewing
12	Squared LLC <u>kevin@goodbrewing.com</u> <u>mike@tenhulzen.com</u>
13	
14	
15	By United States Mail, postage
16	prepaid and properly addressed By Legal Messenger or Hand
17	Delivery
	By Facsimile By Federal Express or Overnight
18	Mail prepaid
19	X By Email: King County- Jeri Breazeal
20	jeri.breazeal@kingcounty.gov
21	
22	
23	Signed and certified on July 5, 2022,
24	Serena Glover
25	
26	Serena Glover