Greater Maple Valley Area Council P.O. Box 101 Maple Valley, WA 98038

December 1, 2012

Maple Valley City Council 22017 SE Wax Rd, Suite 200 Maple Valley, WA 98038

Council Members.

We are troubled the City Council is considering dropping the Voice of the Valley as its "official" newspaper for all government notices, etc. We request the Council reaffirm its support for the Voice as a local institution and continue to use it as its "official" newspaper.

We believe we should fully support our greater Maple Valley area's only locally owned and operated newspaper, the Voice of the Valley. The Voice continues to be a local icon and has been for 43 years!

The Voice is a critical local tie for all of us--our constituents and your constituents. We applaud what the Voice does to support our local community organizations, faith-based groups, businesses, and schools. The Voice provides a great array of local news to our area. Weekly it publishes all local activities, events, and decisions. It allows all local citizens a "voice."

We request the Council reaffirm its support for the Voice, an important part of the fabric of our local community, by continuing to use it as its "official" newspaper.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Steve Hiester Chairman, Greater Maple Valley Unincorporated Area Council