

Homes to be built on MA-8 waterfront, golf course

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Plans have been unveiled for a development to include hundreds of homes near Manson.

As a representative of the 33 individuals with MA-8 land allotments, Wenatchee attorney Mike Arch spoke at the Manson Business Association meeting on Dec. 16. Arch displayed maps and discussed a proposed development of tribal lands in the vicinity of Mill Bay Casino.

Relocating 10 Mill Bay Resort RV sites will allow developers to reclaim 1,000 feet of waterfront, where a marina will be established.

Each of the 75 house lots in Phase I of the development on

the south side of State Route 150 will come with community waterfront rights and a slip in the new marina.

Arch explained further that the Mill Bay Resort lease expires in 2034, and that there is 500 feet of waterfront adjacent to the Wapato Cemetery, but added that this historically important land is under the control of the Colville tribal cultural committee.

In Phase II of the development, the MA-8 Golf Course and other property on the north side of the highway will be platted into 154 residential lots, with hiking trails, a health center and two small, oblong lakes for waterskiing. The lakes will be patterned after similar lakes that are ex-

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MA-8: Golf course is out next fall; waterskiing ponds are in

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tremely popular in other resort areas in the U.S., Arch said.

If the project stays on schedule, the MA-8 golf course will be torn out after this summer, MBA President Brett La Mar said.

Selland Construction, Inc. of Wenatchee, developer of Fancher Heights and Highlands Golf Course in the East Wenatchee area, will develop the 8,000 to 10,000 square foot lots.

Access to both phases will be from Madeline Road.

Arch explained that the MA-8 tribal lands are under the jurisdiction of the Bureau

of Indian Affairs and are ultimately administered by the U.S. government. He said studies have shown this land to have no anthropological or historical value, but he assured the public that if anything significant were discovered during construction, the necessary steps would be taken.

U.S. Congress must approve the 99-year lease plan, Arch said. Congressman Doc Hastings is expected to introduce the plan into the House Rules Committee during the 2005 Legislative session.

Arch said the Lake Chelan

Reclamation District, which manages water and sewer utilities in the Manson area, has already OK'd the development. He asked the MBA and the Lake Chelan Chamber of Commerce representatives to direct letters supporting the MA-8 development to Hastings.

After Arch's departure, MBA members discussed the development and agreed to draw up a letter of support for all MBA members to read and consider. More action will be taken at the January MBA meeting, La Mar said.

Because the MA-8 presenta-

tion was lengthy, the only other point of business at the MBA meeting was discussion of the business association becoming an offshoot of the Chamber of Commerce.

"There's a benefit if we do this," La Mar said, in support of the unified effort and cohesion that could result if Lake Chelan Valley business and tourist promotion groups operate under the Chamber's umbrella. No action was taken on the proposal.

The next meeting of the Manson Business Association will be Jan. 20 at 10 a.m., in the Lake Chelan Business Center.