

SKAGIT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AGENDA

I. MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2011:

- a) *8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Briefing – County Commissioners/County Administrator
- b) 1:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Consent Agenda, Vouchers, Warrants, and Miscellaneous Items
- c) *2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Executive Session (Personnel)
- d) *3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Executive Session (Potential Litigation)

II. TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2011:

- a) 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. Planning and Development Services – Gary Christensen, Director:
 - 1. Discussion/Possible Action: Federal Emergency Management Agency, (FEMA)/ National Marine Fisheries Services (NFMS) Biological Opinion (BiOP) Proposal
 - 2. Discussion: 2011 Legislative Work Program Status Report
 - 3. Miscellaneous
- b) 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Closed Record Appeal PL11-0254, Submitted by Kees C. Hoffman, Ph.D., of Special Use Permit PL10-0076, Submitted by Jeffrey & Melinda VanDenTop to Operate an Outdoor Shooting Club
- c) 10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Information Services - Mike Almvig, Manager:
 - 1. Results of the Information Technology Analysis Study
- d) 11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Administrative Services – Tim Holloran, County Administrator:
 - 1. Award of Economic Development Funds
- e) 11:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. Public Comment Period

III. WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2011:

- a) *1:00 p.m. – 1:45 p.m. Public Transportation Benefit Area – Board of Director's Meeting (Port of Skagit County)
- b) *1:45 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. Regional Transportation Planning Organization – Board Meeting (Port of Skagit County)
- c) *2:15 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. Skagit Council of Governments – Board Meeting (Port of Skagit County)
- d) *2:45 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Solid Waste Governance Board Meeting (Port of Skagit County)
- e) *5:30 p.m. Skagit Conservation District Annual Awards Banquet (Sedro-Woolley Community Center, 703 Pacific Street, Sedro-Woolley)

IV. FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2011:

- a) *2:30 p.m. Skagit County Parks Department and the U.S. Forest Service: Ribbon Cutting and Dedication of Informational Visitor Kiosk at Howard Miller Steelhead Park (Howard Miller Steelhead Park, just East of the Boat Launch)



Agenda Item Cover Sheet

Board of County Commissioners · 1800 Continental Place · Mount Vernon WA 98273
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Item

① Title Discussion: 2011 Legislative Work Program Status Report

Department Planning and Development Services

Staff Contact GRC

Phone Ext 5624

Type Discussion/Work Session

of Pages

of Originals

Agenda

Agenda Regular Standalone Agenda

Agenda Date 9/20/2011

Next Available Date

Proposed Motion NA

Alternative Motion(s)

Reason Needed The 2011 Department Legislative Work Program was presented to the Commissioners in January, 2011. Periodically (typically quarterly) the Department briefs the Commissioners and the public on the annual work program. The January 12, 2011 memorandum and an updated status report are attached.

Previous Actions

Approvals

Role	Name	Initial	Rec'd	Sent	Role	Name	Initial	Rec'd	Sent
Dept Head	Christensen	[Required]	<i>[Signature]</i>		Finance	Trisha Logue	[Required]		
Legal	Walters	[Required]			County Admin	Tim Holloran	[Required]		
Risk	Billie Kadrmas	[Required]			Info Services	Mike Almvig	[Optional]		



PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

GARY R. CHRISTENSEN, AICP, DIRECTOR

BILL DOWE, DEPUTY DIRECTOR

PATTI CHAMBERS
Administrative Coordinator

TIM DEVRIES, CBO
Building Official

MEMORANDUM

To: Board of County Commissioners
From: Gary R. Christensen, AICP, Director
Date: January 12, 2011
Re: 2011 Department Legislative Work Program

The Department has met with the Commissioners periodically to discuss, and seek direction and confirmation as to the Department's long-term legislative work program, projects and priorities. Legislative actions are those projects requiring the Commissioners action and are typically associated with the comprehensive plan and code. In past years, the Department has presented a work program with 55 items that addressed long-term projects; and, a list of 24 "trailing issues" identified by the Department and Planning Commission through the 2005 GMA Update process. Some of these items and issues have already been addressed, others require attention.

More recently, the Department has met with the Commissioners and County Administration and discussed the long-term legislative work program, the 2011 county budget, current development trends and revenues, and the demand for services. When reviewing the long-term legislative work program projects there are many choices to make and the decisions are not easy ones. Some projects are "mandatory, requiring action" while others are "discretionary, would like to take action." The Commissioners will need to find a balance between work that must be done and work that it would like to accomplish. This requires that county policies and priorities be viewed concurrently with the challenges of readily available financial resources and staffing levels, and the demands to take action (time).

The Department recommends that the attached 2011 Legislative Work Program receive priority status and that the county appropriate the necessary resources to show substantial progress and/or complete the work. By committing to a focused list of major projects, the Department seeks to avoid creating "false hope or expectations" that other projects are being worked on. This is not to say that other projects will not be worked on it simply means that projects may have to be re-prioritized, delayed or additional resources sought (either county funds or outside sources (grants)) to address the additional work load. This business model has worked well over the last several years and allowed the Department to commit and best utilize its available resources, complete projects, and to avoid distractions and competition for limited

Department resources. The current economic climate and financial times require that the county be prudent and use its resources wisely. The Department will provide periodic “status reports” so that the Commissioners can monitor projects, resources and timelines. When major projects are completed, then new projects can be added to the Department’s long term legislative work program provided that the necessary resources exist or provisions are made for appropriate allocations.

2011 Legislative Work Program

1. Bayview Ridge Urban Growth Area Implementation
2. Envision Skagit 2060
3. Shoreline Master Program Update
4. Skagit County Capital Facilities Plan Update (2012-2017)
5. Annual Skagit County Code Amendments
6. Comprehensive Plan Amendments 2011 Docket
7. FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map & Regulation
8. FEMA & NMFS Biological Opinion
9. Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Pipeline Safety Standards

Planning and Development Services Legislative Work Program – 2011

Project	Description	Status
1. Bayview Ridge Urban Growth Area (UGA) Implementation. <i>Project Manager – TBD</i>	Develop Planned Unit Development (PUD) regulations, Low Impact Development (LID) techniques, and Design Guidelines.	Meetings have been held with Port of Skagit County officials to draft an implementation proposal; exploring potential funding sources; and, contemplating private/public partnership. Timeline for completion: early 2 nd quarter of 2012
2. Envision Skagit 2060 (Alternative Futures). <i>Project Manager – Kirk Johnson</i>	Development and evaluation of alternative development scenarios for Skagit Valley 2060 and selection of "preferred alternative" that maintains ecosystem, conservation lands/natural resource industries, and sustainable communities.	The Citizen Committee completed its work on June 30 th . Staff is working to produce the committee's final report which will be available before the end of September. Staff is planning the next phase, Implementation, which involves working with elected officials (County, SCOG, GMA Steering Committee, etc.) to determine which recommendations should move forward. Several additional project components are nearing completion, including climate change study, costs of growth analysis, and salmon indicators for Envision model. Work is underway on several grant proposals (federal HUD, and state departments of Commerce and Ecology) to advance certain recommendations, including Skagit Alliance, industrial tax basket, transfer of development rights program, and possible CaRD reforms.
3. Shoreline Master Program (SMP) Update. <i>Project Manager – Betsy Stevenson</i>	Shoreline Master Programs must be updated to be consistent with the Department of Ecology guidelines. Local master programs regulate new development and use of shorelines along rivers and larger streams, lakes over 20 acres, and marine waters within their jurisdictions.	The shoreline advisory committee (SAC) was selected and has held 2 meetings, one in June and one in September. Four public visioning meetings were held in June and July in Concrete, Lyman, Mount Vernon and Anacortes. The Countywide mailing went out to almost 25,000 landowners in unincorporated Skagit County. A brochure is now available. The Public Participation Plan is finished, although it is a live, working document. The Characterization and Analysis Report is now available and comments are being accepted until mid October. The website continues to be updated as information is available. The Visioning Workshop

**Planning and Development Services
Legislative Work Program – 2011**

Project	Description	Status
<p>4. Skagit County Capital Facilities Plan (CFP) Update (2012-2017). <i>Project Manager – Carly Ruacho</i></p>	<p>Update 6-year CFP inventory and projects.</p>	<p>Summary Report was completed. Additional presentations about the update are being made to interested community groups.</p> <p>Work currently beginning on update. Processing expected to occur in fall, concurrent with the County budget adoption process.</p>
<p>5. Annual Skagit County Code (SCC) Amendments. <i>Project Manager – Carly Ruacho</i></p>	<p>Annual amendments to implementing regulations (SCC) clarify their intent and assure consistency with the comprehensive plan.</p>	<p>Amendments adopted in May (O20110007). Follow-up amendments currently in Planning Commission process. Public hearing scheduled for September 13, 2011. BCC action anticipated October/November.</p>
<p>6. Comprehensive Plan Amendment (CPA) 2011 Docket. <i>Project Manager – Kirk Johnson</i></p>	<p>Comprehensive Plan amendments include policies, land use designations, and modifications to urban growth area boundaries.</p>	<p>5 applications received by the July 31st submittal deadline. Review of applications underway. Department docket recommendations expected by end of October. BCC docketing action anticipated by end of year.</p>
<p>7. FEMA Flood Insurance Rate (FIRM) Map & Regulation. <i>Project Manager – Tim DeVries</i></p>	<p>Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) issuance of updated FIRM and associated regulations under SCC 14.34, Flood Damage Prevention.</p>	<p>Preliminary flood maps are on hold until new mapping parameters are developed. Currently there is not an expected date for any new activity to take place.</p>
<p>8. FEMA & NMFS Biological Opinion (BiOp). <i>Project Manager – Tim DeVries</i></p>	<p>National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) BiOp regarding the National Flood Insurance Program and necessary actions to protect certain Puget Sound species of salmon and Orca.</p>	<p>The Planning Commission has held a public hearing, has deliberated on the proposal, and has recommended approval subject to some recommendations. The Recorded Motion is due to be presented to the BCC on September 20, 2011.</p>
<p>9. Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Pipeline Safety Standards. <i>Project Manager – Kirk Johnson</i></p>	<p>Develop land use regulations/standards pertaining to transmission pipeline safety.</p>	<p>BCC to hold public hearing on pipeline safety concepts on September 12, 2011. BCC to discuss and take possible action on October 4, 2011 regarding a proposal.</p>

Planning and Development Services Legislative Work Program – 2011

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1. Bayview Ridge Urban Growth Area (UGA) Implementation. <i>Project Manager – TBD</i>	Develop Planned Unit Development (PUD) regulations, Low Impact Development (LID) techniques, and Design Guidelines.	Meetings have been held with Port of Skagit County officials to draft an implementation proposal; exploring potential funding sources; and, contemplating private/public partnership. Timeline for completion: unknown at this time.
2. Envision Skagit 2060 (Alternative Futures). <i>Project Manager – Kirk Johnson</i>	Development and evaluation of alternative development scenarios for Skagit Valley 2060 and selection of “preferred alternative” that maintains ecosystem, conservation lands/natural resource industries, and sustainable communities.	The Envision land use model is now fully functioning and generating valuable insights for future planning. The Envision Skagit Citizen Committee is heading into the final leg of its work, developing its recommendations for a preferred vision for the Skagit Valley. It is scheduled to complete its recommendations by the end of June, when they will be transmitted to county, city, town and tribal elected officials.
3. Shoreline Master Program (SMP) Update. <i>Project Manager – Betsy Stevenson</i>	Shoreline Master Programs must be updated to be consistent with the Department of Ecology guidelines. Local master programs regulate new development and use of shorelines along rivers and larger streams, lakes over 20 acres, and marine waters within their jurisdictions.	Contracts have been signed, The advisory committee selection process is being completed. The first round of community visioning meetings are scheduled for June. The website is up and will be updated throughout the process. A County-wide mailing is being finalized and will be sent in the next few weeks. The shoreline inventory (mapping) and analysis and characterization are being drafted and will be presented at the public meetings. A brochure and poster have been developed and will be available soon. Outreach and community presentations are happening and will continue throughout the process.
4. Skagit County Capital Facilities Plan (CFP) Update (2012-2017). <i>Project Manager – Carly Ruacho</i>	Update 6-year CFP inventory and projects.	Update expected to occur in fall, concurrent with the County budget adoption process.

**Planning and Development Services
Legislative Work Program – 2011**

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<p>5. Annual Skagit County Code (SCC) Amendments. <i>Project Manager – Carly Ruacho</i></p>	<p>Annual amendments to implementing regulations (SCC) clarify their intent and assure consistency with the comprehensive plan.</p>	<p>Public Hearing with Planning Commission held on April 5, 2011. Planning Commission completed deliberations on April 19, 2011. BCC action anticipated in May, 2011.</p>
<p>6. Comprehensive Plan Amendment (CPA) 2011 Docket. <i>Project Manager – Carly Ruacho</i></p>	<p>Comprehensive Plan amendments include policies, land use designations, and modifications to urban growth area boundaries.</p>	<p>Awaiting the July 31st submittal deadline for applications.</p>
<p>7. FEMA Flood Insurance Rate (FIRM) Map & Regulation. <i>Project Manager – Tim DeVries</i></p>	<p>Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) issuance of updated FIRM and associated regulations under SCC 14.34, Flood Damage Prevention.</p>	<p>Preliminary flood maps are on hold until new mapping parameters are developed. Currently there is not an expected date for any new activity to take place.</p>
<p>8. FEMA & NMFS Biological Opinion (BiOp). <i>Project Manager – Tim DeVries</i></p>	<p>National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) BiOp regarding the National Flood Insurance Program and necessary actions to protect certain Puget Sound species of salmon and Orca.</p>	<p>Drafting of new flood regulations is under way. A meeting with FEMA for review is scheduled for May 12, 2011. Legislative action dates have been scheduled.</p>
<p>9. Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Pipeline Safety Standards. <i>Project Manager – Carly Ruacho</i></p>	<p>Develop land use regulations/standards pertaining to transmission pipeline safety.</p>	<p>Kick-off presentation held with BCC on March 15, 2011. Meeting with pipeline company representative held on March 30, 2011. Postcard sent to 3200 landowners adjacent to pipelines. Community meeting scheduled for May 9, 2011. Ordinance is currently under development with anticipated release in early May. Planning Commission public hearing tentatively scheduled for June 7, 2011. Final BCC action expected in August 2011.</p>

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3. Shoreline Master Program (SMP) Update. <i>Project Manager – Betsy Stevenson</i>	Shoreline Master Programs must be updated to be consistent with the Department of Ecology guidelines. Local master programs regulate new development and use of shorelines along rivers and larger streams, lakes over 20 acres, and marine waters within their jurisdictions.	
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