

**January 28, 2003**

10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.                      Discussion – Unified Development Code and Ag Processing

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, January 28, 2003, with Commissioners Ted W. Anderson and Don Munks present. Commissioner Kenneth A. Dahlstedt's absence was excused as he was conducting business out of state.

**DISCUSSION – UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT CODE AND AG PROCESSING:**

Gary Rowe, County Administrator, stated that the Unified Development Code regulates agricultural accessory uses on rural reserve lands. The code limits these uses in a way that prevents value added processing of agriculture products. This limitation is inconsistent with the goals and policies of the comprehensive plan. Planning staff needs direction from the Board to draft changes to the code to allow value added processing of agriculture products in rural reserve zones.

Mr. Rowe indicated that the Board could direct staff to draft changes for the Board to adopt as an interim ordinance. The interim ordinance would then be referred to the Planning Commission to conduct a public hearing. An alternative would be for the Board to refer the matter to the Planning Commission to consider adoption of the changes after the Planning Commission has made their recommendation.

Commissioner Anderson motioned to direct the Planning and Permit Center staff, together with consultation of the Prosecutor's Office, to draft appropriate changes to the Unified Development Code to address the issue of value added processing of agriculture products and to provide these changes to the Board in two weeks. Commissioner Munks seconded the motion, which was carried.

Commissioner Anderson noted that by taking this action today, those in attendance would be able to voice their opinions during the public process.

Commissioner Munks stated that most of the people here today want to talk about the pickle processing plant located at Dodge Valley. He said the real problem lies with the Unified Development Code and this process would make the code more consistent.

A member of the audience asked when the draft document would be made available to the public.

Mr. Rowe said it should be available the Friday before the document is due in front of the Commissioners, which would be February 7, 2003.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Commissioner Anderson made a motion to adjourn the proceedings. Commissioner Munks seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

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Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, Chairman

**January 28, 2003**

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Ted W. Anderson, Commissioner

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Don Munks, Commissioner

ATTEST:

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JoAnne Giesbrecht, Clerk of the Board  
Skagit County Board of Commissioners