



PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

GARY R. CHRISTENSEN, AICP, DIRECTOR

BILL DOWE, CBO, DEPUTY DIRECTOR

PATTI CHAMBERS
Administrative Coordinator

TIM DEVRIES, CBO
Building Official

Memorandum

To: Interested Parties
From: Guy McNally
Date: January 29, 2009
Re: Resolution Establishing the 2008-2009 Comprehensive Plan Amendment Docket

On December 23, 2008, the Board of County Commissioners passed Resolution No. R20080573 (enclosed), establishing the 2008-2009 docket of annual Comprehensive Plan amendments for further review and public hearings by the Skagit County Planning Commission. The amendment proposals and issues to consider in this year's docket are many and varied, including: review of the draft Guemes Island Subarea Plan; review of Master Planned Resort, campground, and RV park policies and development regulations; review of properties that may be inappropriately zoned as Open Space of Regional/Statewide Importance (OSRSI); and three citizen-initiated map-amendment proposals.

To the extent possible and as required by law, the County will conduct review of these issues simultaneously, but likely will conduct separate hearings to address specific issues. Ultimately, the Board of County Commissioners will make its decisions on these matters in a single ordinance, as state law allows (with few exceptions) only one opportunity per year to amend the Comprehensive Plan. This means that the Board may not make early and separate decisions on any of the proposals.

No hearing dates have been scheduled, although you will be advised well in advance of any such hearings. County staff are currently analyzing the proposals and conducting preliminary environmental review. Please be advised that the annual amendment process can take up to a full year to complete, as much of that time is devoted to hearing and considering public input. The County will make every effort to complete this process as soon as possible.

When information becomes available (such as documents and schedules) it will be posted on the 2008-2009 Comprehensive Plan Amendments website at www.skagitcounty.net/PlanningAndPermit.

This correspondence was sent to you due to your recent participation in the 2008-2009 Comprehensive Plan Amendment docketing process (leading to the above-referenced resolution). If you do not wish to be contacted further, or if you have any questions, please contact Guy McNally at the number below.

Mailing Address: 1800 Continental Place ♦ Mount Vernon, WA 98273
Temporary Physical Location: 1700 E. College Way, Mount Vernon
Phone: (360) 336-9410 ♦ Fax: (360) 336-9416

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