



# PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

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## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Planning Commission  
**From:** Kirk Johnson  
**Date:** October 7, 2005  
**Re:** GMA Provisions on Limited Areas of More Intensive Rural Development

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At our meeting earlier this week, Herb asked the Department to provide you with the Growth Management Act provisions allowing for Limited Areas of More Intensive Rural Development (LAMIRDs). Those provisions are found under subsection (d) of RCW 36.70A.070(5), the section of GMA that establishes a rural element as a mandatory element of a county comprehensive plan.

Subsections (a) through (c) provide the general framework for development in the rural area. Subsection (d) identifies when, where, and how development is allowed that is more intensive than general rural development. It then identifies three types of LAMIRDs – those described under (i), (ii), and (iii).

LAMIRDs authorized under (i) are those that have logical outer boundaries delineated predominantly by the built environment and that were in existence on July 1, 1990, as further described in subsections (iv) and (v).

The LAMIRD types created under (ii) and (iii) are not required to have been in existence on July 1, 1990, nor to have logical outer boundaries delineated predominantly by the built environment. They are (ii) small scale recreation and tourism areas or uses, and (iii) isolated cottage industries and rural businesses.

If you have any questions or want to discuss these provisions further, please feel free to call me at 336-9410, ext. 5916.