

News Release



Snohomish County Council

3000 Rockefeller Avenue
Everett, WA 98201

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: November 22, 2005
CONTACT: Council Members, (425) 388-3494

Updating Snohomish County's Comprehensive Plan

Council to Re-Open Public Hearing for Additional Testimony

The Snohomish County Council will re-open a public hearing to take public testimony on a group of proposed amendments to the Planning Commission Recommendations on the 10-Year Update of the Snohomish County Comprehensive Plan. The hearing will be held on Wednesday, December 7, at 1:30 p.m. in the Jackson Board Room on the 8th Floor of the County Administration Building East, 3000 Rockefeller Avenue in Everett.

The state Growth Management Act requires the county to conduct a full review of its Comprehensive Plan every ten years to evaluate the ability of the plan to accommodate the growth in population and employment projected for the succeeding 20 year period. The Council hearings mark the culmination of nearly three years of effort by the county working together with cities, tribes, organizations and citizens to update the plan through 2025. A Draft Comprehensive Plan was issued early April 2004, and a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) analyzing that plan was issued on May 5, 2004. A Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS), considering proposed changes to the draft plan, will be released in mid-December. The County Council is expected to vote on the final plan on December 21.

The December 7 hearing is a continuation of the County Council 10-Year Update Public Hearing which began on October 3, 2005 with public testimony, and continued with public testimony on October 4, 5, and 6. The hearing continued, closed to public testimony but open to public attendance, as the Council held deliberations on October 10, 11, 12, 17, 18, 19, 20, 31, November 3 and 9.

During the deliberations, the Council identified several areas for potential change of land use and/or zoning designation from the Planning Commission recommendations, and a number of other map and policy or text changes to the Comprehensive Plan and implementing development regulations. The Council will re-open the public hearing on December 7 to seek additional public testimony on this group of proposed changes to the recommended ordinances.

For a complete listing of all 10 Year Update documents or for copies of the proposals (including all proposed ordinances and maps considered during the October public hearing sessions and the proposed amendments which will be considered at the December 7 public hearing session), please view the County Council website, <http://www1.co.snohomish.wa.us/Departments/Council/>, or contact

(more)

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Sheila McCallister at the office of the county council at 425-388-3494, 1-800-562-4367.extension 3494 (TDD 425-388-3700), or through email at county.council@co.snohomish.wa.us. Copies may be picked up at the Council Office on the 8th Floor of the County administration Building East, 3000 Rockefeller in Everett.

For more information on the 10 Year Update project and the proposed changes, please call the Planning Department at 425-388-3311 extension 2203 or check the 10 Year Update project website at http://www1.co.snohomish.wa.us/Departments/PDS/Divisions/LR_Planning/Projects_Programs/10_Year_Update/.

For more information on the December 7 public hearing, or to arrange reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities, please contact Sheila McCallister at 425-388-3494, 1-800-562-4367, ext. 3493 or TDD 425-388-3700.

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