

CLEARANCES	Initial	Date	Date Received in Council Office:	Agenda date	Assigned to:
Originator: Ward Nelson				4/26/94	Planning & Development / Council
Division Head:				5/10/94	Planning / Council
Dept. Head:					
Prosecutor:					
Purchasing/Budget:					
Executive:					

SUBJECT:

Resolution regarding compliance with the Growth Management Act, RCW 36.70A

ATTACHMENTS:

Proposed resolution

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

Please complete sections of box as appropriate & explain the item below.

Related County contract #: n/a	Should Clerk schedule a hearing? NO / <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> / YES / / Requested date:
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CLERK'S RECOMMENDED MOTION (for final action):

"I move that the Council approve the resolution."

COMMITTEE ACTION TAKEN:

COUNCIL ACTION TAKEN:

4/26/94:

5/10/94: Council approved the resolution, with amendments.

SPONSORED BY: Consent

PROPOSED BY: Nelson

INTRODUCTION DATE: April 26, 1994

RESOLUTION NO. 94-026

REGARDING COMPLIANCE WITH THE GROWTH MANAGEMENT ACT,
RCW 36.70A

WHEREAS, Whatcom County Planning has expended to date over \$1.6 million in its efforts to comply with the Growth Management Act (GMA), RCW 36.70A, and

WHEREAS, current Planning Division schedules call for much of the remaining allocation of effort to be directed toward GMA non-required elements (Design, Recreation, Visioning, Environment, etc.), and

WHEREAS, the GMA requires that the Comprehensive Plan be completed, and

WHEREAS, the GMA (RCW 36.70A.340(2)) provides for severe sanctions, including loss of revenues from sales taxes, motor fuel taxes and road moneys upon which our county relies to fund essential services, for failure to meet the completion deadline, and

WHEREAS, in consideration of the breadth and depth of its scope and the complex and potentially contentious nature of the issues it addresses sufficient public process and timely involvement by the Planning Commission and Council in time to meet the GMA deadline, and

WHEREAS, Whatcom County has engaged in planning activity pursuant to the Planning Enabling Act (RCW 36.70) for over twenty years and has produced Subarea Plans and other planning tools and documents of use in complying with the minimum requirements of the GMA, and

WHEREAS, some GMA committees, such as Rural Visioning, have already produced work product that can be used to provide evaluative input to the GMA required Comprehensive Planning process,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Whatcom County Council that every effort shall be made by the Administration to complete the Comprehensive Plan within the deadline of July 1, 1994 as established by the GMA, and to request of the administration that every effort be made by Planning staff to assist in achieving that goal.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED to request of the administration that the elements
2 required by the GMA (Utilities, Rural, Transportation, Housing, Capital Facilities and Land
3 Use) be emphasized during the period prior to completion of the Comprehensive Plan.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the basis for completion of the Comprehensive
5 Plan shall be the Visioning process existing Subarea Plans, the work products of the GMA
6 committees, and all other available planning products and tools, all of which shall be
7 integrated into the Comprehensive Plan consistent with the minimum requirements of the
8 GMA and the Planning Enabling Act.

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED to request of the administration that County
10 Planning, in concert with the Council, establish a new critical path for the completion of the
11 Comprehensive Plan to be submitted to the Planning Commission.

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon completion of the minimum GMA
13 requirements, the County shall continue with consideration of the non-required elements
14 now in progress (Design, Recreation, Visions, Environment, etc.) as resources are available,
15 with priority given to those elements for completion by November 30; this effort shall be
16 undertaken in such a fashion and at such a pace as to provide for the most open and
17 inclusive public process feasible, with the goal of making the best possible attempt at
18 adequately identifying and resolving the complex and contentious issues which are inherent
19 in the land use planning process.

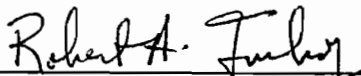
20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED to request of the
21 administration that all committees present to the County Council current findings and
22 analysis. Questions by Council and the public may be answered at this time.

23 APPROVED this 10th day of May, 1994.

24
25 ATTEST:

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

26 
27 Ramona Reeves, Council Clerk


Robert A. Imhof, Council Chair