



**SPONSORED BY: Consent**  
**PROPOSED BY: McShane and Fleetwood**  
**INTRODUCTION DATE: February 14, 2006**

**ORDINANCE # 2006-010**

**IMPOSING AN INTERIM MORATORIUM ON THE ACCEPTANCE OF SHORT  
PLAT APPLICATIONS FOR SUBDIVISIONS IN SUBURBAN ENCLAVES,  
TRANSPORTATION CORRIDORS**

**WHEREAS**, The Whatcom County Council is considering changes to the boundaries of Suburban Enclaves and Transportation Corridors for compliance with the Growth management Act; and

**WHEREAS**, The changes to be considered are necessary to meet the goals and objectives of the Growth management Act and the County Comprehensive Plan regarding resource land protection and rural character; and

**WHEREAS**, The Whatcom County Council has completed updates of the Lake Samish and Chuckanut suburban enclaves; and

**WHEREAS**, The Comprehensive Plan amendment process and the estimated time to process and update all the suburban enclaves is approximately one and a half years; and

**WHEREAS**, the Whatcom County Council finds the interim moratorium imposed by this ordinance is necessary for the support of County government in its efforts to implement planning consistent with the Comprehensive Plan for rural lands and the Growth Management Act for areas of More Intensive Rural Development; and

**WHEREAS**, RCW 36.70.790 and RCW 36.70.795 permits the adoption of interim official controls as long as a public hearing is held within 60 days of adoption; and

**WHEREAS**, the Whatcom County Council finds that the interim moratorium does not impose an undue burden upon property owners; and

**WHEREAS**, RCW 36.70.795 requires the adoption of Findings of Fact which justify Council action, the Council makes the following findings of fact:

1. This interim moratorium is necessary for support of County government in its efforts to implement plans consistent with Growth Management goals and policies and Whatcom County Comprehensive Plan goals and policies.
2. The Whatcom County Council desires the opportunity to review existing zoning densities and development codes and regulations to permanently address areas of the county of more intensive rural development.

**WHEREAS**, the Whatcom County SEPA Official issued a Determination of Non-Significance on February 28, 2006; and

**WHEREAS**, the Whatcom County Council held a public hearing on this issue on February 28, 2006.

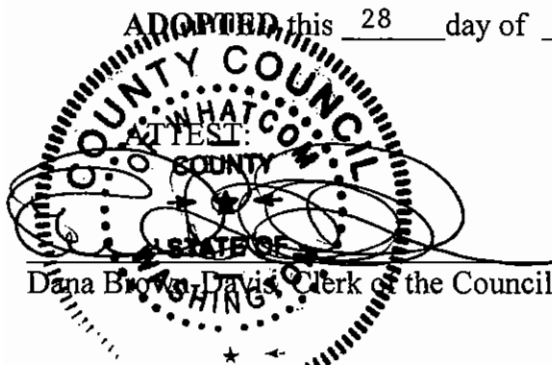
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Whatcom County Council that a moratorium is hereby imposed on the acceptance of new applications for short plats of land into parcels smaller than 5 acres within the current County Suburban Enclaves or Transportation Corridors unless the applications were complete, as provided in Whatcom County Code, prior to the effective date of this ordinance.

**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED** that this moratorium will be in effect during the period that the Whatcom County Planning Commission and Whatcom County Council consider the proposed amendments to the Whatcom County Comprehensive Plan for changing the Suburban Enclaves and Transportation Corridors.

**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED** that the Lake Samish Suburban Enclave and Chuckanut Suburban Enclave are exempt from this moratorium.

**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED** by the Whatcom County Council, pursuant to RCW 36.70.795, that this ordinance shall be effective for not longer than six months following its effective date, but may be renewed for one or more six-month periods if subsequent public hearings are held and findings of fact are made prior to each renewal.

ADOPTED this 28 day of Feb., 2006.



WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL  
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Dana Brown Davis, Clerk of the Council

  
Laurie Caskey-Schreiber, Chairperson

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Approved       Denied

  
Civil Deputy Prosecutor

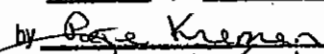
  
Rete Kremen, Executive

Date:

Washington, District of Columbia

Subscribed and sworn to before me, in my presence,

this 4<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2006

by   
Rete Kremen, Notary Public

My Commission Expires 5/31/09