

WHATCOM COUNTY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE PLEASE ANNOUNCE

WHATCOM 2031: VISION WORKSHOPS

Whatcom County needs your help! What do you want your county to look like in 2031? How many people will live here in 20 years? Where will they live? Where will they work? How should this population growth be distributed across the county? Whatcom County will hold a series of workshops beginning on October 15th and 16th. Participants will work together to answer these and many other questions at these visioning workshops, the first of a series of public involvement activities for "Whatcom 2031."

Participants at the visioning workshops will be working on crafting the new vision for the comprehensive plan, looking forward 20 years. The following is a schedule of these workshops:

- October 15: 6-8 p.m., Bloedel Donovan Park (multi-purpose room), 2214 Electric Ave, Bellingham
- October 16: 9-11 a.m., Bellingham Public Library (lecture room) 210 Central Ave, Bellingham
- October 16: 6-8 p.m., Lynden Community Center, 401 Grover Street, Lynden

"Whatcom 2031" is the County's effort to plan for the next 20 years of growth by updating the comprehensive plan to be consistent with the requirements of the Growth Management Act. The comprehensive plan defines how and where growth will occur on a regional scale. It's bigger than just urban areas like Bellingham; it is meant to address the visions of urban areas *and* of all the areas in between. Workshops, like this one in October, will help guide the comprehensive plan update and we need your input!

Other workshops, focusing on growth alternatives and related issues, will follow in November. Your input is needed to craft a plan that meets the needs of residents like you! For further information please contact Kate Koch, public involvement coordinator, at (360) 676-6907 or by email at pds@co.whatcom.wa.us, or visit our website at www.co.whatcom.wa.us/pds/2031.

People with special needs or disabilities who will be attending the meeting are asked to contact Whatcom County Planning and Development Services at least 96 hours in advance so that we may make any needed accommodations.