

## Summary

Regional Planning Forum  
Fire Station 69  
6028 Guide Meridian  
Bellingham, WA 98226  
June 24, 2008

### Members Present:

Whatcom County – Executive Pete Kremen  
Bellingham – Mayor Dan Pike  
Blaine – Mayor Bonnie Onyon  
Everson – Jennifer Lautenbach for Mayor  
Jayleen Pratt

Ferndale – Mayor Gary Jensen  
Lynden – Mayor Jack Louws  
Nooksack – Mayor Jim Ackerman  
Sumas – Mayor Bob Bromley

Whatcom County Executive Pete Kremen called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Executive Kremen gave an overview of the challenges the County is facing. These include Growth Management, Urban Growth Areas, Limited Areas of More Intense Rural Development (LAMIRDs) and economic challenges. The forum was formed so all the entities of the County could work on these issues together.

Whatcom County Planning and Development Director, David Stalheim, spoke of the Growth Management challenges. The County is currently facing two Growth Management Hearings Board compliance issues. One is a requirement to review and revise Urban Growth Areas and the other is the LAMIRD issue.

Under Growth Management counties are required to update their Comprehensive Plans every 7 years. Whatcom County's is due to be updated in 2011 so the County will begin that process soon. One aspect of this will be to revisit the population projections.

Linda Peterson presented an overview of different options of how the group could be formed and the different voting options.

- Use the Council of Government (COG) model
- Create an independent model
- A hybrid of the COG forum and independent model

Mayor Louws moved to use the COG model and have the voting members be:

- 6 representatives from the small cities
- 2 representative from Bellingham
- 3 representative from Whatcom County
- No representatives from the tribes
- No representatives from the Port of Bellingham

Mayor Bromley seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mayor Pike moved that each voting entity is allowed to make its own decision about who it sends to represent the group. Mayor Ackerman seconded the motion. Executive Kremen offered a friendly amendment to specify that each entity would name 1-3 members as primary and alternates. Mayor Louws offered a friendly amendment that there should be 1 primary representative and 1 secondary. Mayor Pike and Mayor Ackerman accepted Mayor Louws friendly amendment. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m.