

**Summary
Growth Management Coordinating Council
August 6, 2008**

Council of Government Conference Room
314 East Champion Street
Bellingham, WA 98225

Representatives Present:

Whatcom County – Executive Pete Kremen
Whatcom County – Council Member Seth Fleetwood
Whatcom County – Council Member Sam Crawford
Bellingham – Mayor Dan Pike
Bellingham – Council Member Barbara Ryan
Blaine – Mayor Bonnie Onyon

Everson – Council Member Andy Rowson
Ferndale – City Administrator Greg Young
Lynden – Mayor Jack Louws
Nooksack – Council Member Scott Bodven
Sumas – Mayor Bob Bromley

I. Welcome and Introductions

Whatcom County Council Member Sam Crawford called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

II. Council Operating Procedures

Jack Louws was elected Chair and Andy Rowson was elected Vice-Chair.

The meetings will be held on the first Wednesday of each month, from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at a location to be determined at a later date.

The operating procedures were reviewed and agreed upon. There will be 3 representatives from Whatcom County, 2 representatives from the City of Bellingham and 1 representative from each of the small cities for a total of 11 representatives. Each jurisdiction will have 1 alternate.

Decisions will be by consensus unless consensus can not be reached in which case voting will take place with a simple majority rule.

Whatcom County will provide a coordinating role for staff.

There is no interlocal agreement for the Council.

Discussion took place regarding involvement of the tribes on the Council. The Council would like them at the table as members but the issue was raised that they need to commit to attending the meetings. Kirk Vinish, of the Lummi Tribe, will take this issue to the tribe for a response.

III. County-wide Planning Policies

Amy Harksell, Planning Director for the City of Lynden, presented an overview of the County-Wide Planning Policies. The current policies were not unanimously adopted by each of the jurisdictions. Each jurisdiction has made its own amendments. It is the goal of the 2011 update to have each jurisdiction adopt the revised policies.

IV. Consultant Scope of Work

Lisa Grueter, Jones & Stokes Associates, Inc., outlined the tasks and project schedule. The tasks focus on public outreach, data, forecasts and methodologies.

Meg O'Leary, Jones & Stokes Associates, Inc., discussed public involvement issues such as meeting notification and the workshop format. Ideas discussed by the Council included having surveys, both informal and scientific; develop 5 to 6 questions for each workshop; poll the elected officials; and compare what has happened with past population projections with what has actually happened.

V. Future Budget Needs

David Stalheim, Whatcom County Planning Director, discussed that in 2009 all of the work reviewed by the consultant will need to be implemented. The estimate is this will cost approximately \$60,000. In order to pay for this the Planning Directors suggest Whatcom County pay 40%, Bellingham 40%, and the small cities would pay the remaining 20%. Prior to the next meeting Director Stalheim will draft a scope of work for the cities to take back to their councils for review.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.