

**WHATCOM COUNTY**

Planning & Development Services  
5280 Northwest Drive  
Bellingham, WA 98226-9097  
360-676-6907, TTY 800-833-6384  
360-738-2525 Fax



**J.E. "Sam" Ryan**  
Director

**Memorandum**

TO: Whatcom County Planning Commission

FROM: Cathy Craver, Planner II *CC*

DATE: January 31, 2012

SUBJECT: Packet Information for January 12, 2012

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Recapping the January 12, 2012 meeting, the Planning Commission closed the public hearing after receiving verbal and written comments, and initiated its first work session. Staff presented background information on various programs and current development activity regarding the Lake Whatcom watershed, and the Planning Commission began review of the proposed amendments. Current code from the three sections of Title 20 that pertain to the Lake Whatcom watershed and brought over into the proposed chapter was reviewed.

As stated in the last meeting, the proposed amendments are separated into two different sections: thresholds and best management practices (BMPs). The Planning Commission began review of the proposed thresholds for when a full stormwater review will be conducted. The meeting was adjourned shortly after this.

Continuing the work session on February 9, 2012, staff recommends the Planning Commission utilize the following outline in reviewing the proposal:

- 1) Continue review of the proposed thresholds for stormwater review (WCC 20.51.420 (1)(a), (b), and (c))
- 2) Begin review of the proposed best management practice options to treat stormwater to achieve no additional phosphorus loading beyond a forested condition (WCC 20.51.420 (1)(d) and (e))
- 3) Clarification and review of current and proposed definitions, public comment responses, review of development data, etc.