

From: Gary Davis
To: Rural Element
CC: Michelle Stiles
Date: 12/11/2008 11:09 AM
Subject: Fwd: Whatcom County Rural Element Update - Preliminary Questionnaire Results (follow-up)

I've received a few inquiries about the map of potentially affected areas mentioned as an attachment in the staff memorandum. It's the same map that's posted on the county web site. Because of the large file size, I didn't attach it to the earlier message, but here is a direct link to the map online:

<http://www.whatcomcounty.us/pds/documents/20081202-affected-areas>

- Gary

>>> Gary Davis 12/11/2008 10:01 AM >>>
Good Morning

Planning and Development Services is wrapping up the initial public participation phase in the updates to the Whatcom County Rural Element. Attached are preliminary results from the questionnaire (including on-line and mail-in responses). To date we have received more than 240 responses, and we expect to receive and tabulate additional mail-in responses. The next phase of public participation is expected to happen in February 2009, when planning staff will present draft Comprehensive Plan policy changes and proposed LAMIRD boundaries reflecting the public input received so far.

Also attached is a summary of the rural planning exercise from the November 12th and 13th public workshops. Participants worked in groups to plan appropriate land uses on a map of a hypothetical region that included a city, a small town, crossroads commercial areas, resource lands, and rural areas. The summary matrix shows which uses the participants found the most appropriate in each of these areas. Though the number of participants was small, the exercise generated thoughtful discussions and yielded many comments.

Planning staff will give the Whatcom County Planning Commission a brief update on the public participation process to in a work session tonight (Thursday December 11) at 6:30 p.m. at the County Annex, 5280 Northwest Dr. The staff memorandum for that update is attached, along with accompanying documents on proposed LAMIRD criteria and related hearings board decisions.

As always, please contact me or Michelle Stiles if you have questions or comments.

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