

**From:** Gary Davis  
**To:** Rural Element  
**Date:** 7/9/2010 2:54 PM  
**Subject:** Whatcom County Rural Element - July 13 meeting

Good afternoon,

On Tuesday, July 13, there will be three separate planning-related topics being discussed by the Whatcom County Council:

1. Agricultural Protection Overlay: At 9:30 am the Council Natural Resource Committee will be discussing the Agriculture Protection Overlay (Whatcom County Code 20.38) and its role in the County's agricultural policy. This is not a public hearing -- the public is welcome to attend but it is not anticipated that public comment will be requested at the meeting.
2. Rural Element (LAMIRDs): Immediately following the Finance and Administrative Services Committee (about 11:30 am) the Council Committee of the Whole will discuss options for comprehensive plan, zoning code, and zoning map changes in the rural areas. Like the previous item, this is not a public hearing -- it is anticipated that a public hearing on a proposed ordinance (making changes to the comprehensive plan, zoning code and zoning maps) will occur within the next few months. The Growth Management Hearings Board has set a December 29, 2010 compliance date for the County to enact changes necessary to comply with the Growth Management Act. PDS staff's memo to the Council is posted at: <http://www.whatcomcounty.us/council/meetings/council/packet/ab2010-072.pdf>
3. Urban Growth Areas: During the regular Council meeting, which starts at 7:00 pm, there will be a public hearing on an ordinance amending Ordinance 2009-071, the official Whatcom County zoning map, and County Comprehensive Plan and maps, to implement changes related to completion of the 10-year review of the urban growth areas required under the Growth Management Act, specifically the urban growth areas of Birch Bay, Ferndale, Nooksack, and Sumas. Public testimony is invited at this meeting. The proposed ordinance is posted on the County Council web site at: <http://www.whatcomcounty.us/council/meetings/council/packet/ab2010-054c.pdf> and the staff report is at: <http://www.whatcomcounty.us/council/news/addinfo0713.pdf>

The agenda for all the meetings scheduled for July 13 is posted at: <http://www.whatcomcounty.us/council/meetings/council/packet/agenda.pdf> All these meetings will take place in the Council Chambers, 311 Grand Ave, Bellingham. This e-mail is being sent to several e-mail lists so we apologize if you've received it more than once. If you have any questions regarding these meetings, please let me know.

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