

## Foothills Subarea Plan Public Questionnaire

A citizen advisory committee and Whatcom County are preparing an update to the Foothills subarea portion of the countywide comprehensive plan. This is an opportunity for you to comment early on in the process, influencing the direction the plan takes and identifying important considerations the plan must address. The community's comments, goals, and priorities will help to determine the direction of the Foothills Subarea Plan. More information about this effort can be found on the County's Web site at [www.co.whatcom.wa.us/pds/planning/FoothillsSubareaPlanUpdate.htm](http://www.co.whatcom.wa.us/pds/planning/FoothillsSubareaPlanUpdate.htm)

### Part One – Location

(Map of Foothills subarea)

Please indicate on the map approximately where you live with an “L” and, if appropriate, where you work with a “W” and where you own property with an “O.”

### Part Two – Preferences

Using the scale on the right, please indicate with an “X” to what degree you agree with the statements below.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
<b>Community</b>					
I would like to see more places for Foothills residents to gather.					
I suggest the following as places to gather in my community:					
I would like to see increased multicultural interaction in the Foothills.					
I would like to know people in my community better.					

<b>Sewer/Water</b>					
The availability of public sewer is important to me.					
I think water conservation is important because:					
1. My well goes dry periodically.					
2. My water quality degrades periodically.					
3. For protection of fish habitat.					
4. Other: _____					
Protecting the high quality of water in Foothills is important to me.					

<b>Land Use/Housing</b>					
I support encouraging population density while preserving open space.					
I think we should continue the type of single-family and rural residential patterns we now have in the Foothills.					
Variety in housing types is a good way to make housing more affordable (defined as housing costs not to exceed 30% of household income).					
I think we should revise land use policy and zoning to help make housing more affordable in the Columbia Valley/Kendall Urban Growth Area (UGA).					
Affordable housing is best located in which of the following locations (please circle one or more):	1. Deming	2. Columbia Valley/ Kendall UGA	3. Maple Falls	4. Glacier	5. Other  6. No Opinion
I support increasing housing density in the Columbia Valley/Kendall Urban Growth Area beyond what is currently allowed.					
I support retaining the rural character of the Foothills area.					

<b>Economy</b>					
I would like to see new employment opportunities in the Foothills.					
New employment opportunities I would like to see (circle one or more): Light industry, technology-based business, retail, other (please list):					
The ability to start a home-based or cottage business in the Foothills is important to me.					
I think resource-based (forestry, mining, fisheries) industry should continue to be an important component of the Foothills' economy.					
I think agriculture should continue to be an important component of the Foothills' economy.					
I think tourism should continue to be an important component of the Foothills' economy.					
I live in the Foothills area by choice and not because of economics.					

<b>Transportation</b>					
I would use public transportation if it were more available.					
I think we should make bicycling and walking					

more attractive transportation options.					
I would walk and use my bike more if safe trails between communities were available.					
Road improvements I would like to see are (please list):					

<b>Emergency preparedness</b>					
I am concerned about emergency response times for (please circle one or more).	Police	Fire	Medical	Natural Disaster	
I am concerned about the ability to communicate by cell phone or radio in the Foothills.					

<b>Recreation</b>					
I think additional parks should be identified and set aside for recreational purposes.					
I would like to see the Foothills area continue to provide outdoor recreation opportunities for residents and visitors.					

**Part Three – Tradeoffs and Priorities**

Making policy choices involves tradeoffs. There are ten topics listed here, including a “wild card” that you can fill in. Please *rank* them (1 through 10) in order of importance to you, with “1” being the most important.

Local jobs	
Improved levels of service	
Housing affordability	
Water quality	
Recreation	
Rural character	
Convenient access to urban areas	
Environmental Protection	
Emergency response and law enforcement	
Other:	

**Part Four – Vision**

These questions encourage you to tell us about your relationship with the Foothills. You can attach additional sheets if necessary for your response.

1. What do you value about the Foothills?

2. What changes would you most like to see?
3. What changes would you least like to see?
4. What are your hopes for the Foothills in the next 20 years?
5. I would like to see the following local community services provided in my community:
6. How old are you? (Optional)
  - Less than 18
  - 19 to 29
  - 30 to 44
  - 45 to 59
  - 60 to 74
  - 75 or older

**Part Five – Respondent Comments**

This is your opportunity to make additional comments or clarify your responses to any of the above questions. You can attach additional sheets if necessary.

Thank you for your participation! Please contact Matt Aamot or Sharon Digby at Whatcom County Planning (360) 676-6907 if you have any questions about this questionnaire or if you would like to know more about this planning process and how you can get involved.