

**Foothills Subarea Plan Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary, April 19, 2006**

1) Introduction and Signup Sheet

2) Open Public Meetings Act – Matt Aamot

Matt reviewed the Open Public Meetings Act (RCW 42.30). He stated after discussion with the County Attorney, Royce Buckingham that the Open House meeting held March 21st, 2006 was subject to state law. He also cited a case where the exchange of emails amongst a quorum of participants is subject to this Act. Specifically, the Battle Ground School District v. Wood case (2001) that said ". . . exchange of e-mails can constitute a "meeting". . ." However, it also stated that ". . . passive receipt of e-mail does not automatically constitute a meeting. . ." Therefore, it appears that distributing information via e-mail for later consideration at a committee meeting is O.K. as long as it does not generate a back & forth exchange of e-mail by a quorum of committee members. Ultimately, it is the responsibility of committee members to comply with the Open Public Meetings Act and not have meetings with a quorum without public notice. Royce can be contacted by Committee members for specific questions.

3) Public Participation – Bill Grimes

Bill reviewed the public participation chart with Committee Members. He handed out a draft of a postcard and an example poster from Enumclaw printed on Tyvex. Bill requested comments for both be sent to him.

4) Extension of Subarea Plan Time Frame

Alan proposed a motion (seconded by Amy) to extend the deadline for the committee recommendation to December 2007. An hour long discussion ensued on the pros and cons of such a change. A new motion was passed with five for (Cindy, Bill, Alan, Amy and Lou) and three against (Phil, Norma, and Gary) to extend the deadline for completing the Committee's work and issuing final recommendations from July 2006 to March 2007, and extending the time frame for County Council adoption of the Foothills Subarea Plan from December 2006 to December 2007. Matt will confer with Hal Hart as to the feasibility of such a change and report back to the Committee.

5) Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

Gary Gehling and Phil Cloward were unanimously elected Chair and Vice-Chair respectively.

6) Return to Public Participation – Bill

Bill discussed the need for "hook" questions on the postcard. These questions would be designed to draw the attention of the public. He requests sending suggestions for questions to him. Five public meetings have been contracted with Studio Cascade. In trying to determine where the meetings would take place, the Committee Members decided that two Vision meetings were not enough and that a Vision meeting should be scheduled in all four communities: Glacier, Maple Falls, Kendall and Deming. They unanimously voted to change the total number of meetings from five to seven to include two extra Vision meetings. The Kendall small town charette will take place in Kendall. It was not decided where the policy workshop or the draft plan rollout will

take place. Matt will confer with Hal Hart to see if funds are available to schedule two additional meetings and report back to the Committee.

Bill reported that the stakeholder interviews have been completed. He met with representatives of government, the private timber industry, the water districts, the fire districts, the Deming and Maple Falls libraries, the mining industry, the recreation industry, the Nooksack Tribe, the North Fork Resource Center, and the Puget Sound Energy Company. Bill will be meeting with the Post Offices and the Superintendent of Schools in the near future. He will provide the Committee with a summary of the stakeholder interviews.

7) Meeting times, dates and location

The Committee voted unanimously to meet next April 26, 2006 at the Kendall Library from 6:30p.m. to 8:30p.m., and to set the regular meeting time to the first and third Wednesday of every month, from 6:30p.m. to 8:30p.m. The last 15 minutes of each meeting will be set aside for public participation, limited to three minutes per person.

8) Draft Introduction and Population Projection Chapter One – Bill

Bill directed the Committee's attention to the population growth rate table on page 6. A discussion ensued on the difficulty of getting accurate population figures for the Foothills area. Rob Staveland of Aiki Homes stated that in Columbia Valley there are 1600 paid hookups. The general number used for the average number of people per household is 2.6, however, he said from his paid study; the number per household in Columbia Valley is closer to 3.4. Using his figures, the Columbia Valley population is a minimum of 5,440 people, which is larger than the 2005 figure of 5,021 total Foothills population.

Bill requested additional population information from the Committee. His assignment for the group is to read Chapter 1 and send him comments.

The meeting adjourned at 5:40p.m.

The next meeting will be April 26th, 2006 at the Kendall School Library from 6:30p.m. to 8:30p.m.

Submitted by:

Sharon Digby