



# Whatcom County Calendar of Events

What is happening?	What is it?	How can I participate or stay informed?	When will it be done?
<p><b>Whatcom County Zoning Ordinance, Chapter 20.37 - Point Roberts Transitional Zone (TZ) District amendments</b></p>	<p>Proposed amendments to delete specific reference to “STEP” and “community wastewater facility” requirements for lot size and density calculations for cluster subdivisions; amend cluster subdivision design standards; and amend open space reserve area standards</p>	<p>To review a copy of the adopting ordinance and amendments, they may be obtained from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://www.co.whatcom.wa.us/council/2005/ord/ord2005-048.pdf">http://www.co.whatcom.wa.us/council/2005/ord/ord2005-048.pdf</a>;</li> <li>• the County Council office; or</li> <li>• the Planning &amp; Development Services office, Suite A</li> </ul>	<p>County Council adopted the proposed amendments on May 24, 2005.</p>
<p><b>Whatcom County Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Open Space Plan update</b></p>	<p>The updated plan will give guidance and direction to future development of parks and recreation facilities and services throughout Whatcom County over the next 6 to 50 years.</p>	<p>Public workshops were held in Point Roberts on January 25 and March 1, 2005 to obtain local comments on Point Roberts parks, recreation and open space issues.</p> <p>Public comments/letters are still being accepted by the Parks Department. Comments may be submitted via:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whatcom County Parks &amp; Recreation 3373 Mount Baker Highway Bellingham, WA 98226</li> <li>• <a href="mailto:parks@co.whatcom.wa.us">parks@co.whatcom.wa.us</a></li> <li>• (360) 733-2900</li> </ul> <p>A Draft Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Open Space Plan is anticipated in September with a series of follow up meetings throughout the county, including Point Roberts.</p> <p>To learn more, check: <a href="http://www.whatcomcounty.us/parks">www.whatcomcounty.us/parks</a></p>	<p>Completion is anticipated in late Fall 2005</p>

<p><b>Whatcom County Critical Areas Ordinance (CAO) update</b></p>	<p>Under the Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA), local jurisdictions must designate and manage regulated critical areas. Development activities within, or adjacent to these critical areas, are required to comply with the provisions of local critical areas ordinances.</p> <p>The GMA also requires Whatcom County to review and update its critical areas development regulations to ensure that it continues to comply with the requirements of the GMA.</p>	<p>A Whatcom County Council public hearing is scheduled on July 26, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. in the County Council chambers in the County Courthouse, 311 Grand Avenue, Bellingham, WA.</p> <p>To learn more and follow CAO update progress, check: <a href="http://www.whatcomcounty.us/criticalareas">www.whatcomcounty.us/criticalareas</a></p>	<p>Completion is anticipated in Summer 2005.</p>
<p><b>Whatcom County Shoreline Management Program (SMP) update</b></p>	<p>The Whatcom County SMP, WCC Title 23, regulates land use and development activities within all shorelines, Shorelines of State-wide Significance, and shorelands.</p> <p>Consistent with the new Department of Ecology guidelines and compliance schedule, Whatcom County is required to review and update the existing County Shoreline Master Program.</p>	<p>The SMP update is in the early stages of Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) and Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) discussion and review</p> <p>To learn more and follow SMP update progress, check: <a href="http://www.whatcomcounty.us/shorelines">www.whatcomcounty.us/shorelines</a></p>	<p>Completion is anticipated in December 2005.</p>
<p><b>Proposed Ordinance to Install Stop Signs at the Intersection of Mill &amp; Johnson Roads</b></p>	<p>The Whatcom County Public Works – Engineering Division has submitted a request and draft ordinance for the installation of Stop Signs at the intersection of Mill and Johnson Roads</p>	<p>The County Council is scheduled to hold a public hearing on the matter on Tuesday, July 26, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. in the County Council chambers in the County Courthouse, 311 Grand Avenue, Bellingham, WA.</p>	<p>Possible adoption is anticipated on July 26, 2005.</p>

## Regularly Scheduled County Deadlines and Activities

<p><b>Whatcom County Comprehensive Plan amendment docket</b></p>	<p>The Comprehensive Plan designates different areas of the County for urban development, agriculture, forestry, and rural land uses. It also contains policies relating to capital facilities, utilities, transportation, economics, recreation, and the environment.</p>	<p>Formal submittal of an application requesting an amendment to the official Whatcom County Comprehensive Plan and/or associated Comprehensive Plan map</p> <p>To access the Whatcom County Comprehensive Plan, map and amendment applications on line, see:  <a href="http://www.co.whatcom.wa.us/pds/planning/index.jsp">http://www.co.whatcom.wa.us/pds/planning/index.jsp</a></p>	<p>Annual submittal deadline to County Planning Department is December 31<sup>st</sup></p>
<p><b>Whatcom County Zoning amendment docket</b></p>	<p>The Zoning Ordinance is the local land use law that governs the types of allowable land uses within each zoning designation; provides specific standards and requirements including maximum development density, minimum lot size, building height and setbacks; and outlines administrative procedures for implementation.</p> <p>The Whatcom County zoning map identifies where each zoning designation is applied in the County.</p>	<p>Formal submittal of an application requesting an amendment to the official Whatcom County Zoning map and text</p> <p>To access WCC Title 20, Whatcom County Zoning Ordinance on line, see “City &amp; County codes” at:  <a href="http://www.mrsc.org">www.mrsc.org</a></p> <p>To access Whatcom County Zoning maps and amendment applications on line, see:  <a href="http://www.co.whatcom.wa.us/pds/planning/index.jsp">http://www.co.whatcom.wa.us/pds/planning/index.jsp</a></p>	<p>Annual submittal deadline to County Planning Department is June 30<sup>th</sup></p>
<p><b>Six-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP)</b></p>	<p>The main purpose of the CIP is to plan for adequate capital facilities to serve anticipated growth and development in Whatcom County over the next six years. It also provides information to decision makers regarding the costs of constructing capital facilities as the County continues to grow.</p>	<p>Updated every other year by County Planning Department</p> <p>For additional information, contact Matt Aamot – Senior Planner via:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="mailto:maamot@co.whatcom.wa.us">maamot@co.whatcom.wa.us</a></li> <li>• (360) 676-6907</li> </ul>	<p>Completion of the next update is anticipated in November 2006</p>

<p><b>Whatcom County Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)</b></p>	<p>The purpose of the CEDS is to create a plan for retaining and creating better paying jobs, fostering stable and more diversified economies, and maintaining and improving the quality of life in Greater Whatcom County.</p>	<p>Updated periodically by County Planning Department</p> <p>For additional information, contact Matt Aamot – Senior Planner via:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="mailto:maamot@co.whatcom.wa.us">maamot@co.whatcom.wa.us</a></li> <li>• (360) 676-6907</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Six-year Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP)</b></p>	<p>The STIP provides an overview of where the county is going with the road program, what the long-range road improvement plan is, and how spending of tax dollars occurs.</p>	<p>Updated annually by County Public Works Department – Engineering Division</p> <p>For additional information, check:</p> <p><a href="http://www.co.whatcom.wa.us/publicworks/engineering/index.jsp">http://www.co.whatcom.wa.us/publicworks/engineering/index.jsp</a> or e-mail: <a href="mailto:Engineering@co.whatcom.wa.us">Engineering@co.whatcom.wa.us</a></p>	