



City Council Agenda Bill

20129

Bill Number

Subject: A resolution establishing a schedule for joint City/County review of urban growth areas.

Summary Statement: Bellingham's current urban growth area (UGA) boundaries were established in 2008. In accordance with the 2012 City/County interlocal agreement, all jurisdictions in Whatcom County have begun working together to review UGA boundaries in conjunction with the 2016 comprehensive plan update project. Planning staff from Bellingham, Whatcom County and the small cities are seeking approval of a schedule to complete the UGA review process by the 2016 deadline. The attached resolution includes the schedule developed by the staff technical advisory group.

Previous Council Action: N/A

Fiscal Impact: Phase I of this project was resourced with \$60k for professional services and existing staff. It will be completed on schedule in 2013. City work on subsequent phases beginning in 2014 will propose \$65k for additional professional services and utilize existing staff. No state funding is expected to be available.

Funding Source: General Fund

Attachments: Resolution and project schedule.

Meeting Activity	Meeting Date	Staff Recommendation	Presented By	Time
Committee Briefing Council Vote Requested	30-Sep-2013	Pass Resolution	Greg Aucutt, Asst. Director	10 min

Council Committee:

Planning & Community Development

Jack Weiss, Chair

Michael Lilliquist; Gene Knutson

Committee Actions:

Council Action:

Agenda Bill Contact:

Greg Aucutt, PCD Assistant Director, 778-8344

Reviewed By
Jeff Thomas, PCD Director

Initials **Date**
/BT 9-24-2013

Legal
Mayor

AMM 9/24/13
KL 9.24.13

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RELATING TO A SCHEDULE FOR
JOINT COUNTY AND CITY REVIEW OF URBAN GROWTH AREAS

WHEREAS, the Growth Management Act (GMA) requires county and city comprehensive plans to be coordinated and consistent (RCW 36.70A.100); and

WHEREAS, the GMA requires Whatcom County and cities located in the County to review and, if needed, update their respective comprehensive plans by June 30, 2016 (RCW 36.70A.130); and

WHEREAS, the GMA, county-wide planning policies and inter-local agreements indicate that review of urban growth areas (UGAs) should be coordinated between the County and the cities; and

WHEREAS, the GMA states that UGAs must be revised to accommodate the urban growth projected to occur in the succeeding 20-year planning period by June 30, 2016 (RCW 36.70A.130); and

WHEREAS, County/city coordination of time-frames and process is needed in the review of UGAs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Bellingham City Council hereby agrees that the County and cities should utilize the attached UGA Review Schedule (Exhibit A) to guide coordinated planning efforts for the UGA review. The schedule is general in nature, and failure to strictly adhere to the schedule shall not be deemed to be a failure to comply with the GMA.

PASSED by the Council this _____ day of _____, 2013.

Council President

APPROVED by me this _____ day of _____, 2013.

Mayor

City of Bellingham
CITY ATTORNEY
210 Lottie Street
Bellingham, Washington 98225
Telephone (360) 778-8270

Attest: _____
Finance Director

Approved as to form:

Office of the City Attorney

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CITY ATTORNEY
210 Lottie Street
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Telephone (360) 778-8270

EXHIBIT A

Year	Primary Activities
2013	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Meetings of City & County elected officials. 2. Planning Commission briefings and opportunity for public comment. 3. Initial review and Planning Commission recommendations for population and employment projections and allocations to urban growth areas (UGAs). 4. Land capacity analysis methodology review.
2014	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Meetings of City & County elected officials. 2. Planning Commission briefings and opportunity for public comment. 3. Non-binding multi-jurisdictional resolution regarding allocation of population and employment growth to UGAs. 4. Land capacity analysis results. 5. Population and employment allocations to transportation analysis zones and special purpose districts. 6. Transportation model results. 7. Develop draft capital facility plans. 8. Commence SEPA review (likely including development of a draft environmental impact statement).
2015	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Meetings of City & County elected officials. 2. City proposals regarding UGA growth allocations and UGA boundaries. 3. Land capacity analysis results. 4. Complete SEPA review (likely including development of a final environmental impact statement). 5. Planning Commission public hearings and recommendations.
2016	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Meetings of City & County elected officials. 2. Land capacity analysis results. 3. City Council and County Council public hearings, review and adoption of respective comprehensive plan and capital facility plans.

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