

For Immediate Release — August 30, 2004

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County to Host Public Roundtable Workshop on 2004 Comprehensive Plan Update

Port Townsend, WA—As part of the Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA), Jefferson County must review and, if needed, revise its comprehensive plan and development regulations to ensure they're in compliance with GMA by December 1, 2004.

The residents of Jefferson County are invited to participate in a Roundtable Workshop on Tuesday, September 7, 2004 at 6:30 p.m. in the Spruce Room at WSU in Shold Business Park in Port Hadlock.

“The primary topics we’ll be discussing at the public workshop will include planning for capital facilities and transportation, accommodating expected population growth, and protecting environmentally critical areas” said Josh Peters, Long Range Planner for Jefferson County’s Department of Community Development.

“This is a great opportunity for the public to come and talk with County staff members about these important areas. We’ll be available to answer questions and to hear comments from citizens that will help us in making recommendations to the Planning Commission and Board of County Commissioners,” Peters commented.

County staff will be present from the Department of Community Development, Central Services, Public Works and Natural Resources to discuss issues, answer questions and hear informal comments. Preliminary information will be available indicating planned levels of service for public capital facilities—such as community centers and County administration buildings—and for area roads and highways. Draft maps showing channel migration zones and wildlife core habitat areas and corridors will also be available. These are new maps from studies developed over the past few years.

A week later, on Wednesday, September 15, 2004 at 6:30 p.m., also in the Spruce Room at WSU, the County Planning Commission will hold another public workshop to discuss its Five-Year Assessment for the Comprehensive Plan and corresponding proposal for amending the Plan. This will be an opportunity for the public to ask questions and offer informal comment on these issues before the formal public comment period is initiated later this month. This will be in tandem with the release of a staff report on all of the items on this year’s Comprehensive Plan amendment docket.

The Planning Commission is expected to approve a public review draft of its Comprehensive Plan amendment proposal at its meeting this Wednesday, September 1, 2004. The public review proposal will be posted on the Jefferson County website at www.co.jefferson.wa.us/commdevelopment in anticipation of the public workshop on September 15. The Planning Commission is expected to hold a formal public hearing on its proposal and other docket items on October 6, 2004.

For more information, contact Josh Peters at (360) 379-4466 or via e-mail at jpeters@co.jefferson.wa.us.

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