

For Immediate Release — August 31, 2005

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**Jefferson County Planning Commission to Deliberate on
Comprehensive Plan Annual Amendment Cycle on September 7, 2005**

Port Townsend, WA—As part of the County's annual Comprehensive Plan annual amendment cycle, the Planning Commission held a public hearing on August 17, 2005. Working from the Department of Community Development (DCD) staff recommendation, along with comments provided by the public at the hearing, the Planning Commission is scheduled to begin deliberations on September 7, 2005 at their regularly scheduled meeting, held at the WSU Community Learning Center in Port Hadlock.

“It's interesting to note the types of applications being proposed for this year's Comprehensive Plan Amendment cycle,” commented Al Scalf, DCD Director. “We have six Rural Residential adjustments, two Limited Area of More Intensive Rural Developments (LAMIRDs) and one Master Planned Resort (MPR). The majority of the site-specific amendments represent a rezone in land use designation with property owners requesting a change to ‘1 in 5.’”

Scalf went on to say that several families want to break up their property in order to share it with other family members. In other words, without the rezone, they can't build additional houses on the family's land.

Claudia Monroe, a fourth generation descendent of one of Jefferson County's pioneer families said, “Our application to rezone is unique because it is part of a Centennial Farm, one of three in Jefferson County, that has been in our family since 1887. When my husband and I walked through the property where I had been raised, and my parents still live, it just felt like home to both of us. We are applying to rezone the 16+ acres that my parents own so that we may build a house on this land which is the original homestead.”

Additional proposals include the property at Four Corners, owned by Pamela Pepper, which is under consideration by Jefferson Transit for their new station, as well as the Master Planned Resort in Port Ludlow. Kevin Widell has requested his Rural Residential land be rezoned to Rural Commercial in Glen Cove in order to relocate his equipment rental business.

Once the Planning Commission has finalized their recommendations, their document will be sent to the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC), accompanied by the DCD staff recommendation, for their review. The Commissioners will hold a public hearing in October or November, with a final decision due by the second week in December. Dates for both the public hearing and deliberations by the County Commissioners will be posted in the newspapers and on the Jefferson County Web site: www.co.jefferson.wa.us.

The process for the Comprehensive Plan Amendment Cycle begins at the beginning of each year, with applications due February 1. The final docket is established by the BOCC in mid-April, with staff analysis of the proposals and the public review process coordinated through the spring and summer.

For more information about the Comprehensive Plan Amendment Cycle, contact the Department of Community Development, Long Range Planning, at 360.379.4450, via e-mail at planning@co.jefferson.wa.us or go to the County's Web site at www.co.jefferson.wa.us.

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