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FROM: Erin O'Kelley, Long Range Planner
Clay White, Director of Planning

DATE: February 4, 2025

RE: February 11, 2025, Planning Commission briefing – 2025 Periodic Comprehensive Plan Update

The Kimley-Horn team looks forward to the opportunity to brief the Skagit County Planning Commission on February 11 regarding the Skagit County Periodic Comprehensive Plan Update. The briefing will focus on the following topics:

- Project background
- Project schedule for 2025 meetings and hearings
- Overview of process to develop draft comprehensive plan changes
- Engagement to date and comments on preliminary policy drafts
- Summary of Vulnerability Assessment for Climate Element
- Climate, Resiliency, and GHG policy overview
- Housing Element policy overview

This briefing is the first of three meetings in February for the Planning Commission leading up to the 2025 Periodic Comprehensive Plan Public Hearing. The hearing is scheduled to begin on March 11 and will continue into April. A complete schedule of upcoming meetings/hearings is provided below. Please note that meetings and hearings on proposed development regulations changes will follow the hearing on the comprehensive plan.

On February 18, we will focus on policy overviews for the Land Use, Transportation, Utilities and Capital Facilities, and Economic Development Elements. February 25 is a scheduled joint meeting with the Skagit Board of County Commissioner's. The tentative release date for the Draft Comprehensive Plan is February 13. We are preparing public notices and information for the project website to assist the community as they review and provide comments on the draft plan.

The release of the draft will begin the public review process. The February 11 briefing will provide Planning Commissioners with a strong foundation as the next steps in the project move forward. This includes an overview of the process leading up to the development of the Draft Comprehensive Plan, including community engagement. We will also discuss the connection between preliminary draft polices released for public input in 2024 and how comments received helped shape the Draft Comprehensive Plan. Finally, we will review draft policy changes within the Housing and new Climate Elements and provide a summary of the Vulnerability Assessment, which is a key component of the new Climate Element.

We look forward to providing this briefing and also answering any questions you might have.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE FOR 2025 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN BRIEFINGS/HEARING

The following high level project schedule outlines the proposed 2025 comprehensive plan/development regulations public meeting and hearing schedule for the Skagit County Planning Commission. Please note that there will be separate public meetings and hearing processes for the Comprehensive Plan and development regulations update.

February 11, 2025	Comprehensive Plan Briefing – Existing conditions, data, engagement summary
February 18, 2025	Comprehensive Plan Briefing – Revised goals and policies and implementation
February 25, 2025	Joint BOCC and PC meeting
March 11, 2025	Comprehensive Plan Public Hearing
March 12, 2025	Comprehensive Plan Public Hearing continued (if needed)
April 8, 2025	Comprehensive Plan Public Hearing Deliberations
April 15, 2025	Tentative Comprehensive Plan Public Hearing Deliberations (if needed)
April 22, 2025	CAO and Development Regulations Briefing
May 6, 2025	CAO and Development Regulations Public Hearing
May 20, 2025	CAO and Development Regulations Deliberations
After May 20	TBD