



TO: Jack Moore, Planning and Development Services Director
Robby Eckroth, Senior Planner
Tara Satushek, Senior Planner

FROM: Clay White, Director of Planning

DATE: February 18, 2025

RE: February 25, 2025, Board of County Commissioners – Planning Commission Joint work session– 2025 Periodic Comprehensive Plan Update

The Kimley-Horn team looks forward to attending the February 25th Board of County Commissioners and Planning Commission joint session. While not formally presenting, we will be available to answer any questions for Board of County Commissioners or Planning Commission has during this meeting.

The project team is currently preparing for the Planning Commission Hearing on the Draft Comprehensive Plan which will begin on March 11, 2025. In advance of the hearing, briefings were provided to the Planning Commission on the Draft Comprehensive Plan on February 11 and 18. In addition, once the public comment portion of the Planning Commission public hearing is held, the hearing will be continued until April 8th. This will provide time for the project team to review public comments received and develop information for the Planning Commission in response to questions they may have.

A Board of County Commissioner briefing was also provided on February 11, 2025, to update the Commissioners on the project schedule, important project milestones, project engagement, and an overview of the larger topics being addressed as part of the project. Additional briefing will be provided as the project moves forward in advance of public hearings.

We hope that the February 25, 2025, joint meeting can provide an opportunity for the Board of County Commissioners and Planning Commission to discuss important project topics including:

- Forest Advisory Board (FAB) policy comments, including local stewardship of federal lands.
- Proposed policy and code changes that are necessary to comply with state law vs. Skagit County initiated changes.
- Continued protection of natural resource lands and industries that support the local economy.
- Opportunities to provide more affordable housing types.
- New draft climate element.
- Next steps after the comprehensive plan adopted. Opportunities to implement county goals and policies.

As discussed above, the project team will be happy to aid during the joint session to provide information about changes contained in the Draft Comprehensive Plan which was just released.

DRAFT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN RELEASED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

The Draft Comprehensive Plan has been released for public review in advance of the Planning Commission public hearing, which will begin on March 11, 2025. The comment period for written comments is open from February 13, 2025, to March 13, 2025. Interested parties may also provide verbal comments at the Planning Commission Hearing. Separate oral and written comments periods will also be provided in advance of the Board of County Commissioners hearing on the Comprehensive Plan. Additional opportunities will also be provided this winter and spring to comment on proposed changes to development regulations being considered for change as part of the project.

More information about this project, including copies of the Draft Comprehensive Plan and other important project documents may be found on the project website located [here](#).

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.

A tentative schedule for briefings and hearings with the Board of County Commissioners on both the Comprehensive Plan and development regulations will be scheduled soon. However, the project team is available to provide update briefings on project process anytime the Board of County Commissioners would like a project 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 necessary)
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